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Did you know??

Overviews containing an outline of what your child will be learning throughout term 1 are now available for you to read on our KPS website. These overviews are located under Student Learning – Term Overviews. Classroom timetables will also be published shortly.

When dropping off or picking up your child from school please use the side gate. This will help to reduce congestion around the office.

CSEF forms are now available from the office or on our website. If you hold a concession card you may be eligible for the $125 government payment which helps towards the cost of your child’s excursions and camps. Please complete the form and return to the school office by Monday 29th February. When submitting your application, the office will need to see the original Centrelink Pensioner Concession or Health Care card.

3 Way Conferences will be held on Thursday 25th February and Tuesday 1st March. Bookings are now open. For further information on how to make a booking please go to page 3 of the newsletter.
Principals Report

School Council Call for Nominations

Please don’t forget to nominate someone or get yourself nominated for School Council. There are three positions for parents to take up this time around. Nominations will close next Thursday the 18th of February. We require 2 parent councillors. Pick up nomination forms from the office. You can get someone to nominate you or nominate yourself.

Thank you to the retiring councillors who have done such a brilliant job. Stewart Brook, Danni Kelly and Chris Dwyer.

School Council

• Please consider nominating someone or get yourself nominated for School Council. There are three positions for parents to take up this time around. I will call for nominations over the next few weeks so please give it some thought. It is important that we get our full complement of people. Council usually meets on a Monday evening starting at 7:00pm. If we get too many people nominating we’ll go to a ballot. Please consider and ask someone to nominate you. Forms will be at the office later next week. If you would like to discuss nominations feel free to drop in and see me or another current school councillor.

What is the Role of the School Council?

• Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school’s community
• Develop and monitor the school strategic plan
• Develop, review and update school policies
• Develop, review and monitor the Student Code of Conduct and the School Dress Code
• Raise funds for school related purposes
• Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
• Maintain the school’s grounds and facilities
• Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)
• Report annually to the school community and to DEECD
• Stimulate interest in the school generally

• All school councillors are expected to sit on at least one sub-committee
• Other sub-committees might include:
  – Finance & Facilities
  – FunRai$ing
  – Education Committee
  – Welcome and Transitions
  – Care Program
  – Sustainability
  – Mater Planning
• You need to be keen but you don’t need to be an expert
• You need to like people and be able to work in a team
• School councils work best when they have people from a variety of different backgrounds and have different experiences
• You do need to be prepared to commit the time needed to ensure the work of council gets done
• School council must meet at least 8 times in each year, and at least once per school term

Meetings should be restricted to approximately 2 hours.
Prep Cooking

What great fun the youngsters had making pancakes for pancake day on Tuesday. Lots of measuring and mixing and eating. The children were highly engaged and wrote about their experience later that afternoon. The children in Prep H went with Ngaire, who is an excellent cook, and made these scrumptious snacks.

3 Way Conferences

- Thursday, February 25th 2:00 - 6:00pm
- Tuesday, March 1st 3:45 - 6:00pm

Parent/Teacher/Student 3-way Conferences for students in Yr 1 - Yr 6 will be held on Thursday, February 25th 2:00 - 6:00pm and Tuesday, March 1st 3:45 - 6:00pm.

Please note: Prep teachers are holding their conferences with parents on Wednesdays during February following their child's Prep Entry Assessment.

All students attend the 3-way conference with their parents and are active participants in the process. These 3-way conferences are a very important opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and to share any relevant information about their child/children. It is also a time when children, parents and teachers set
educational goals for the coming year. Students may be asked to leave the meeting if there is information that needs to be shared between the adults. Areas will be set up outside classrooms to enable this to occur. **Conferences will be held in the students’ classrooms.**

We are using an online booking system for parents to book their **10 minute conference time** with your child’s teacher. This means you can book your 3-way conferences at times that suit your family best.


If you do not have access to a computer you are able to book your conference times at school by contacting the Office between 8:45am and 4:00pm. Office staff will book a suitable time for you. **Conferences are 10 minutes.** Instructions for booking an appointment for your child’s 3 –Way Conference are outlined below.

**Interpreters** will be booked if requested. Please let your child’s class teacher know if you require an interpreter

**BOOKINGS CLOSE Wednesday, February 24th.**

Please contact the school if you have any queries.

Julie Stephens
Assistant Principal

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**Prep Parent Literacy Information Evening & Parent Mingle**

**16th February, 2016 at 6.00pm**

To assist in your child’s reading development the Prep teachers will be holding a literacy information night on the 16th of February at 6pm.

At this session the teachers will show you how to assist your child with reading at home, including:
- How to motivate your child to read at home- reading should be a fun experience.
- How to read the home readers
- How to use reading strategies
- How to use the High Frequency Wordlist to support reading
- Information about the speaking and listening program
- Plus many more tips and pointers.

**The Literacy information session will be held in the Prep classrooms.**

After the information session, there will be refreshments provided in the library. This will be a great opportunity for all parents to meet new faces and to create connections. As we would like this to be an adult information session, we please ask that you don’t bring your children with you.

Please RSVP by **Friday 12th February**, to your child’s Prep teacher, to confirm your attendance and for catering.
Welcome to Oshclub

Our first week has been very successful! Some of the highlights were a very competitive soccer match, making some beautiful pinch pots and paper craft as well as some incredible Lego creations.

This week at OSHclub our theme is ‘Animals of the world!’ . We will be doing numerous activities in before and after care which are associated with the theme such as making balloon animals, animal face masks and many other types of fun and interactive arts and crafts. Games such as Cat and Mouse, duck, duck, goose and Octopus will also be on offer outside at the same time.

For any queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself at 0478155322 or by email at oshclub.kensington@gmail.com.

Thank you from Gavin and the OSHClub team!
Learning social and emotional skills is key to success at school and in life.

As we learn more about our how our brains learn and remember information, the more evidence we have that learning to regulate feelings and developing social and emotional skills are key to achieving success in life. In order to teach these skills, we implement an evidence based program called Bounce Back across the school from prep to grade 6. The Bounce Back program is taught each week by classroom teachers. The skills taught include:

- helpful and optimistic thinking,
- resourcefulness and adaptability
- learning to look at situations in a balanced way without personalizing or blaming unfairly,
- relationship and social skills, seeking help when you need it,
- using humour and developing a healthy self esteem.

In first term, the focus is on learning the importance of values in building character and regulating feelings and behavior. We then look at the key skills for resilience. To break down this task and make the skills easier to remember in our busy lives, there is an acronym and for each of the letters of BOUNCE BACK we will look at a statement that covers one aspect of these coping skills. We have been looking at these skills for a number of years at this school and many children are familiar with the statements. For those members of the school community who do not yet know the statements and for those who would appreciate a refresher, I will include an explanation of a couple of statements each week and by the end of the term we will all share a common language to support and promote resilience.

Bad times don’t last, things always get better. Stay optimistic.

This statement is not just about wishful thinking – bad times and bad feelings are almost always temporary – even if some situations seem to get worse before they get better. Over time, situations change and the way you see situations also shifts which allows new ways of addressing the issues to emerge. At times it is important to focus on one day at a time to get through and maintaining the belief that things are more likely to turn out well (optimism) keeps you engaged in trying to solve a problem rather than giving up.

Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

Seeking help and talking to others encourages young people to share their thoughts, feelings, experiences and plans with a trusted person. In this way they can gain support and become clearer about their own thoughts and feelings. The ‘reality check’ that is referred to in this statement is a way of using the perspectives of others to double check our own thinking or perceptions. It allows us to look for evidence to support or challenge our thinking rather than allowing imagination, exaggeration, panic or ‘jumping to conclusions’ to influence us. The skill of seeking help and developing caring relationships in which you can share things about yourself are key protective factors for children and adults.
This term Years 5/6 are inquiring into ‘What Makes A Great Leader’.
As part of this term’s inquiry Years 5/6 students are participating in a program each Friday called ‘Sisters and Brothers’. The program is being delivered through the community health organisation ‘cohealth’.

“Sisters and Brothers aims to raise awareness and create dialog around race-based discrimination and its harms, and gives students the tools be active bystanders when they encounter race-based discrimination. The program is implemented by a culturally diverse group of young facilitators who use song writing, body percussion, rapping, singing, beat boxing, theatre and storytelling throughout.”

http://sistersandbrothersproject.org

Student Quotes:

I learnt to accept everything about people. (Max)

Racism isn’t just about beliefs or culture, it’s about what people eat or wear. (Rocco)

I liked the humour and playing of instruments, dancing and stomping.

The story was like being read from a book.

It was a good time for everyone to have fun. (Athan)

You could let all your energy out. (Joe)

It’s a time when you can sit down and listen to stories and music. (Genevieve)
It's been a busy two weeks in the music classroom with all K.P.S students now enjoying their music specialist class and all music ensembles now well under way.

Henry teaching classmates Hussein and Musaab how to play chords on the ukulele

Liam playing some blues music on the piano for his 5/6 Class who are learning about the sound and history of Blues music

Stella Butzkueven - Teaching Early Bird Singers how to pronounce French words during an early morning rehearsal

Stella and accompanist Sally Butzkueven working with the class on French pronunciation.
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

KENSINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname ____________________________
First name __________________________
Address ____________________________
Town/suburb __________________________ State _______ Postcode _______
Contact number __________________________

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ - ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ - ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ OR
☐ Foster parent* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

• DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
• this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
• I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
• if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
• information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools’ Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date _______ / _______ / _______
THANK YOU

I would like to thank all the parents who watered the Plantmania garden during the summer holidays.

Sue Williams, Kay Headland, Fiona Harbridge, Kath Webb, Alicia Rogers, Sam Bryant, Robyn Allan, Charlotte Gillam, Deidre Bullen, Tania Provan, Susie Stone, Anita Cloherty, Eve Binnie, Sarah Brooke and Fincina Hopgood.

The garden is looking amazing for the start of 2016 thanks to their willingness to give some time each week. Thanks also to those of you who looked after the chooks as well. A great combined effort!

Over the summer we have had a lovely harvest of apricots that have been stewed and frozen for the kids to use in their Wednesday cooking program - thanks Tania. Kay has also managed to turn many of our tomatoes into passata to use on the pizza bases, along with some zucchini pickles.

Welcome to all the new parents at KPS for 2016. Plantmania is the name of our school kitchen garden and Grubbies is a volunteer parent group that support the garden and other projects around the school.

If you haven’t been into the garden yet, I encourage you to have a walk around and see what is there. There are many ways to get involved with Grubbies. We have a meeting at least once per term and communicate via the newsletter and group emails. If you would like to be included on this group list please send me your email address.

sharynolive@gmail.com

A brief outline of things happening this year,

1. Wednesday mornings the Kitchen/Garden program runs from 9-11.30am. Usually one class participates each Wednesday. They work in 2 groups with one group in the kitchen for an hour while the other group is in the garden, after which they swap for the following hour. They all join together in the Gathering Space at the end of the session to share the food they have cooked. We encourage parents of that class to help out with these sessions in the kitchen or garden areas and also with the kitchen tidy up at the end. Kay volunteers her time to run the kitchen while the class teacher runs the gardening session. First term we have the 1/2 classes, second term will be Preps followed by the 3/4’s. A note is send home with your child prior to their turn to let you know when it is.

2. We will be running some regular adult gardening sessions to maintain the garden for the gardening program. These will be once a fortnight, after morning drop off from 9am-10.30am and will be advertised in the newsletter. The first one for the term is next Tuesday 16th Feb. You don’t need to be a gardening expert to join us, it is very relaxed and social. In addition we have occasional working bees so if the school hours don’t suit you there will be other opportunities.

3. There is a regular watering roster that always needs more volunteers. It requires about 30-40mins one morning or evening per week. If you would like to do this, please email me with you availability and I will be in touch.

4. Our chooks are cared for by children in the 3/4 classes during school terms but we have families that volunteer to look after the chooks during the holiday breaks.
Kensington Primary School Newsletter

Community News

Department of Education & Kensington Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education or Kensington.

KENSINGTON JUNIOR BASKETBALL CLUB
is looking for players to join teams this term.

CONTACT: Kaye Allan on 0425777742 or email kayealla@gmail.com

Training
Monday night 5-6pm
North Melbourne Recreation Centre
204 Arden St
North Melbourne

Games
Tuesday nights 4.40pm
MSAC
Albert Rd
Albert Park
Saturday games also available
Trivia Night

Saturday, 27 February 2016
7:15 FOR 7:30 P.M. START
Kensington Town Hall
Bellair St, Kensington (Melways 2T.J2)

Cost: $25 per head
Supper, tea and coffee provided
Please bring own nibbles, drinks and glasses
Maximum of 8 people per table. Tables can be arranged.
Good Prizes!
Tickets available from Roger Thiessen
Email: thiessen@bigpond.net.au  PH: 9882 5848
Proceeds from the evening will support the Club’s local community projects.
We love Dance Theatre
Live Dance Determination

Jazz, Ballet, Acrobatics, Classical & Hiphop

We promote quality dance technique & guide students with
- Encouragement
- Teamwork
- Recognition
- Respect
- Teamwork
- Self esteem

First lesson free!

Where: Ascot Vale Primary School
Bank Street, Ascot Vale

When: Saturday mornings & Tuesday afternoons.

Enquiries: 0423089981, 0421859540
dancetheatre@gmail.com

Principal: RAELENE BRADY
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SPECIAL OFFER
OUTDOOR GROUP FITNESS
FREE TRIAL CLASS

5 x CLASS PASS *USED OVER 6 WEEKS $60
10 x CLASS PASS *USED OVER 12 WEEKS $100

For more information or to book in, please contact James using the below:
PHONE: 0401 964 986
EMAIL: JAMES@BROOKEFITNESS.COM.AU
WEB: WWW.BROOKEFITNESS.COM.AU

We give kids Confidence through Drama
Registrar for a FREE trial Drama Class

Kensington Primary School
Thursdays in the Library
Prep to Yr 2 – 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Yrs 3 & 4 – 4:30 to 5:30 pm
Yrs 5 & 6 – 5:30 to 6:30 pm

“...I was concerned my daughter was doing too many after-school activities, so suggested we stop one. She replied that she definitely couldn’t stop drama classes. When I asked why not, she said ‘Because drama classes make me feel brave!’ We’ll definitely be continuing” – Lizzy McKay

www.kidsupfront.com.au • 9953 4040