



Kenmore South State School

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Newsletter 03, Term 1, Week 04

February 17, 2016

CALENDAR of EVENTS

February

Tues 23rd P&C – Annual General Meeting

March

Wed 2nd Year 4 – Living History Presentation

Tues 8th P&C – General Meeting

FINANCE DUE DATES

February

Wed 25th Year 4 – Living History Presentation

SWIMMING DATES

Monday 22nd February

Class	Depart	Lesson	Return
2L	9:05	9:20-10:00	10:20
2S	9:45	10:00-10:40	11:00
2C	11:05	11:20-12:00	12:20
2J	11:45	12:00-12:40	1:00

Wednesday 24th February

Class	Depart	Lesson	Return
3L	9:05	9:20-10:00	10:20
3F	9:45	10:00-10:40	11:00
3D	11:05	11:20-12:00	12:20
3SG	11:45	12:00-12:40	1:00

NEWS FROM THE ADMIN TEAM

On Monday 8th February after the class information sessions, I presented a strategic view of the school and where we are going in 2016 and beyond. You may recall last year that the School Council undertook some surveys with parents and students to get a snapshot of thoughts in regards to strengths and weaknesses within the school. At the end of the school year, the school participated in the school review undertaken by the School Improvement Unit which looked at nine domains across the school. The executive summary is placed upon the school website and makes affirmations and recommendations in regards to what we have achieved here at this school. Below are the affirmations and next week I will publish the recommendations.

Staff and community have a high regard for the school and recognise significant improvements in achievement.

Parents value the education that is provided by the school. There is a positive tone within the school, which enjoys a proud reputation in the local community. The school has achieved high academic results in National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) consistently over a period of time.

The school places a clear focus on the ability of teachers to implement and develop explicit instruction as a key pedagogy within the school.

The leadership team values the development of staff and the importance of creating consistent teaching practices across the school to enhance further student development. The school has embedded explicit instruction into the daily classroom teaching and teachers are confident in their

discussion of how to use this element of the pedagogical framework. Some formal observation and feedback processes have been undertaken by the leadership team to build staff capacity.

Staff, parents and students comment favourably about the behaviour of students.

The school strongly encourages and celebrates students who follow the four values of: *Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Do Your Best*. The school has low numbers of school disciplinary absences and staff, parents and students generally report strong satisfaction with student behaviour. The school intends to refine practices to further develop consistency in the standard of behaviour across the school.

The school is proactive in identifying and providing intervention for students that require additional support.

Teachers deliver lessons with the expectation that all students, regardless of their abilities, can learn and improve their skills and knowledge. Staff demonstrate great care towards all students and their academic success. There is evidence that the needs of students requiring additional support are being well catered for across the school and within the classroom setting. Differentiation occurs through a range of school-wide programs. Teachers express a desire to further develop their skills in order to cater for the differentiation of the full range of students within the classroom, particularly high achieving students.

The school is collecting a range of school-wide data to identify and track student progress.

The leadership team and staff value the opportunity to review a selection of data to discuss individual student progress and inform future planning and intervention strategies for students. The full and effective use of some key positions to drive school improvement and student outcomes is yet to be clearly articulated or linked to key initiatives. The school has begun to develop a greater focus on the use and collection of data and is establishing a data wall to track student progress. Teachers' understanding of how to use data to inform teaching and learning is developing across the school.

The school is proactive in its approach to the wellbeing of staff and mindful of the expectations of them.

The school has invested funding received in the development and support of the wellbeing of staff which is appreciated. Some staff identify that communication and recognition of their contribution to improve the school is an area for continual review.

Year 1 Incursion

Yesterday, some year 1 parents may have received via email an invoice for a year 1 incursion. This has been cancelled due to the invoice amount being \$1.00 more than it should have been. Please ignore any year 1 invoice

that was received this week. A new invoice will be issued shortly.

Robotics

I have now made the final call out for students interested in Lego Robotics and all interested names are now on the list. I will select the first group of twenty students to participate in the program this year and a letter will go home to the families of these children this week. The program will run all year with students participating for a term. So any student who misses out in the first round will get a chance to be involved within the program later in the year.

Junior Engineers

Thank you to those who have been emailing me. Please continue to do so over the next week so as I can evaluate if this is a worthwhile program to run within the school.

Which the excitement that the LEGO robotics program has generated within the school, I have reached out to the Junior Engineers program to determine if a morning or afternoon program would be suitable within the school. I would encourage families of students from year 3 to years 6 to access the website at **www.jnengineers.com** to determine if a program like this would suit your child. If so, I would ask that you send me an email indicating your interest, if a morning or afternoon program would be best and the days(s) of the week that would suit. This information will then help me form up if it is worthwhile bringing Junior Engineers into the school.

ICAS

It is once again the time of year when we start collecting names and payments of students who wish to participate in the University of New South Wales ICAS testing program. Please look at the table below and consider if you want to participate in this program. This year's testing will be completed before school time from approximately 7:30 am on the day of the testing. **The closing date for the entries is the last day of school this term, Thursday 24th March.**

If you are interested in your child participating in any/all of these tests please come to the front office to collect a permission and payment form to be completed.

Computer Skills	Year 3 – 6	17 May	\$8.00
Science	Year 2 – 6	31 May	\$8.00
Spelling	Year 3 – 6	15 June	\$11.00
Writing	Year 2 – 6	14 June	\$17.00
English	Year 2 – 6	2 August	\$8.00
Mathematics	Year 2 – 6	16 August	\$8.00

Religious Instruction

Religious Instruction will commence on Thursday 25th February for all students in years 2 to 6. All classroom teachers have a list of the current status of participation for their students. If you would like to check if your child is, or isn't participating in RI, please see your teacher. **To change your consent either way, you must advise the principal in writing.** For students in year 1, further information about your program will be coming soon.

Newsletter distribution

In regards to this newsletter, I will be only printing a hard copy of the school newsletter for the month of February. Commencing Wednesday 2nd March, the newsletter will go electronic. Please ensure that over the next four weeks you get yourself organised on how to receive the newsletter electronically.

How do you ensure that you get the newsletter when the print distributed version ceases? You have several options. The school website will contain the school newsletter. A small number of paper copies are available at the school administration for you or your child to pick up. You can load

the QSchools app onto your smart phone which links to the school website.

Here is how to get your QSchools App to be notified of events and newsletters as they are uploaded to the school website.

Option 1

- Go to our school website <https://kenmoresouthss.eq.edu.au>
- On the bottom of the webpage, go to QSchools and follow the links to download the QSchools app direct to your smartphone.

Option 2

- Go to Google Play or the Apple App store and download / install the app.
- Once you run the app, search for our school and press the star in the top right hand corner to favourite this school. You will then be notified when any update occurs on the school update.

Here is some more information in regards to the QSchool app.

The [QSchools app](#) is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about schools. The app is designed to integrate with school websites, and allows users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted to their selected school website. The school community can also receive emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app. The QSchools app will be particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app manages updates from multiple schools in a single view. All Queensland state schools are searchable via the app.

Class Parent Representatives

Thank you to those parents who have emailed their interest in being a class rep. Other than Prep, there are still spaces in all other year levels that need to be filled. The role involves collating class contact lists, being a point of contact for Admin, attending a meeting each term (not compulsory and minutes are emailed out) and being a support to the class teacher. If you wish to share the role with another parent, that is a great idea too. Please send an email to Ms Cooney (rcoon3@eq.edu.au) to express your interest as soon as possible.

Class Helpers

If you have any spare time and are able to volunteer at the school, please contact your class teacher or email Ms Cooney (rcoon3@eq.edu.au) with your availability. Teachers may require help with the changing of home readers, activities or covering books. There are often jobs that need doing that may not be in your child's class – Library, changing readers, sorting books etc. Your help is always greatly appreciated.

Overview of Expected Learning Outcomes

The Overview of Expected Outcomes are now available to download and print from the school website. Each of the Overviews outlines the content that will be covered in term 1 in each year level, including the types of assessment taking place and when this assessment is due.

To access these Overviews, navigate to our school website; click the 'Curriculum' tab, select either Junior School (P-3) or Middle School (4-6) and then the specific year level you require. The Overviews will be located within each specific year level. Alternatively all of these documents can be found in the 'Forms and Documents' section of the website.

Scott Curtis – Principal
Robyn Cooney – Deputy Principal & Pedagogical Coach
Pia Adriaansz – Head of Curriculum & Technology Teacher

APP OF THE WEEK

App: School Writing

Age: Ages 4 +

Price: \$7.99

What's it about?

School Writing contains the education-approved handwriting fonts for each Australian State including individual cursive letters. At Kenmore South State School we currently have this app installed on all 84 iPads and students from Prep – Year 6 are able to access it.

Suitable for children to adults, *School Writing* allows the teacher to prepare lessons using written instructions, unique images and audio instructions, to which the student can respond using written and audio recordings. Students learn shapes, letters, numbers, words and more. This 'open scaffold' enables the lessons to be words, number or symbols and extends the use of *School Writing* far beyond early education. The 'Whiteboard' section allows a teacher to draw or import images to be traced with audio answers.

Students intuitively trace pre-handwriting shapes, uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, words or whiteboard images that you import with the touch of a finger. Hear and see letters with associated images and sounds, which can be customised to relate to your students. Create your own pre-handwriting shapes and word lessons with associated audio for the letters, numbers and words. Add your own images from the photo library, and record your own letter phonetics..

"One of the most powerful tools a teacher will find in an iPad app, utilising the technologies effectively and certainly a must have educational app." Robert, QLD Teacher.

Learning Approach:

Designed with education in mind, *School Writing* relies on the ability of the teacher or parent to review the student's work and provide recognition and reward for good work or effort, so the 'bells and whistles' are kept to a minimum. This evaluation is assisted with features such as the 'Reset' button having a counter and traces that are not automatically erased after the app is closed and traces that can be 'replayed'.

Following extensive development, *School Writing* maximizes the flexibility for a teacher or parent who wants to customise the content. You can create words with missing letters, unique images and unique audio recordings, providing a rich learning environment that can be adapted to your student's progress. Unlimited activities can be created such as spelling lists, where the student can write the spelling and record the spelling, math problems, circle the vowels, write the opposite, dot to dot and mazes to name only a few. The possibilities are endless and limited only by your imagination.



Pia Adriaansz – Head of Curriculum & Technology Teacher

YOU CAN DO IT!

This year, Kenmore South will again be running the You Can Do It! program. The main purpose of the program is to support our students in a collective effort to optimize their social, emotional, and academic outcomes. It identifies the social and emotional capabilities that all young people need to acquire in order to be successful in school, experience wellbeing, and have positive relationships including making contributions to others and the community (good citizenship).

This week in You Can Do It! the focus is around identifying and defining the five qualities that will help students to be

happy and successful: Confidence, Persistence, Organisation, Resilience and Getting Along. The older students further develop these understandings by working towards identifying their own strengths and weaknesses in applying the five keys to success to school work and in other areas, and then stating goals to actively improve in each of these areas. This week's theme, happiness and success and how to achieve it, was introduced by Mr Curtis on assembly and then is being reinforced throughout the week by all staff. Please use the topic of the week to have a discussion with your child/children.

Stephaine Pedley – Student Welfare Co-ordinator

SPORTS PHYS/ED NEWS

District Swimming

Our 20 strong team performed superbly at the District Swimming Carnival last week. Kenmore South placed 2nd overall which is an outstanding achievement. Thank you to all the parents who did a wonderful job supporting their children and helping with timekeeping duties. You were very much appreciated.

Our top performers were; Nadia 5th FS, Riley 5th Fly and 2nd BK, Kaizen 3rd Fly, Josef 2nd BK, Regen 2nd FS and 1st BK, Annabel 2nd FS and 3rd BK, Ayla 3rd Bk, 2nd Br and 3rd FS, Nicholas 1st Fly, 1st Bk, 3rd Br, 5th FS and 3rd IM, Megan 1st Fly, 1st BK, 4th Br, 1st 100m FS, 1st 50m FS, 1st IM.

Our relays also performed well with the 9/10 year boys (Harry, Samuel, Will and Regen) placing 3rd, the 11/12 year girls (Megan, Annabel, Anna and Emily) placed 2nd and the 9/10 year girls (Lillian, Ayla, Kaizen and Nadia) placed 1st.

Congratulations to all swimmers on their fantastic effort!

In the Age Championship results we had a number of swimmers placing in their respective age groups; Ayla 4th, Nicholas 2nd, Regen eq 1st, Megan 1st Age and Open 3rd.

We have 8 swimmers selected in the District team to compete in the Regional Carnival which will be held at Chandler on Wednesday 24th February.

Good luck to; Annabel, Ayla, Josef, Kaizen, Nadia, Megan, Nicholas and Riley at the next level. We look forward to hearing all about it!

District Trials 11 and 12 years

Trials for District selection for netball, basketball and soccer are coming up very soon. Please make yourself known to me so that I can get the relevant paperwork out to you and complete the nomination process. NB: You may trial for a sport that you do not play at school. For example, you may play school AFL but trial for District soccer. Some sports require school selection trials as we are only permitted to send 4 players per school.

Interschool Sport Years 5 and 6

Selection for Inter school sport will be held on Friday. There are 157 students in Years 5 and 6, and there are 157 places to fill for our school teams. The sports on offer are; Boys - soccer and AFL, Girls - soccer, AFL, netball and touch. Soccer will be played at both Pullenvale SS and Bellbowrie sports fields. Touch will be played at Bellbowrie sports field. Netball will be played at Chapel Hill SS. AFL will be played at Akuna oval with the help of AFL/Auskick Qld. Due to the numbers to fill teams and the number allocated to each bus, there will be a precise cap on each sport team. Although we will endeavour to have students play their first choice of sport, this will not always be possible and some students will have to settle for their 2nd or 3rd choice. The positive side of this is that a new set of sports skills can be learned which will only be of benefit to the student/s. Please be supportive of the sport which your child is playing. After all, being active is the number one goal!

Alison Pegg – HPE

SCHOOL BANKING

We had another fantastic week of banking - over 150 students again! Keep up the good work everyone.

All these extra books means extra coins, so this week we have a special request that parents take a moment to check that the amount of money equals that written on the deposit slip. We have had quite a few cases where there is less money than stated on the slip, and we have no way of knowing if it is a counting error or if some of the money has gone missing. While you're there, please also check for foreign coins, particularly New Zealand \$1 coins masquerading as \$2 coins. These are quite frustrating for us as our coin counter miscounts them, and we have to hunt through over \$300 in coins to locate the culprit. We appreciate your help!

Speaking of help, if anyone is interested in coming along and helping us process the deposits on a Tuesday morning, you would be very welcome! You'll find us at the old tuckshop from 9AM. Thanks.

Banker of the Week: Georgia B.

Sarah & Sachiko - School Banking Coordinators

pipermail222@yahoo.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop currently has a large range of second hand uniforms including shirts, shorts, jackets and jumpers which are all available for \$5 - please come and have a look if you are after some extra items. Normal trading hours from 8:15 on Tuesday and Friday mornings have now resumed - for those parents unable to make it at these times it was suggested at the P&C meeting on Tuesday night that there may be interest in having an afternoon or other time when they can come in. Please feel free to email me on uniforms@ksss-pnc.org.au if you would like to arrange an appointment at another time.

Lyndel Blencowe - Uniform Shop Convenor

Kenmore South State School

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

CLASS	STUDENT	ACHIEVEMENT
PG	Olivia W	For enthusiastically participating in all Prep activities. What a great PG team member!
PM	Thomas B	For a wonderful and enthusiastic start to Prep. You are truly a "STAR"
1B	Amelia G	For excellent participation in retelling the story 'Wombat Stew' and fabulous creativity in writing.
1C	Elena R	For her wonderful attitude towards her work and peers. Elena has shown great respect and responsibility by helping her friends when they are struggling and doing her best at all tasks. Keep up the great work!
1F	William D	For completing set tasks with care. William listens to instructions and does his best in all classroom activities.
1R	Oviya K	For her creatively using our vocabulary words in her writing.
2C	Mahli A	For always being a friendly, well mannered member of the class and ready to tackle any challenge! What a great start to the year!
2J	Griffin L	For excellent descriptive writing. Keep up the good work!
2L	Luella B	For always doing her best and willingness to help others.
2S	Joshua L	For being a fantastic listener and contributor to class discussions.
3D	Cruz S	For staying focused on his work and completing set tasks. Keep up the good work Cruz.
3L	Justin L	For accurately including new vocabulary words in writing and fitting into a new school easily.
3S	Isle B	For an excellent start to persuasive writing-great structure and excellent language choices.
4G	Senomee R	For settling in wonderfully to her new class and showing a positive attitude towards learning.
4H	Darcy S	For his enthusiastic attitude to learning and willingness to contribute to class discussions.
4M	Lachlan S	For a great result in his spelling test this week. Lachlan contributed interesting and creative ideas during Daily Writing lessons this week. Keep it up!
4P	William J	For a great effort to write a clever and imaginative introduction to a new chapter of The Twits. Well done, William. It was very entertaining and enjoyable to read.
5N	Thomas H	For always working hard and showing enthusiasm to all learning areas.
5W	Imogen H-H	For showing great imagination when writing an exceptional and creative narrative that spanned the sixteen year gap in The Forests of Silence. Well done Imogen!
6L	Tim J	For his superior writing and creativity when creating his recounts.
6M	Abby C	For good habits and a positive attitude.
6R	Braydie W	For working hard to focus herself during English lessons.