Message from Principal

Hi Kew,

THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 STAFF TEAM

In the penultimate newsletter for this year I would like the opportunity to thank all of our staff members for their contribution to our school community. 2014 has been a very big year for our school, and I know that it has also been a big year for all of our staff.

Our staff team have embraced a very extensive professional learning program. It has been amazing to see the engagement in these sessions and then the work that they have done in implementing some of this learning. Our staff have also readily adapted and taken on many changes and new ways of doing things throughout the year and as such they should be really proud of what their contribution has meant to our school improvement journey.

I thank them for giving above and beyond, stepping up and supporting each other, our leadership team and me personally. I acknowledge the extra hours they commit each week spent focused on our school. Many of these hours are well outside the normal school day at home of an evening and over weekends.

Thank you to our teachers: Sophie, Gayle, Lee-Ann, Chelsea, Clare, Jaci D, Penny, Ali, Melissa, Sonia, Jacki H, Trish, Kerry, Diana, Bit, Leah, Elizabeth, Malcolm, Di, Michelle, Tahnee, Nat, Phoebe, Carla, Shelley, Mary, Clio, Ally, Maureen, Jeff and Erin.

Thank you to our Education Support team. Our classroom based ESOs do an incredible job. They are out every day supporting students at lunchtime and the work they do is vital for us. Thank you Cindy, Mary, Sally, Susanne, Melissa, Natalie and Mary.

Thank you to our Education Support Admin team. Our office is such a dynamic and busy place to be. I know that I add to these demands every day. Our office team help the school to function so that we can balance the DEECD requirements and processes we must complete and also support the link with our parent community. Thank you Aisha, Ruth, Debbie, Faye, Kim, Raj and Sally.

Thank you to our leadership team. They do so many things each day that the school relies on, that are not always seen and have driven the improvements and initiatives that we have implemented this year. Thank you Robin, Sally and Andrew.

SCHOOL BLOG - PRINCIPALS REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF 2014

Our school blog this week features a short version of my review and evaluation for this year. The full version is available from our school website and a hard copy can also be collected from the office. It contains a list of just some of things we have done this year and when you start to list them it is amazing to see.

REMINDER

Parents please remember to collect asthma puffers, epipens and medicines before the end of the school year.
A big thank you to Katrina Whelen for taking over the running of our school blog this year.

STAFFING FOR 2015

As mentioned in the class placement letter sent home with students on Monday we welcome Shenel Raif to our school. Shenel worked with Gayle Bennett this year as a pre-service teacher and she has also coordinated an Out of School Hours program at another school. We look forward to her becoming part of our Middle School team in 2015 as a Year 4 teacher.

We welcome back Katie Braemar. Katie returns to us after taking 12 months of leave to travel. She is currently teaching in the Northern Territory and will return for the second of our ½ day transition sessions next week.

On behalf of our school community I say thank you to Cindy Hartley who will finish her service at Kew Primary School at the end of this year. Cindy has been a staff member at our school for 6 years and we wish her all the best.

I also thank Malcolm Newton for his service this year and wish him all the very best for 2015. It is an exciting time for Malcolm with a brand new member of his family and new opportunities ahead. Penny Doery will be taking 12 months of leave next year.

SCHOOL FEES REMINDER & OFFICE CLOSE DATES

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED FOR PAYMENTS AFTER WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

A final reminder that the school office will not be accepting payments after Wednesday December 17th. This will enable us to finish the end of year process schools are required to complete. This is also a reminder that all outstanding payments from this year must be paid for before this date. If these payments are not made then the school must use funds from next years’ budget to make up the shortfall. These are funds that have already been allocated to specific budget areas such as ICT and Literacy.

TRANSITION PROGRAM

There was lots of excitement and energy in the school on Tuesday morning of this week with the first of our ½ day transition sessions. In many ways it was almost the same feeling as the first day of school with students very keen to start the day in their new classes and parents also nervous and excited. Overall, the process of grade building and then the first transition itself has been very positively received. We have brought this process forward this year and we have also extended our transition program across the whole school. With over 480 students we can never guarantee 100% satisfaction and I am pleased to say that only a handful of parents have been in contact with me to seek clarification about their child’s placement.

At this stage we do not usually make any more changes to the grades as much time and effort has been already spent on developing the best grade structure and student placement. Part of this process did provide all parents with the opportunity to make requests based on educational grounds. These are just requests and whilst they are considered, they are not always granted as there are several other factors that have a higher priority for us.

It is important to become literate and numerate but just as important are the life skills of resilience and the ability to deal with situations when we do not get our own way. A big part of this is teaching our students to accept the umpire’s decision and focus back on going the best we can in the game. The best way to teach this is through modelling this behaviour ourselves.

A really important part of this process is for our students to be supported by their parents so that the transition into a new class and year level can be positive. There might always be some hesitation, nervousness and apprehension, but our teachers will work very hard so that each and every child can achieve success.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

I can report that we will not run Special Religious Instruction next year. We only received a very small number of forms from parents indicating that they would “opt in” to the program if offered.

PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA

Just a reminder that we are holding our parent helpers morning tea on Monday 15th December at 10.40am in the Junior School Hall. We thank everyone for your contribution this year so come along and let us show our
Kew Primary School Blog

What sorts of things happened at KPS this year? LOTS! This week on the blog, Mr Penson reflects on his first year at Kew Primary.

Would you like to contribute to the blog in 2015? You’ve got all summer to think about it :-)
Please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A message from Shelley and the Senior Choir:

“On the last day of School at Kew Primary....a Christmas concert you'll see
So please come along and share in our joy and have fun with your Kew family!”

See you at 9.15am in the Gym on Friday the 19th December.

LAST DAY EARLY FINISH – 1.30pm FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER
FIRST DAY BACK FOR 2015 – FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2015

Be Worthy!
PS – 8 more or 14 sleeps...depending on what you are counting down to!
James Penson

Message from the Assistant Principal

At Kew PS, we pride ourselves on encouraging parents to be very much part of the educational process for all students, and you play such a vital role in the life of this school. You help in so many ways whether it is working in classrooms, being part of the TASK program, going on excursions, attending camps, helping out with Bike Ed, coming to working bees, joining the PTA, being part of SPLASH or being on School Council. There is that saying that “it takes a village to educate a child” which is so true, and with your committed involvement to this school village, our students’ lives have been enriched. All staff at our great school would like to recognize your contributions this year and so a morning tea in your honour is being held this Monday 15th December at 10:40am in the Junior School Hall. We would love to see as many parents there as possible.

With just over a week to go until the end of a busy year many items of clothing are still finding their way into the lost property. Can you please take the time to check the lost property areas for any items of clothing that your child may have lost, before the last day of school for this year. Any items not claimed will be laundered and then go to the second hand uniform shop for re-sale.

Robin Grace

Kew Primary School Blog

appreciation.

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Katrina Whelen
Thank you to everyone who attended our School Peppercorn BBQ last Friday night! It was a great way to celebrate the end of the year and we enjoyed having so many staff attend and enjoy the hospitality. Thank you to all who helped with food, drinks, and entertainment: Dem Peterson, Lorraine Trist, Katrina Whelen, Emma Hindhaugh, Amanda Aitken, Fiona & Glenn Hollingsworth, Salley Tung, Jennifer, Angeline Song, Tsering Choekyi, Chris Neouroppos, Fadia Morsi, Andrea Stevens, Alex St Clair, Tamara Mynott, Martin Von Wyss, Marnie Hardman, Jen Williams, Lisa Geier, Shiva Akbarzadeh, John Mifsud, Iresha Suriyapperuma, Belinda Holmes & those who helped with cleaning up afterwards, including a great bunch of kids (who received a chocolate frog for doing so).

Polish Sausages & Salad: Eva Tamowicz (Tom)
Beef Sausages & Veggie Burgers: Stuart Welsh (Josh)
Rice Pudding & Jelly: Zohreh & Reza (Ashkan)
Icy poles Fatima Danaj (Safeway donation)

We are very grateful to our sponsors Kew Bakers Delight (bread), Safeway, and Toscano’s (Salad). Please support them when you shop next :)

PTA TEAM - Thank you!
What a terrific year we’ve had in building community, running fun events, and raising money! Special thanks to James & Mary Whitehouse (teacher rep) & the PTA team of Lorraine Trist, Fiona Hollingsworth, Belinda Holmes, Rachel Naylor, Joanna Szceszycka, Maria Nerouppos, Mitul Bhargava, Josie Bolton, Susie Grabsch, Amanda Aitken, Stewart Waters, Jayne Campbell, John Ling, Irene Kemeridis, Sue Friend, Angela Gill, Alex St Clair, Alicia Taylor, Rodney Thomson, Michael Senyard, Gill Smith, Emma Moore, Sylvia Voigt, Chett Beavis.

We wish Angela Gill (Toby & John Gill) all the best as they depart KPS and thank her for her important contribution on PTA and as a Class Rep.

We welcome any parents who would like to join us in 2015. We are a friendly bunch and our meetings are fun!

SCHOOL TEAM - Thank you!
At Kew Primary it is a team effort between Staff and Students, and our Leadership, and parents. I want to particularly thank the teams that we work closely with: the Class Rep Team, Sally & Dem & the Canteen Team, Nikki & The 2nd Hand Uniform Shop team, Rodney & Michael & The Fathers Assoc team, Jayne & the Splash Team, Stewart & Kath & the Building/ Ground’s team, Julie & the School Council Team, and the Office Team (Debbie, Ruth, and Aisha).

A special thank you to our wonderful Staff and Leadership Team of James and Robin, who appreciate and encourage us in all that we do. Thank you!
Cybertip—Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (ACORN)

The Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (the ACORN) was publicly launched on Wednesday 26 November 2014. The ACORN is a national policing initiative of the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. It is a national online system that will allow the public to securely report instances of cybercrime. It will also provide advice to help people recognise and avoid common types of cybercrime.

The ACORN is a key initiative under the National Plan to Combat Cybercrime, which sets out how Australian agencies are working together to make Australia a harder target for cybercriminals. The ACORN has been designed to make it easier to report cybercrime and help develop a better understanding of the cybercrime affecting Australians. By understanding the enablers of cybercrime, we can make it harder and less rewarding to commit cybercrime.

For more information about ACORN go to www.acorn.gov.au

Madame T (and the eSmart team)

Prep End of Year Party in the Park

December 19th at 1.30pm (after assembly)
Eglinton Reserve, Kew
BYO chairs/rugs, drinks and a plate to share
**Program Update**

**HELLO KEW PS!**

This week we created a large Under the Sea Mural. During before school care we worked together to paint the background, and then we brainstormed the types of animals and creatures we would find in the ocean. We have been colouring star fish, puffa fish, sharks and more, then adding them to the under the sea scene.

We continued with our Christmas Display and many children made beautiful paper wreaths to be placed around our Christmas tree. Some children discovered that not only were the wreaths a nice decoration, but they could also be worn as a funny head piece!

Christmas Biscuit Houses are our final cooking activity for the year, and what an exciting activity it is! The first group of children made their houses on Tuesday, using Nice biscuits to build the walls and roof and delicious icing to stick it all together. We then decorated the houses with edible lights and a licorice chimney, yum!

Every day at OSH we spend time getting active outdoors! Many runs have been scored this week out on the cricket pitch, while other children have enjoyed basketball, downball and dodgeball!

Please remember to inform us if you child is unwell or not attending the program for any other reason. A short text message or call on the day is very helpful to ensure the smooth running of the program. If you know prior to the day that your child will not be attending, you can adjust the details in the online booking system.

**Bookings are now open for our Holiday Program which will be running from the 12th January – 29th January 2015. Please book your child into the program using our online booking system as soon as possible to ensure they do not miss out on the many fun-filled activities we have planned, including a trip to the movies, a silent disco incursion and a Hollywood theme day! Copies of the full program are available at the OSHC building.**

If you have any questions or queries please call the program on 0400 394 489, alternatively feel free to drop into the program between the hours of 7:00 – 9:00am and 3:00 – 6:30pm and talk to one of our staff (Remembering that between 3:30 and 4pm is our busiest time and we might not be able to assist immediately). If you would like to book your child/ren into before or after care please log on to www.oshclub.com.au and follow the prompts to enrolling (Children MUST be enrolled to use the service).

Here are some of Next Week’s Activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Tunnelball Rhythm Circle</td>
<td>Hama Beads Dead Fish</td>
<td>Tiggy Musical Statues</td>
<td>Bean Bag Tag Wink Murder</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Parachute Wall Art</td>
<td>Christmas Biscuit Houses Twirling Ribbons</td>
<td>Flags Christmas Letters</td>
<td>Christmas Biscuit Houses Octopus</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Parent Information**

OSHC program phone: 0400 394 489

Coordinator: Jacinta Assistants: Lauren, Niki

OSHC Head Office: 03 35649000

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 any day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
Kew Community Bank®
Christmas Street Party

Saturday 13th December
10:00am – 12:00noon

Kew Community Bank® Branch,
Opposite Woolworths, Kew

• Free instant photos with Santa
• Colouring Competition
• Free Face Painting
Would $500 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs
- music tuition and intrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact your local Saver Plus Worker Aysun Acar

9426 1579 / 0407 837 426

aacar@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in your local area.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) does not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by DEECD for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

**Bowling**
Tuesday 13 January & Tuesday 20 January
$12 • 10am - 2pm
Bookings essential • Spaces limited

**Swimming**
Thursday 15 January & Thursday 22 January
Free • 10am - 3pm
Bookings essential • Spaces limited

**Centre Hours**
Monday - Friday
10am - 6pm
X-Box One, Wii, WiiFit, Games, Pool table, Foosball table

**Skate & Sizzle**
Wednesday 14 January & Wednesday 21 January
Free • 12pm - 3pm
Junction Skate Park

To book a place or for more information, please call Boroondara Youth Services on 9835 7825, Level 1, 360 Burwood Road, Hawthorn.

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**BRICKS 4 KIDZ BOROONDARA**

**Summer 2015 Holiday Workshops**

**For Mini Builders (age 2-5)**
- Story Time (morning and afternoon sessions available)

**For Junior Builders (age 5-11)**
- Spin, Roll and Swing at the “Amusement Park”
- See “Who’s Who at the Zoo”
- Enjoy a “Night at the Museum”
- Have fun “Down on the Farm”
- Try some “Mining and Crafting”
- Get ready for some “Remote Control Mania”

**Rates and Registration:**

January 6th - 23rd 2015
- 1 hour workshop: $10
- 2 hour workshop: $20
- 3 hour workshop: $30

For a full description of each workshop and to register online, please visit our website at bricks4kidzaustralia.com.au/boroondara

'phone: 0497 839 113