Message from the Principal

100 DAYS OF PREP

Our Prep students celebrated their first 100 days of school this week. As you can see from the photos, the theme was “100” and there were lots of activities and learning to match.

We are really pleased with the way our Prep program is operating. When I walk into the classrooms each day to say hello or during a school tour I always see the students very settled and engaged. One thing that is particularly noticeable with this group is their enthusiasm, sense of wonder and inquiry and their terrific questions and energy.

The literacy and numeracy sessions are being very effectively structured and delivered. This semester we have also started our TASK (Targeted Additional Support @ Kew) program. This is focused on ensuring that our students in Prep and Junior School are supported to make the very best start to school.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THE SCHOOL VISION & VALUES SURVEY

Thank you to those parents and carers who completed our School Vision and Values Survey via Survey Monkey. Here is a short summary of the responses to the 3 questions:

1. **How well do our school vision and values reflect the needs and aspirations of our whole school community?**
   The parent responses indicated a score of 5.67 out of 7.00. 77% of parents who responded either strongly or moderately agreed that the current vision and values accurately reflected the needs and aspirations of our whole school community. 23% either mildly or strongly disagreed. Feedback comments included the need to have greater focus on academics, particularly literacy and Maths and a stronger foundation or focus on student connections.

2. **How strongly embedded is our school vision and values in the everyday practices and interactions of our community?**
   The parent survey score was 5.33 out of 7.00. 76% of parents agreed with this statement indicating that the school vision and values are strongly embedded into the everyday life of our school.
24% disagreed either mildly or strongly to the statement. Feedback was received that a greater focus on community relationships needs to be promoted and highlighted.

3. **What adjustments need to be made for the next planning cycle?**

Parents who responded would like a vision with a future focus and greater emphasis on academic achievement. This included a focus on student motivation and encouragement. There was also a suggestion to include building a stronger sense of community into the vision and values of the school.

**PARENT OPINION SURVEY**

On Monday our Parent Opinion Survey was sent home to 73 randomly selected families. These names have been generated via a DET computer system. The survey itself is important to us and it provides specific feedback that we use to improve our school. An example of this over recent times is the work we have done to improve our reporting process. Some of the changes we made when implementing our new format were based on direct feedback and suggestions from parents. If you received a survey please complete it and send it back to the office by Monday 1st August.

**STUDENT LED CONFERENCES**

The countdown is on for our Student Led Home & School Partnership Conferences next Thursday 4th August. As has been communicated in several newsletters, students will only attend school on this day from 9am until 12pm. The conferences will then run from 12.30pm through to 7.30pm.

**REMINDER THAT BOOKINGS CLOSE WEDNESDAY 3rd of August at 4pm**

At this stage we have 359 students booked in which as 75% of our school!

The conferences will be a three way conversation with all parties having an equal voice. Students will be sharing their learning achievements and identifying future learning goals, teachers will be providing feedback about how the student is progressing and what they need to focus. Parents will be adding their opinion and thinking about what they can do to support these goals at home.

**STUDENT VOICE - TRADING PLACES OPPORTUNITY**

Last week I sent out a flyer outlining an opportunity for one of our students to swap places with me for a day! This means that on one day I will become a student in their grade and attend all classes with them. I will even have to do the work and activities the teachers have set. Then on another day, the student will become Principal for a day. I hope that this will provide me with a deeper insight into how our school is travelling in meeting the needs of our students. Entries close on Tuesday 2nd August and it is as easy as students telling me in 101 words or less why it should be them!

**LEARNING WALKS and Q & A WITH THE PRINCIPAL**

A reminder that I am hosting two “Learning Walks” where parents will be able to spend some time observing in a few classrooms and then discussing the things they have seen with myself following the classroom visits. This will hopefully provide some deeper insights into our teaching and learning processes.

The first learning walk and accompanying question and answer session will have a Literacy focus. This will be held on Tuesday 9th August from 9.30am – 10.30am.

The second learning walk will have a Numeracy focus and this will be held on Wednesday 17th August from 11.30am – 12.30pm.

Places will be limited and bookings can be made by emailing me: 
[penson.james.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:penson.james.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)

**PLANNING FOR 2017**

Next week we will be sending out letters via email confirming our Prep enrolments for 2017. To ensure we have the very best staff in place, decisions around grade numbers need to be made in August and September. Therefore it is now very important for me to be notified if you intend leaving our school next year.
Message from the Assistant Principal

With the winter chill’s now taking a real toll on us all, it is perhaps timely to mention a group of children who can and do find winter particularly problematic and they are the students who suffer from asthma. Asthma is one of the most common chronic childhood conditions, affecting 1 in every 10 children in Australia. Emergency admissions and hospitalisations peak during the winter for children with asthma and flare-ups are often more prevalent during the winter and spring. However, good management can help children with asthma and their carers get through this tricky time of year with more confidence. Here at Kew PS we are an accredited Asthma Friendly School with the majority of staff undertaking asthma awareness training as part of their first aid training. All our school staff support children with asthma in the following ways:

· Ensuring their Asthma First Aid training is up-to-date.
· Knowing the location and contents of our school’s Asthma Emergency Kits
· By being aware of which students in our classes have asthma
· By informing parents/carers when students are using their reliever medication at school

Care for those children who suffer from asthma is, of course paramount, with all our staff. Parents/carers can help us by providing an up to date asthma plan for your child as well as their own medication. The school does have its own Ventolin devices so no child is at risk of not be able to access medication that can improve their breathing and well-being.

Excitement is building amongst our Year Six students as the time for their Canberra Camp draws closer. This will be the first time our Kew Kids have attended a Canberra camp and so there is a lot of anticipation about the camp. Our students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $30:00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon the completion of the excursion. This rebate was factored in when costing such a camp.

Having been to Canberra on two other occasions with Year Six students, at my previous school, I believe it is a wonderful opportunity to experience our nation’s capital city and all it has to offer. Both times, I had a real sense of pride in the history of Australia and what has been achieved in such a relatively short period of time.

Finally, we have a working bee here at school this Sunday 31st July from 9:00am-12:00pm and if you can give up an hour of your time to come and help spruce up our lovely school grounds, it would be greatly appreciated.

As always, many hands make light work.

Robin Grace

Looking forward to Kids Fest tomorrow from 1pm – 3pm.

Be Worthy!
James Penson
Principal
Tour de France – Australian Women’s Victory

Le maillot jaune 2016 went to reigning British champion Chris Froome, but the Aussie’s also gained victory in France this year. Australia’s Chloe Hosking has won the women’s Tour de France on the Champs Elysees in Paris in a sprint finish.

Hosking, 25, streaked three bike-lengths clear to triumph ahead of Finland’s Lotta Lepisto, with Dutch great Marianne Vos storming through late on to take third place. It was the third running of the race known as La Course by Le Tour de France.

Unlike the men’s three-week event, this is a one-day, 89km course raced around 13 laps of the Paris circuit that forms the end of the men’s race. Allez Hosking!!!

Madame T

Did you know......Kew Primary has a fundraising account with clothing label company Stuck on You ??

This means that any parent/friend orders result in monies coming back to the Kew Primary School Community! (And no more lost property!!)

Order forms are available from the School Office, or can be completed online if preferred...

www.stuckonyou.com.au
(agent code: KEWPS)

Kew Primary School Blog

This week on the blog, Sophie Apperly shares the magic of maths.

Do you have something you’d like to share on the blog? All contributions are welcome. Please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen
**Program Update**

What a busy week at Oshclub! With lots of new faces joining the program, larger games and amazing discussions we had so much to explore!!! During the mornings we explored colouring, silent ball, Hama bead creations and some chalk drawings on our new Chalkboard table. The children have loved using the colours and working with these large chalks! In the afternoon session there have been over 40 children most days which has provided us with some great opportunities for large group games such as capture the flag on the oval. We divide into teams before putting on Furo bibs and hiding in the goals waiting for the game to start. This game ensures we feel like we are part of a community, can use leadership skills and learn ways on how to use effective communication!

On Tuesday afternoon we began a big discussion that we labelled ‘What we want’. We used the whiteboard and wrote up our ideas on what we each want from OSHClub and how we can make this happen, for example Sullivan said he would like more free play time, so we discussed making our meetings shorter by listening, and ensuring we are in safe risk taking situations outside so that we can enjoy this time more often – if we can listen and support one another in free play, we can provide this more regularly!

We would also like to remind families how essential it is to book your child in before the session starts as we cook and provide food for the children on the roll and we need to provide staff for the amount of children. When children arrive at the session without a booking we may need to call in emergency staff so please try call in the morning for late bookings.

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**Next Week’s Activities**

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Walls</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>Silent ball</td>
<td>Fruit salad</td>
<td>Octopus (Ball line tiggy)</td>
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<td>Community group discussions</td>
<td>play Cor track painting</td>
<td>Chalk Drawings</td>
<td>Hama beads</td>
<td>Recycled creations</td>
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<td>Art exhibition</td>
<td>Nurses and Doctors play</td>
<td>Group construction</td>
<td>Art workshop</td>
<td>Silent ball</td>
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<td>Capture the flag</td>
<td>Oval play Hangman</td>
<td>Oval play</td>
<td>Parachute game</td>
<td>Big OSHClub</td>
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<td>Making your own video clip</td>
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<td>Vine videos</td>
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**Parent Information**

OSH program phone: 0400 394 489
Coordinator: Harriet Cousins-Palmer
Assistant: Niki, Lauren

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.
The snow season is officially open!!!

Get your entry in NOW for the Victorian Interschools Snowsports Championships at Mt. Buller August 22-24, 2016 and represent Kew Primary

Entry forms are available at the school office or contact Nikki Schwarz (nikki@sraccountants.com.au) for more information.

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WORLD SCOUT DAY is Monday 1st August, 2016. All Kew Primary School students are permitted to wear their scouting uniform to school for the day to celebrate the Scouting movement. Joeys, Cubs, and Scouts are encouraged to wear their uniform and discuss with their friends what is scouting, what do they do in scouting, and what they enjoy about scouting.