## Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16</td>
<td>Meet the Principal morning tea 9.15 - 10.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18</td>
<td>Michael Ymer (maths) Parent Evening 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20</td>
<td>Parents Social Evening at QPO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 2</td>
<td>Curriculum Day - no students at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3</td>
<td>Lap-a-thon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 13</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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### Message from Principal

Hi all and welcome to the newsletter. This week I have selected two writers of the week. Both were motivated by their recent excursion to the museum. I really love the way an experience we have engages us to communicate to others how it made us feel.

#### WRITERS OF THE WEEK

**That was the Museum – by Adam Hrelja (3/4P)**

*Remember the excited chatter of the kids in the bus?*  
*Remember when we saw the blue whale skeleton?*  
*That was the museum.*

*Remember when we felt the snake skin? That was good.*  
*Remember the 3D lava from the volcano? That was awesome!!*  
*That was the museum.*

*Remember the smell of the ant dung? That was smelly.*  
*Do you remember doing iBooks on the iPads? That was fun.*  
*That was the museum.*

**That was the Museum – by Rachel Lincolne (3/4P)**

*Remember when we saw the whale skeleton that we were so tempted to touch?*  
*Remember when we smelt that amazing lavender smell?*  
*That was the museum.*

*Remember when we made that booklet on the iPad?*  
*Remember when you felt freaked out in bugs alive?*  
*That was the museum.*

*Remember when we went to Wominjeka and saw Waa?*  
*Remember when we felt the wombat fur?*  
*That was the museum.*

*Remember seeing all those dead stuffed animals?*  
*Remember seeing that giant pinky red squid?*  
*That was the museum.*

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**CarnivalClub Book**  
Club brochures are available at the Office. All orders are due by Friday 27 May.
MATHS OLYMPIAD & MATHS TRUST & TARGETING MATHS EXTENSION PROGRAMS

Yes it is maths, maths and maths at KPS. In the upcoming weeks, both our Senior School and Middle School students will be participating in the Maths Olympiad and Maths Trust challenges respectively. These form one part of our Maths extension and enrichment program. We have also implemented a Targeted Teaching strategy this year. This began last term in both Middle and Senior School and has been extended this term to include the Junior School. One of the features of the program is committing additional resources and staff for a set time each week. This term I will be working with the Senior School team so that we have 6 teachers across the 5 grades. Robin will support students in the Middle School while Clare Connor will be running a group for some high flyers in the Junior School.

COMMUNITY FORUM

A big thank you to the parents who attended the community feedback forum on Tuesday night and also the ‘Meet with the Principal’ afternoon tea on Wednesday. Both events were organised as part of our school review. This will ensure that parent input is captured and is a voice within the whole review process.

I have run similar events in previous years as they are useful to me gaining a deeper understanding of parent perceptions, opinions and areas that we need to invest more effort and energy into developing improved processes or communication. They are, also, an important part of our effort to enable and utilise parent input.

During the forums I shared the information gathered via our recent parent survey (Survey Monkey). Each week in the newsletter I will outline some of this in more detail.

What do you want for your children by the time they graduate?

The largest response by a considerable margin was strong levels of academic achievement. By the time their children complete Grade 6, parents want them to be academically capable across all areas of the curriculum with a particular emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy. They want them to have developed a love and passion of learning and to be a confident learner. They want students to have strong social skills, including the ability to demonstrate care, compassion, tolerance and acceptance (which all related to our current CARE values). A high level of resilience is also highly rated. A sense of community and to have experienced a balanced, well-rounded curriculum along with being ready and prepared for transition to high school rounded out the top 9 responses.

Our school review work continues throughout this term and into next term. This involves a significant level of data analysis and evaluations against a series of continua based around the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO).

The next events are a ‘Meet with the Principal’ morning tea this coming Monday at 9.15am in the staffroom and a ‘Meet with the Principal’ student meeting. I will keep you up to date with information during this important review process.

Maths for Parents
Home School Partnership Evening

*Wednesday May 18th 2016*

6.30pm - 8.00 pm

Presenter: Michael Ymer

Michael is a specialist Mathematics consultant from Melbourne, Australia. He is involved in many Professional Development programs in schools across Australia and Asia and has been working with our school over the past 3 years running professional learning for staff including in-class modelling sessions.

On this evening Michael will address the following issues:
What is my child learning in Mathematics?
How can I help my child become an efficient problem solver?
How do children best learn Mathematics?
How can parents promote quality thinking and learning?

This will be very similar to the session Michael ran last year. The parents who attended in 2015 gave very positive feedback and can highly recommend it. This home school partnership evening will help you understand the focus of mathematics in schools today and offer strategies and ideas to help you support your young mathematicians.

If you are attending please complete the RSVP slip in the newsletter or on the flyer that was sent home by Monday 16th May.

Michael will also be working with some of our teaching teams in our classrooms and during professional discussions during that day and will return to do the same in Terms 3 and 4.

KEWRIOSITY KICKS OFF
Our Kewriosity program starts up tomorrow. This program is another step towards developing and implementing more authentic and real life learning opportunities within the school. I think you can expect some excited students telling you about some of the things that have done when they get home on a Friday. We are even taking one group of Senior School students to Kew High each week where they will get to use a secondary school equipped science lab!

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPS
Congratulations to all students who represented our school at the District Cross Country last Thursday. For our school the main purpose of a sporting event such as this is participation. However, it is also a great opportunity and outlet for students to learn about the highs and lows of competition in a healthy and supportive way.

The high for us this time around was winning the overall competition - so well done Kew Primary, District Cross Country champions for two years in a row! Good luck to those students who achieved results in the top 10 which means they progress into the next level of competition.

Thank you to Clare Connor for her passion and commitment to sport at our school and across the District. It is great to have staff like this who are so dedicated to all students, those achieving at very high levels and those that just want to have a go.

THANK YOU PTA
A huge thank you to our PTA for organising the Mother’s Day lunch and stall. From all reports the lunch was a wonderful and well attended event. Thank you to Alex St.Claire for organising it. Thank you to Fiona Hollingsworth for running the stall and thanks to all the helpers. Events like this are very much appreciated by the students and our whole school community.

Our PTA President Melanie Eades is doing a terrific job co-ordinating all of the different fundraising and community building events. As we speak the next one is not far away. Look out for more news on the Lap-a-thon very soon....

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEW UPDATE
At our recent School Council meeting held on May 4th final approval (in consultation with the PTA and staff) was given for our fundraising targets and projects in 2016. These are as follows:

Project 1: Cooling solutions (air conditioners) for remaining classrooms and art room - $34,000 - to complete this project.

This project has been a key focus for our school over the last 3 years. During this time over $80,000 has been raised through fundraising events organised by the PTA and over $60,000 has been sourced through school based funds including the increased level of voluntary payments parents have made and commissions received for hire of school facilities. This has enabled air-conditioning to be installed in the junior and senior school. The final areas that are not cooled are the Art room and classrooms on the ground floor of the main building. $34,000 will complete this project in full.
Project 2: Blind for north facing wall in gym to protect from sun - $14,000
This will enable the gym to be used all year round for functions and activities across the school community including assemblies and the Grade 6 graduation.

Project 3: Interactive screen for Middle School classrooms - $6,000 to support interactive learning and teaching.
Funds for Phase 2 of the oval have come from parent donations, funding from oval project and a small contribution of $5,000 from the 2016 lap-a-thon fundraiser. Planning for this project has commenced with an anticipated start date of the Term 2 school holidays. This includes a grassed area enabling the Play for Life Pod to be installed.

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD TO ENROL IN PREP NEXT YEAR?
A reminder to any families with younger siblings, ready to start school in 2017 that you need to enrol now. We are currently hosting tours and organising enrolments for next year.

Be Worthy!
James Penson
Principal

Kew Primary School Blog

Animals, environments, paints and pastels - it's all happening in the art room and this week on the blog Kerry Lomas shares some of the brilliant pieces created by the junior students.

Have something you'd like to share on the blog? Please drop me a line at: katrina.w@ozemail.com.au

Katrina Whelen
Message from Assistant Principal

As I have always maintained, schools are incredibly vibrant and energetic places driven by the combined energies of students, staff and the parents. A love of learning and teaching, underpins any teachers’ desires to do what they do, their students’ responses to being challenged and above all being curious about the world in which they live, adds the real fuel to drive this “learning energy”. Parents contribute to this situation by supporting the teachers with home learning programs, working in classrooms and attending excursions, camps, information evenings and asking about their children’s day. It illustrates to children that learning is valued and our school community certainly does do that in bucket loads.

The number of experiences the students get to be involved in at this school is staggering and in the five years that I have been at Kew PS no two years have been remotely similar. Each year has seen the teachers, whether in a specialist role or classroom situation, design new and different curriculum, with their respective teams so that our Kew Kids can build on their learning from previous years.

Not only are the students engaged in new learning but so too are the teachers, who regularly undertake professional learning courses such as the Micheal Ymer Maths days where he coaches in a variety of our classrooms whilst the rest of the team of teachers observes. This is continuing next week when Michael, again works with our teaching teams on Wednesday 18th May and then back this day up with a parents evening which begins at 6:30pm. Please don’t miss this opportunity to come and hear Michael speak about how maths is taught today as opposed to how it was taught when you attended primary school. He is a most informative and engaging speaker.

In the fifth week of Terms Two and Three, the Boroondara Network of schools organise their own professional learning sessions and this week Kew PS hosted one of these professional learning sessions for other teachers in network schools. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sally Marsh who coordinated this program which focussed on writing, moderating writing samples according to AusVELS, culminating with the development of cohort plans. Our School Improvement Leaders, Diana Matricciani, Melissa Hayes, Jacki Hopkins and as well as Lead Teacher, Andrew Wood, worked with groups of these teachers to facilitate professional conversations around writing , resulting in the creation of cohort plans. It was another aspect of our teachers sharing their knowledge and expertise within our network.

I believe a true measure of a healthy organisation is the time and money it invests in developing staff capacity and here at Kew PS it is certainly true where time and money is invested in improving each teacher’s capabilities to deliver quality curriculum to all students whatever their learning needs. In the next few weeks, all staff will be observing each other in their classrooms and giving critical feedback about each other’s teaching and the students’ learning. This is an important aspect of learning from each other as well as gaining insight into the expertise we have on our staff.

No doubt you have all felt the winter chills as have many of our students. We have over 40 students who are asthmatics and winter can prove very problematic for these students. Further adding to their woes are students who come to school already ill and then spread their illnesses amongst their peer group. This is a bit of a plea on my part, and that is to request that you keep your child home if they are sick because the comfort of home is often the best remedy in such situations. It also lessens the chance of our teaching staff contracting some illness that sees them unable to teach and this in turn interrupts the flow of learning in the classroom. We do endeavour to cover teacher absences with quality CRTs but there is nothing like coming into your classroom to see your own teacher standing there, smiling and welcoming you to another day of learning and laughter. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Robin Grace
Cybersafety @ Kew PS

What is Instagram?
Instagram is a photo-sharing app which allows users to take photos, apply a filter and share content with either followers or the general public. Users are able to ‘like’ and comment on photos as well as send these images directly to individual followers. Instagram also allows users to post short videos.

What is the age classification for Instagram?
Instagram is recommended for users aged 13 years and above

Should I be worried if my child is using Instagram?
Any application when used incorrectly has the potential to cause harm. It is important that you openly communicate with your child about how they may be using an application and the legal and ethical ramifications of inappropriate use. They also need to be aware the dangers of communicating with people they don’t know via any mobile application.

How can I delete my child’s account?
If after talking with your child about the ethical use of Instagram and your family’s rules around technology, you may think it’s appropriate to delete the Instagram account. To delete an Instagram account log into the account at instagram.com, click the account username in the top right and select Edit Profile, click I’d like to delete my account in the bottom right. Note: Accounts can not be reactivated and photos may be lost. Open and supportive discussions around technology usage are vital in ensuring your child understands their responsibilities when using technology. Simply removing the technology is not the best response as it could potentially drive your child’s usage underground where there are fewer opportunities for you to support them. For more information visit www.thinkuknow.org.au

This is a good time to remind all students that technology at Kew PS needs to be used in accordance with the school’s iPad agreement and policy.


Stay safe and responsible

Madame T (on behalf of the eSmart team)
Maths for Parents
Home School Partnership Evening
*Wednesday May 18th 2016*
6.30pm - 8.00 pm

**Presenter: Michael Ymer**

Michael is a specialist mathematics consultant from Melbourne, Australia. He is involved in many Professional Development programs in schools across Australia and Asia and has been working with our school over the past 3 years running professional learning for staff including in-class modelling sessions.

Michael is an enthusiastic and entertaining presenter who has a clear and practical approach to the challenges that confront schools and parents in mathematics. On this evening Michael will address the following issues:

- What is my child learning in mathematics?
- How can I help my child become an efficient problem solver?
- How do children best learn mathematics?
- How can parents promote quality thinking and learning?

This will be very similar to the session Michael ran last year. The parents who attended in 2015 gave very positive feedback and can highly recommend it. This home school partnership evening will help you understand the focus of mathematics in schools today and offer strategies and ideas to help you support your young mathematicians.

If you are attending please return the slip below by Monday 16th May.

Regards
James Penson

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Maths for Parents - Home School Partnership Evening 18th May 2016

Child’s Name & Grade_____________________

I wish to attend the Maths for Parents - Home School Partnership Evening on May 18th 2016

Name:

☐ I wish to register for child minding on the evening (from 6.15pm in the library).

Names of children requiring minding:
THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way towards the Mother’s Day & Special Person’s Day stall being a great success last Thursday.

The children had a wonderful time choosing which gifts to buy, being responsible for their own money and working out how much an item cost & how much change to expect. Thank you to all the teachers who worked hard to help the students, especially the younger ones.

We had an amazing team; a special thanks to Tania Lim & Danella Draper who helped to choose the lovely selection of gifts back in February,

Thanks to all the Mums who helped to set up the stall on Wednesday night and/or helped run the stall on Thursday morning; Tania Lim, Claire Tanner, Annette Karcher, Natasha Edwards, Naomi Hinks, Rie Masadome, Alex St Clair, Belinda Lundie, Danmin Chen, Gill Smith, Siobhan Flynn, Anna McDowall, Voula Gabriel, Irene Kemeridis, Iresha Suriyapperum, Miranda Skoczek, Melissa Alemis & Amanda Aitken who organised the sign up roster.

Thanks must also go to our wonderful office staff Ruth & Aisha for all their hard work behind the scenes; receiving the stock, sending out flyers, skoolbag alerts & finances.

We hope you enjoyed Sunday, spending time with the children & receiving thoughtful gifts.

Fiona Hollingsworth (on behalf of the PTA)

www.ecostore.com.au

Also available at Woolworths & Leo’s

www.ecostorefundraising.com.au

No nasty chemicals
THANK YOU
Thanks to everyone who came along to the Kew Primary School Mother's Day lunch at Hellenic Republic

Special thanks to KPS parents and musicians Lucy and Joseph Dwyer

Thank you to our sponsors

Thanks again everyone for your support.
Alex St Claire and Melanie Eades (on behalf of the PTA)
Kew Primary School Parents’ Social
Parents and carers are invited to catch up with drinks and canapés at

QPO
Corner High St and Cotham Rd, Kew

Friday May 20th
7.30pm – 12.30am

Tickets: $29 for canapés and a drink
www.trybooking.com/LJFX

Last day to book Wednesday May 18th

For more information, email kewprimarypta@yahoo.com

An afternoon with
JACKIE FRENCH
Thursday 19 May 4.00–5.30pm
the De Young Centre for Performing Arts Foyer

trybooking.com/KVOJ

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