What’s Coming Up........................

This Week
Monday-Friday: Swim Scheme
Wednesday: Student Disco K-2 6-7pm /Y3-6 7-8:30pm
7pm Ukulele Information - Library
Thursday: Kindy 2015 Play Session (Teddy Bears’ Picnic)

Next Week
Monday-Thursday: Yr 6 Public Speaking
Thursday: Yr 6 Mini Fete 2-3pm Kindy 2015 – Christmas Craft
Friday: Yr 6 Public Speaking Final

BRONZE & GOLD
It is always fantastic to witness our students’ outstanding work. Congratulations to Bella Y3 and Imogen K who received Bronze Principal Awards at Friday’s assembly. It was also my pleasure to present Molly Y6 with a Gold Award, recognising her numerous achievements at KSPS – a special well done!

LOST PROPERTY
Students have been reminded again to take care of their clothing (hats, jackets, etc.). Thanks to Valerie Main for tidying up the lost property; returning labelled items; and taking other clothing in good condition to a local charity.

Please ensure your child’s hat and items of clothing are labelled and keep a regular eye out for lost property (located near the main office) as items can only be held for several weeks before disposal.

UPDATE ON SCHOOL PLANNING
Thanks to parent representatives on the School Evaluation Team who met with Mrs Ward and me on Wednesday evening prior to the P&C. The school has been analysing a wide range of data including class based assessment and NAPLAN results; and staff, parent and student surveys and focus groups to inform planning for the next 3 years (from 2015) and beyond.

Obviously, the main focus for school development will be on student learning and improving student outcomes in the KSPS context. Implementation of NSW - National Curriculum will continue alongside strategies to ensure all teachers are up to date through professional learning and new teacher accreditation requirements.

With the capacity of technology to support 21st Century learning, the school will also plan to ensure ongoing benefits to student learning through the use of technology. Part of the challenge will be to keep up with new technologies while replacing hardware such as classroom SMART (interactive) boards which are starting to fail.

The school has numerous extra curricula activities that add to student engagement, fun and learning. It means a very busy school calendar and quite a few demands on families for their time and funds. While these are being evaluated, it has been difficult to reach consensus as to what activities to cull or reduce to biennially.

Care will be taken to ensure quality classroom programs are not disrupted.

Performing Arts is another area being reviewed, and the school is looking to increase students’ options in music and dance. As detailed in last week’s newsletter, the prospect of ukulele lessons being available through the school is being investigated. This is just one aspect that is being considered – the school will keep you informed.

Scripture and the possibility of Ethics classes being run concurrently, is also being considered. This was discussed at last week’s P&C meeting and the school will look to continue the conversation.

The school will continue to actively work to ensure our grounds and buildings are maintained and where possible improved. Gardens and the COLA have been major accomplishments this year and there is talk of a ‘Colour’ project and other initiatives. A working bee is tentatively planned for Sunday 14th December to top-dress the sports field – if we haven’t been able to complete this sooner.

Please contact the school if you’d like further details of the school evaluation or if you have any suggestions. The draft plan will be developed by the end of this term and available for comment early next year.

P&C UPDATE
Sincere thanks to parents who attended the P&C last Wednesday evening. It was fantastic to have so many parents present at this busy time of year. It provided a viable representative forum to inform the school evaluation process.

Former MP, Andrew Cornwell has accepted our invitation to attend the Christmas Barbecue and COLA Opening on Thursday 4 December from 5-7pm. Mr Cornwell was a strong supporter of KSPS and his personal efforts provided funds to bring the COLA project to fruition.

Students, families and friends are cordially invited to this staff run event – we’re keen to give our hard working volunteers a night off to celebrate. The event will include live music and a couple of informal bush dances. Families may either bring a picnic hamper or place an order for the staff run BBQ. Order forms will be sent home between now and then…

MARTIN FROHLICH - PRINCIPAL
YEAR 6 MINI FETE THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER

The Year 6 mini fete will be held at school on Thursday 27th November after recess in the school playground. It is an annual event held at KSPS to raise funds for the Year 6 Farewell and Yr 6 gift to the school. It is for KSPS students only. Year 6 are busily organising their stalls and preparing the resources necessary to make the event a success. Stalls will be offering activities, games, showbags and food for sale during the afternoon. Stalls will vary in cost between 50c and $6 (showbags). Please see information about the stalls and costs of activities on the flyer included in this newsletter. If any families are interested in donating any small prizes for the day, please see Year 6 students or Mrs Ward. This day is out of uniform for all students K-6.

YEAR 6 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The Year 6 Public Speaking Competition will take place throughout next week (week 8). Each Year 6 student is currently preparing a speech on the topic “.... And I couldn't stop laughing!” Each student will present to an audience in the school hall from 9.10am each morning. Finalists will be selected to present their speech on Friday 28th November during regular assembly time at 10.15am. Parents are welcome to attend any session. The finalists will each receive a certificate and the winner will have their name engraved on a perpetual trophy and present their speech at our school Presentation Day.

KSPS ANNUAL PRESENTATION DAY AND SPECIAL AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Our annual Presentation Day will be held on Monday 15th December at the Kotara High School Multi Purpose Building. The presentation will commence at 10am. Students will travel by bus to the venue – permission notes will be sent out in the coming weeks. All students receiving an award will receive a letter in the mail before the event. As in previous years there will be special guests, a guest speaker, a whole school singing and signing performance and of course the presentation of awards.

This year we will be also holding a Special Awards Assembly on Wednesday 10th December at school commencing at 9am. To celebrate the last formal assembly of the year, a number of special class awards, encouragement awards (technology, dance and sport), kindergarten graduation certificates and other certificates will be presented on this day. All parents and community members are more than welcome to attend this awards assembly. There will be no formal letters sent home to students receiving an award at this assembly.

MRS WARD - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION PLAY SESSION

Our first Kindergarten Orientation play session was held last Thursday for students enrolling in 2015. It was a great opportunity for the students, parents and teachers to meet and we had an enjoyable time. Our next session is the Teddy Bears’ Picnic.

KINDERGARTEN TEDDY BEARS’ PICNIC

On Thursday November 20, students enrolled in our Kindergarten for 2015 are invited to attend a Teddy Bears’ Picnic from 10.00am. The session will commence in the school hall. Parents are welcome to stay for a presentation provided by the Cancer Council entitled “Eat It to Beat It” – followed by a “Road safety” and “Crunch and Sip” session. This parent session will commence at approximately 10.10am.

Year 4 students who will be buddies for our new Kindergarten students in 2015 will also be joining us at the picnic. All students involved are asked to bring along their favourite teddy for the occasion.

A special treat will be provided to all students by our school P & C. The uniform shop will also be open before the session. Looking forward to seeing you again.

KSPS GIVING TREE

As in previous years our school has supported the City Mission with donations of food and gifts to assist needy families in our community that find it financially and emotionally difficult to provide their families with a Christmas celebration as we know it. The City Mission would be grateful for donations of non-perishable food for the needy families of Newcastle and the Hunter. Donations of canned food, Christmas puddings, packet items, a gift for a boy or girl (not wrapped please) etc., can be brought to school and placed under the Christmas tree in the office foyer from next Monday November 24.

Once again thank you for your kind assistance.

AFTERNOON TEA TO THANK VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday 9 December from 1.30 – 2.00pm

KSPS is a fantastic school and one of the special aspects is the outstanding level of community support. Volunteers help in a myriad of ways: the P&C, Fundraising Committee, Canteen Team (Mrs Best’s extraordinary helpers), classroom helpers, barbecue volunteers, working bee supporters, scripture teachers… All volunteers are invited to please join us if you can for this afternoon tea under the Cola outside the new hall – a small way we can say - “Thank you for making a difference for our KSPS kids.”

MRS COX - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

P&C NEWS

Disco

The P&C will be selling drinks, chips and lollies at the disco, this Wednesday night. We are looking for helpers during the following time slots. If you can assist please come up on the night:

6.00pm to 7.00pm and 7.00pm to 8.30pm
Uniform Shop
The uniform shop will be opened on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th November 8.30am to 9.00am.

P&C Meeting
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th December at 7.00pm in the school library.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who received awards at last week’s assembly.

KC
Brittney, Madden, Angelina

KF
Lexie, Jeremiah, Riley

1W
Libby, Imogen, Jackson

IG
Lucas, Luke, Lindsay

1/2G
Connor, Alexander, Bodie

2G
Layne, Noah, Christian

2/3E
Samuel, Kurtis, Thomas

3/4T
Bella, Jalissa, Matthew

4/5E
Cooper, Madeline, Kaitlyn

5/6J
Charli, Brayden, Ky, Tenzin

5/6W
Jack, Abbie, Holly, Joey

HSUB
Phoenix

CANTEEN NEWS
Hello from the Canteen for another great week. I would like to send out a huge thank you to the 3 new mums who came along last Friday and helped me in the canteen. It was another busy day and your help was very much appreciated. Hopefully you will come back and become a regular volunteer when time permits. Thanks also to the fabulous group of parents who always support me in the canteen, I couldn’t do it without you.

HELP NEEDED PLEASE - I am in need of urgent help for tomorrow, Wednesday 19 November. My rostered helper for tomorrow is unable to come in so please if you could spare me anytime it would be very welcomed.

SPECIALS
Eat Fresh Deal $2.00
Fresh roast chicken and salad on a wrap
Mony Chip $4.00
6 chicken chips
1 choc chip muffins
1 ice mony

FIONA BEST - CANTEEN SUPERVISOR