KSPS YEAR DRAWS TO AN END

There are numerous activities planned for the last days of the school year and this final newsletter for 2014 contains important information to keep you up to date.

Thanks to students, families and teachers who attended the Christmas BBQ on Thursday. It was a great way to celebrate the opening of the COLA. Thanks to Mr Cornwell and Mr Thompson for joining us on the night for the brief formalities. The COLA is a wonderful and already much used addition to the school’s facilities.

Special thanks to Jeff Browne and Mr Eldridge who joined me to provide ‘live music’ for the occasion.

Well done to all students who have participated in the various music option programs this year. Mr Eldridge and I have greatly enjoyed time with guitarists, keyboard players and drummers. Final workshops are being held this week and we’ll continue the focus from around Week 3 in Term 1.

The Geri Rae (Piano For Schools) keyboard students have made great strides and I’m looking forward to hearing them perform at lunchtime on Thursday.

Numerous students have returned expression of interest forms for ukulele lessons with Jane Jelbart (mob. 0478624883 or http://www.thesumoftheparts.com.au/jukestra/) following her performance at Friday’s assembly.

Further details on this and more, will be provided through newsletters early in 2015.

In the meantime, I look forward to an exciting end of Term, with the Special Awards Assembly tomorrow morning, P&C Meeting and Dinner at Letter Q, Year 6 Farewell, Working Bee, Presentation Day at Kotara High School MPC (on Monday morning) and Class Picnic Day (last day for students, Wednesday) – there’s certainly lots on.

Semester 2 Reports will be sent home with students tomorrow. Please let your child’s teacher or the school know directly if you have any queries or if you notice errors or omissions. If so, an updated report will be issued. Should there be any lingering queries or concerns, please let us know in the new school year. We strive to meet the needs of all our students.

As this is the final newsletter for 2014, I would like to again thank all KSPS students, staff, parents and volunteers for making it a wonderful year. Special thanks to our teaching and non-teaching staff who contribute in every way possible. I’d also like to acknowledge the P&C Executive and volunteers, and Mrs Best for our extraordinary canteen.

Farewell to our Year 6 students, and other students and families who are leaving KSPS. I’m sure you’ll fondly remember KSPS throughout the years. Year 6, you’ve carried on in true KSPS Style and can be very proud of all your achievements.

MARTIN FROHLICH - PRINCIPAL
KSPS ANNUAL PRESENTATION DAY

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 were sent home last week and should be returned to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. Parents of all students receiving an award at our Presentation Day will be notified 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. All parents and family members are invited to attend this event.

SPECIAL AWARDS ASSEMBLY

The KSPS Special Awards Assembly is being held tomorrow, Wednesday 10th December, at school commencing at 9.15am in our school hall. This assembly will be our last formal assembly of the year. There will be a number of special class awards, encouragement awards (technology, dance, library and sport), kindergarten graduation certificates and other certificates being presented on this day. All parents and community members are more than welcome to attend. There will be no formal notification to parents of students receiving an award at this assembly.

YEAR 6 HIGH SCHOOL VISIT

All Year 6 students who are attending Kotara High School next year will be attending an Orientation Day at Kotara High School this Thursday, 11 December. This will be a final opportunity for all students to visit the school and meet teachers before they start next year. Please note that all students will need to make their own way to and from the high school on this day. A note from Kotara High School was sent home to all Year 6 students last week outlining the details of the day.

MRS WARD - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PEEK FAMILY FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who has donated money for the Peek family after their recent house fire. To date, the school has collected nearly $800 which will assist Ms Millward and her son’s greatly. The family has asked me to pass on their thanks for the support given by the KSPS community. It has made a real difference in this difficult time. The good news is that their teenage son is recuperating well and Cade will return to school next week.

MRS WARD - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MATHS WEBSITES AND APPS

Many parents have spoken to me recently requesting quality websites or Apple/Google Play apps. Below is a list of the best of them that you may want to get to assist your children.

Kakooma: this website and Apple/Google Play app is brilliant. It will assist your child to recognise multiplication and addition facts as they are presented in a puzzle rather than just flashing on the screen.

Mathsisfun.com: this website is interactive for all aspects of maths. It includes videos of most concepts as well as examples and activities.

Wishball: this is a game that assists children to have a deeper understanding of place value. There are several different levels depending on your child’s understanding of place value.

Numberphile: this Youtube channel is great for any talented mathematicians (and parents too). Professors in mathematics have produced videos on many common everyday problems as well as famous number sequences and theories.

AAA maths: this American website is useful to develop conceptual knowledge in all number and algebra strands for students in years 3 to 12.

KSPS FACEBOOK PAGE

Thank you to everyone who has liked us on our Facebook page as well as sharing our stories and photos with family and friends. We will continue using this page for instant updates about events as well as occasional pictures of whole school events and special achievements. The school website will continue to be the main source of information about our school.

MR ENGLEFIELD - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to MacLeans Bookshop for generously donating four of the Book Vouchers for Presentation Day prizes. I hope the children enjoy selecting their books.

MRS HARVEY

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. Donations will be collected on Friday December 12 so please have all donations in before this date.

Once again thank you for your kind assistance.
This year KSPS will be holding our class Christmas parties at school on Wednesday December 17, the last school day for 2014. Students may come out of uniform and they are asked to bring in their own decorated Christmas Party lunchbox including their lunch, drink and party treats for themselves. This is to avoid and allergic reactions or vast quantities of leftover/wasted food.

The program for the day will include:

9.15 – 10.50am: A variety of fun indoor and outdoor activities arranged by the teachers
11.00 – 11.20am: Class Christmas Party Lunch
11.20 – 12.10 pm: Play
12.10 – 1.40pm: Movie session
1.40 – 2.00pm: Recess
2.00 – 2.40pm: Teachers vs students’ outdoor game
2.45 – 3.00pm: Assembly in hall for Principal’s address and clap out for Year 6 students.

MRS COX - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MERIT AWARDS

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

KC
Molly Green, Charlotte Davies, Nate

KF
Jessica, Linnea, Matilda

1W
Eddie, Sophia, Cameron

IG
Boyd, Aiden, Patrick

1/2G
Cooper, Khushinka, Olivia

2G
Hudson, Jake, Caitlyn

2/3E
Amelia, Olivia, Harry, Joe

3/4T
Lachlan, Annouk, Milly, Maizy

4/5E
Mia, Finn, Grace

5/6J
Emrah, Jorja, Jasmine, James, Bryce

5/6W
Will, Lana, Arwen

HSUB
Benjamin

MISS SQUIRE
Kyran, Emrah, Amelia

P&C NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP
The uniform shop will be opened on the following dates and times:
Wednesday 10th December 2014 – 8.30am to 9.00am
Thursday 11th December 2014 - 8.30am to 9.00am and
Wednesday 21st January 2015 – 4.30pm to 5.00pm
Thursday 22nd January 2015 - 4.30pm to 5.00pm

P & C MEETING
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th December at Letter Q at 6.30pm.

HELENA TAYLOR - P & C SECRETARY

CANTEEN NEWS

Hello from the canteen for a great ending to an awesome year.
Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for your support in helping get through some of the craziest days and for your patronage of our super fantastic canteen.
At the beginning of Term 1 2015 I am having approximately 2 weeks annual leave and in my absence I am calling for volunteers to help me get through the 2 weeks starting Thursday 5-2-15 until Monday 23-2-15 (if we cannot get volunteers the canteen will close for those days).

This Friday I am having a Supa Holiday special!
SUPA HOLIDAY DEAL $4-50
3 chicken chippies
2 chicken nuggets
1 Dino nugget
Pkt any chips
Supa holiday ice cream cup (ice cream mixed with chocolate flakes, fresh whipped cream, chocolate sauce drizzled and rainbow of sprinkles on top!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE
FIONA BEST - CANTEEN SUPERVISOR

PRE CHRISTMAS TOY CUPBOARD CLEAR OUT!

Please support us in helping make this Christmas special for the children of Fiji. We would gratefully receive your unwanted. Old working laptop computers, educational activities, games for any age, mega blocks, Duplo or Lego, unused drawing books or art materials, books from baby to year 6, jigsaw puzzles, balls frisbies and outdoor games.
There is a box in the Administration building.
Thank you,
GERI REA - PIANO TEACHER
**KidzCare – General information**

**OPENING HOURS:** 8:00am – 6:00pm

**COST:** $38* per day (plus excursions)

*CCB Approved

Newcastle PCYC KidzCare offers quality accredited care to children from Kindergarten to Year 6. Our mission is to encourage children to participate in a variety of enjoyable activities within a safe and familiar environment.

Bookings for the January school holidays open four weeks prior to the holiday period on November 24th. To avoid disappointment, early booking is recommended.

A copy of our current holiday program can be found on the Newcastle PCYC website: www.pcycnsw.org/newcastle

For enquiries, please contact the club on 49 614 493, or via email at newcastle@pcycnsw.org.au

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**From $10 for 1 hour class - $100 for 10 visit card - Casual visit $12**

Call or text Heidi on 0417 456 083

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**What’s on in the Summer school holidays**

**Library**
Go on a summer adventure with lively performances, fun workshops, craft and movies.

**Australia Day**
Celebrate at Fort Scratchley or head to Honeysuckle precinct for family friendly entertainment.

**Museum**
Step back in time and experience the Permian Monsters exhibition and Summer of Science activities.

**Beresfield Pool**
Jump into Beresfield Pool for some giant inflatable fun.

**Blackbutt Reserve**
The Newcastle Permanent Junior Ranger Fun Day is all about aquatic action!

**Art Gallery**
Enjoy exhibition-inspired workshops and tours.
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