**Message from the Principal**

**WELCOME TO ALL THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

Since the beginning of this term we have had a large number of students start at our school. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of them and their respective families. I am always amazed and very proud of how welcoming our school is. Our new students are very well looked after by our students and quickly become part of their class team. Our staff also do a wonderful job ensuring a very smooth transition into our school. This starts with our super office team who are so organised and friendly as our first point of contact and then backed up by our teachers who don’t get fazed at all when a new student appears in their room!

**WORDS WORTH LISTENING TO – SENIOR SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS**

Well done to all members of our Senior School for a wonderful event last week. You can see in the photos that we had an amazing attendance! This provided a valuable opportunity for our students to present their writing and start to refine their debating skills. I am looking forward to seeing these develop and then put to the test against other schools in our network. Some schools are using this program as part of their extension or gifted and talented programs. For our students we are using the opportunity as a broader platform to challenge and engage. I believe the best programs that cater for students at the top ranges are a part of the more regular and daily classroom programs. These students should not have to wait for a special add on session one or twice a week.

Thank you to all of our Year 5/6 teaching team for the work they do and for organizing this event.

**TRANSITION SESSIONS**

The first “It’s Time” session runs today. For our new Preps next year this is an opportunity to come up to our school for the very first time and participate in sessions with our specialists. It is an exciting time as they count down to starting school next year. However, I know that the first day of school is not as daunting as it used to be. Our 2016 Preps would have spent over 13 hours at our school by the end of this year through the It’s Time, Step into Prep and Whole School Transition Days. They will definitely be ready to go on Jan 29th next year!
Our transition program is not only focused on our new Prep students. We have a range of strategies that we use to ensure all of our students feel comfortable and ready to move into their new grade each year. Just one of these is the way we operate our Kewiosity program. This term our students are working in groups that reflect our teaching team for next year. For example, our current Preps are working with our Year 1s who will both form our Junior School next year and so forth, progressively up the school. This helps to build a broader level of connection which is important for the way we structure our curriculum.

Another part of our transition program is the way we build our classes each year. We provide an opportunity for parents to be able to make requests for consideration. This has been detailed in the previous two newsletters. Our students also get the opportunity to think about who they work well with. This list of possible classmates is then used as a guide to assist our teachers. We try to have at least one friend from a student’s list in their classroom. Teachers will be completing this task with their students in a few weeks’ time.

**PARENT REQUEST PROCESS FOR TRANSITION INTO 2016**

As mentioned parents are able to make requests for consideration when placing their child into their 2016 class. These requests will only be accepted in writing and must be received by Friday 23rd October. Please note that requests with respect to specific teachers or composite/straight classes will not be considered.

**LAST CALL FOR RSVP’S - COMMUNITY FORUM**

At 7pm on Wednesday 21st October I will be hosting a Community Forum about school structure and planning for 2015. This meeting will be very similar to the information I presented last year including more information about how school finances operate. I will also provide information about how many staff our school budget can operate with and seek feedback about how we can best use this structure to set up our classes and programs for next year.

Please contact me at the school if you plan to attend.

**KIDSFEST – FRIDAY OCTOBER 23RD 1PM – 3.30PM**

I am really looking forward to our very first Kids Fest next Friday. The fun begins at 1pm and will conclude by 3.30pm. KidsFest is our version of a mini-fair designed especially for our students. There will be a large blow up slide, games, competitions, food, showbags and heaps of novelties and things to buy. Each grade will be running a stall so there will be lots to see and do.

Rumour has it that there will even be an opportunity to test your skills by trying to hit the target on a dunking machine and sending a staff member for a splash!

Whilst the main focus is fun, it is also a fundraiser so make sure you bring your money. It would be a great idea for students to being a purse or wallet to look after their money and change. As this is a student focused event, they will also be deciding how we spend any money that is made.

Parents, grandparents and friends are very welcome and it would be great to have a real Kewmunity atmosphere throughout the afternoon.

A special flyer with some more details will be sent home this week and another next week as we count down to the event.

**VISIT FROM AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHOIR**

Yesterday a representative from the Australian Youth Choir conducted a short introduction and audition process for students in Years 2-5. The students received an information flyer about the choir and there is also some information included in this newsletter. I would encourage any student interested in singing and ensemble performing to consider joining this choir.
Message from the Assistant Principal

This morning Ruth Woolven, our Library technician, hosted another “LOOK in the Library” session for all the teachers at Kew PS. The purpose of such events is to showcase all the new fiction and non-fiction books that Ruth has purchased for the staff and students to utilise. The picture story books really took my fancy because of the funny, sad and clever stories contained within the covers of the various books. However, another aspect of these picture story books is the wonderful illustrations that enhance the stories. The Library is a popular place for teachers to bring their class to but it is also opened every lunch time so students can read, play games and or make use of computers. It is pleasing to see so many students making use of this space and I want to take this opportunity to thank Ruth for all her efforts. She is a lover of books herself and has a keen eye for what books will capture our Kew Kids imaginations. It would be a great opportunity for you to visit our Library and let your children share these new books with you. The Library is open after school every day so I urge you to take up this opportunity, as I am sure you will be amazed at what you see and read.

As we move towards the end of the school year, teachers are thinking about report writing and all the data they have collected to make these reports individual and specific to each student in their class. Before they can even begin the writing process a lot happens behind the scenes. Sally Marsh and Clio Williams build the reports using Quick Vic Assessment Writer and then the staff have input into what the reports will encompass. The teachers, working in their teams, moderate students work, particularly their writing samples and their Inquiry unit responses as well using all the assessments they have collected over the year and more particularly in this second semester. When you get your child’s report you can be assured that a lot of thought has gone into it, backed up by a detailed assessment schedule that pin points your child’s successes and areas for further learning.

This week has seen the roll out of our new Home Learning program which will enhance that true home school partnership. It is pleasing to note that James Penson and a number of teachers have had such positive feedback from parents about the new approach. If you do have any thoughts on this new format please don’t hesitate to share them with us as we do appreciate this feedback and do take any suggestions for improvement on board.

Robin Grace

Whilst we do not have a formal Performing Arts specialist program (and I don’t anticipate that we will be in a position to resume this at our school in the near future) we do strive to provide a range of alternative options to expose students in this area.

This has included extending the instrumental music program operated by Creative Music, offering Drama Time as an optional extra program, ensuring that we run whole school performing arts events such as the Footsteps Fiesta this year, participating in the Victorian State Schools Spectacular, arranging performing arts groups within our Kewiosity program and inviting groups like the Australian Youth Choir into the school.

LEAVING KEW PRIMARY THIS YEAR?
I am urgently requesting all parents with students not attending our school next year to contact the office. Thank you for those that have done this. Whilst we are sorry to see go, by letting me know you are enabling others to attend and assisting me with confirming our grade numbers and sizes next year.

Be Worthy!
James Penson
Principal

Be Worthy!
Public speaking - fun or a little bit scary? Our senior students showed how it was done at the fantastic Words Worth Listening To evening - check it out on the blog.

If you have something you’d like to share on the school blog, please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen

Library News

Any students with order forms for Anna Branford books please bring to the office by Friday 16th October.

This term we are trialling a new Book Club from Carnival. There is one brochure for all levels that was distributed last week. Please return any orders to the Office by October 30.

PEPPERCORN WRITING COMPETITION
There has been such a fantastic response to this competition and the judges need a bit longer to read the entries. Due to KidsFest next Friday, the winners will be announced on Friday 30th October at Assembly.

“Lights out, devices out”
Research shows that many kids are using technology devices through the night. This is when cyberbullying and poor choices are most likely to occur. It’s a good idea to turn the WiFi off after an agreed time each night. Similarly, it’s a good policy to have the whole family surrender all their devices to a central overnight charging spot – adults too. The kids will comply more readily if they see that this is a whole family expectation – and the whole family benefits from the extra sleep.

Madame T and the eSmart team.
The Camp on the oval is on

This could be the last year we can camp on the oval before it has it's makeover so gear up for a big event....last year was a fantastic success... bookings are open.

The cost is per family, just let us know how many people we need to cater for when you book. We've picked a warm time of year so hopefully not too much equipment is required.

What : KPSFASS Camp on the Oval for Dads and Kids
Where : The Kew Primary School Oval
When : Saturday November the 21st from 3pm
Who : Dads, kids and any other significant male family members are welcome.

Cost : $20 per family includes Sausage Sizzle on Sat night and Egg and Bacon Sandwiches on Sunday Morning

Equipment : Bring/borrow a tent for your family, sleeping bags, inflatable mats, chairs - yes, RV's and Campers are welcome, no power provided

Booking : http://www.trybooking.com/IQAP

As always, Uncles, Grandfathers, male carers and teachers are all welcome. Don't miss this last chance on the oval... Looking forward to seeing you all.
Kew Primary School
Chess Club, 2015

Term 4 commences on Friday 9th October

Dates: 9/10 – 11/13: (10 weeks)

Time: Friday’s 1.00pm – 1.50 p.m. – Library.

Cost: $110.00 (10 lessons) for the term.

PLEASE NOTE: If chess lessons coincide with swimming or school camp, please deduct the cost of these lessons from the total amount. Otherwise students will not receive a refund for classes missed. Students commencing after the first week do not pay for the earlier lessons.

Cheques should be made payable to “Chess Ideas” or we take payment via Visa and Mastercard. The completed form should be handed into the school office. PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE AT: www.chess.ideas.com.au

If your child has a medical condition we should know about please ring our office with details.

Play Chess at home against the computer. Go to www.chessideas.com.au home page. Click on “play chess”. It’s fun!

CHESS REGISTRATION TERM 4, 2015
(Kew Primary School)

NAME OF CHILD: __________________________ GRADE: __________

CONTACT PARENT/GUARDIAN: __________________________ Ph. #: __________

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: __________________________

Credit Card Details:

NAME ON CARD: __________________________ CARD TYPE: __________

CARD NUMBER: __________________________ EXPIRY DATE: ________

CCV #: ________

Please enclose $110.00 and return to school office with completed form.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO – ‘CHESS IDEAS’.
Program Update

What a great start to term four! With only nine weeks left of the schooling year the OSHClub educators are seeing amazing changes in all the children. Ashton, Callum, Harry, Fearghas and Joseph have all been seen showing leadership qualities as they motivate their teams in group sporting activities while Tilley, Olivia H, Anja and Amelia W explored their fine motor skills and creativity through face painting activities!

Our theme for the week was *Let’s design our activities* the idea around this theme was to see children working together to suggest games and help co-construct different ideas. Most afternoons the children voted for their top two activities which everyday included ‘capture the flag’ and also gym games such as Chinese walls, or HELP. Indoors we baked our own cupcakes and decorated them, Amelia G and Grace Hickin assisted Educator Niki in the kitchen by cracking the eggs and stirring the mixture to ensure that it became smooth. Thank you for another lovely week OSHClub. If any of our wonderful families have any ideas for the coming weeks please do let the educators know!

Reminders

*If all families could please bring in a photo and the location of the photo to place on our world map that would be much appreciated.*

If your child is booked to attend After School Care but other arrangements are made for their collection (such as a family member), or they leave school early due to illness etc., please call or text the program on 0400 394 489 to let us know. This avoids us having to look around the school grounds for children who aren’t actually attending ASC, and having to call parents and emergency contacts to determine the child’s actual whereabouts. We just want to know they are safe 😊

A selection of Next Week’s Activities – Living a healthy lifestyle.

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<td><strong>Before Care</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Giants treasure</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jumping contest</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Paper Plane</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Design a colouring in</strong></td>
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<td><strong>workshop</strong></td>
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<td><strong>After Care</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ship To shore</strong></td>
<td><strong>Amazing race</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dancing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Healthy Pizzas</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chalk Drawings</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Capture the flag</strong></td>
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Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0400 394 489
Coordinator: Harriet Assistant Coordinator: Lauren Assistants: Niki, Issi
OSHC Club Head Office: 03 8564 9000
BSC Hours: 7:00am – 8:45am ASC Hours: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
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