The students enjoyed a fun filled day of activities on Tuesday as the languages staff immersed the children in Chinese culture. A terrific variety of activities were on show. Have a look at our gallery for more pictures. From 9.00 – 11.30 Ms Guo, Ms Chen and Miss Wang provided a rich variety of interactive lessons illustrating Chinese culture including lantern making, tea tasting, fan decorating and culturally rich stories of how ‘Nuwa Mended The Sky’ and ‘Pan Gu Created Heaven And Earth’. Many other fables and idioms were read.

Finally, a wonderful assembly of music, lion dance and Kung Fu demonstrations were supported by a rich series of performances by students singing and dancing various Chinese songs including the national anthem.
Please make sure your child has their name on each jacket, jumper and hat.

Although we wish all students would get hooked on books and devote hours every day to reading, it turns out that adding even ten extra minutes of reading a day makes a difference—which, of course, makes reading a perfect activity for a before school, after-school, or holiday learning program. Reading builds reading stamina and exercises brain muscles in ways that nothing else can—an extra 10 minutes helps.

Applications for places in the 2015 Year 7 and 2015 Year 8 academically selected Gifted and Talented classes at Randwick Boys’ High School close on Monday June 30. The test date for applicants is Saturday July 26.

Information is available on the Randwick Boys’ High School website:

www.randwickb-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Please make sure your child has their name on each jacket, jumper and hat.

**Enrichment Groups**

Each Thursday Years 3-6 participate in mixed groups for enrichment activities. Have a look at the website for an explanation of the various activities in which the students are involved by clicking here.

In the Solar Lego Enrichment Group, we made a robotic bug which could walk forward and backward. We were the first to finish. It was a real challenge to read the plans correctly. We really enjoy making things.

Will and Shaun 6D

**Performing Arts News**

**POSTER COMPETITION FOR HONK.**

All students in years 3-6 have the opportunity to design a poster for the forthcoming production of Honk. The poster needs to be completed by the end of the first week of Term 3.

It must be:
- On a A4 piece of paper
- Must be outlined in black fine liner
- Must include: Kensington Public School presents, Honk Jr at the Parade Theatre on Thursday 4th of September 2014 at 7pm.
- Must be an original design.
- Winning design receives two free tickets to the show Honk. Good luck! honk honk!

**Ho Ho Ho** Santa is coming in July with a sleigh full of prizes!

Please join us in testing your trivia knowledge for our "Christmas in July Trivia Night" Fund Raiser on 25th July. Whether you want to make up a table of 8 with your own friends or just come along and be seated with a friendly group for a fun night out for a good cause, our kids, the more the merrier!

To make this event an even more successful fund raiser we are also having the "Father Christmas" of all raffles with some fabulous prizes. Raffle tickets will be on sale from when school goes back in Term 3 and the raffle will be drawn on the night. There will also be some great "lucky door" prizes and trivia champion prizes too. You have to be in it to win it.

All you need to do is complete the entry form and return it in an envelope, with payment, to your child's class teacher.

Also, if you would like to donate a prize for the raffle or the night (or know someone who can) we would gratefully accept it. Proceeds from this fund raiser will go towards the production of Honk Jnr! and the Student Wellbeing Program.

Not that you should unwrap your presents before Christmas, but here's a sneak peek at some of our great prizes:
- Cases of wine, surfing lessons, dance classes, Shoes & Sox vouchers, $500 worth of tutoring, breakfast out vouchers, coffee vouchers, beauty products, tennis classes, cinema passes, Zoo passes, Luna Park passes, hampers, dinner vouchers, bespoke jewellery......like we said a whole sleigh full and more to come!

**Don't forget the Mufti Day tomorrow.** Gold coin donations will be used towards the new toilet roll dispensers.

**Staffing**

As mentioned last week we say farewell to Miss McDonald on Friday. Mrs Sandy Blanch will take over as librarian until further notice.

The acting Assistant Principal’s position will be shared by two staff members Ms Jennifer Saunders (Mon and Tues) and Mrs Alyce Samarakoon (Wed – Friday). It takes two people to fill the shoes of Miss McDonald!

A panel of two parents, staff, an Assistant Principal from another school and Mr Johnston will be convening a panel early next term to finalise the merit selection for a new Assistant Principal.
Please make sure your child has their name on each jacket, jumper and hat.

**Setting School Directions 2015**

*Tuesday 15 July 6.30pm* in the library will be an opportunity for parents to begin to have community input into the next three year cycle of the school’s strategic plan.

The plan looks at the ‘big ticket’ items of what type of learners are we developing and how we intend to do that. From 7.30pm the scheduled meeting of the P&C will take place.

*Crunch and Sip*
Thank You  To Soo Chong, mother of Lee Ann (2RP) who is helping us to make a digital copy of our various Photo Albums.

Notes Home
1. Term 3 PSSA Netball and PSSA AFL
2. Term 3 Year 3-6 School Sport

There are a few outstanding accounts for Semester One.

Whilst every care is taken in the office we will of course check out any payment that has not been credited to your account. Should any parent be unable to pay for any activity the school is willing to work out a payment plan or make a co-contribution where possible. Please contact Mr Johnston for a confidential discussion.

Chess Team
Rookies Grade: Kensington B team played St Brigid's Coogee D and won 4 to 0.
Intermediate Grade: Kensington A team played St. Brigid's Coogee B and won 2.5 to 1.5.

Well done to all the students in the chess team and good luck for the rest of the competition.

PSSA 20 June 2014  AFL at Moore Park
Juniors v Coogee won Score 34-27 Player of the Week: Jesse
Seniors v Bondi Beach won Score 116-0 Player of the Week: Joel
Summary: The Seniors set a school record for the most points scored in a month. Congratulations Seniors! The score could have been a lot more had more ‘majors’ been kicked. The Juniors held on for a hard-fought seven point win.
Next opponent: Bondi Beach (Jns) Bronte (Snrs)

Netball v Randwick Gold at Moore Park
Junior As lost Score 0-4
Players of the Week: Heidi & Sammi
Junior Bs lost Score 0-2
Players of the Week: Lauren & Zoe G.
Senior As lost Score 6-23
Players of the Week: Hannah & Serra
Senior Bs won Score 21-4
Player of the Week: Liana & Kara
Next opponent: Clovelly White

Confucius Classroom Video
A promotional video has been made about the Confucius Classroom. It features Kensington students throughout the video. Check it out on our website.

Reports
Semester One student reports were sent home on Monday.

Changes due to the NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum are reflected in the English comment. Parents of students in Years 1-6 will notice that an overall mark is given rather than the usual break down for Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. As the new syllabus is not arranged the same way and this is the first year of implementation schools are looking at ways of how to report student achievement to parents.

This semester KPS is providing a further report about reading for students in Years 3-5. Known as Lexile Reading Measure, it is based on an online set of quizzes where the purpose is to match students to text. Matching students to texts at appropriate levels helps to increase their confidence, competence, and control over the reading process. The Lexile Framework is a reliable and tested tool designed to bridge two critical aspects of student reading achievement — levelling text difficulty and assessing the reading skills of each student.

Our purpose in providing this extra report in reading is to assist parents in guiding your child to choose books that will both support and challenge their reading.

For further information about this program click here and for an overview of the framework as to what types of books are matched to the lexile score for your child click here.

Student Wellbeing Review
Earlier this year we started a discussion about the values that underpin the school. Honour and Knowledge were obvious choices and over a few weeks we have tried to identify a third value that will underpin and be used in marketing a three year review of all our practices in managing student wellbeing.

During term 2 the staff reviewed data collected via student and staff surveys as well as interviewed. This identified the first four activities to work upon as mentioned in last week’s newsletter.

The model the student wellbeing review team is using is Positive Behaviours For Learning. (PBL) A description of the benefits of this model the staff is using is as follows.

Please make sure your child has their name on each jacket, jumper and hat.
What Is PBL? PBL is based on international research on best practice in the area of student welfare, behaviour management and the establishment of a positive school culture. It is a whole school approach led by a representative school team.

PBL Big Ideas

- The development of 3-5 school wide values and clear behaviour expectations for all students in all areas within the school
- The collection of data to inform decision making
- The design and implementation of processes and systems using a solution based approach
- Development of teacher behaviour management skills
- Positive relationships and recognition for all members of the school community
- Explicit teaching and reinforcement of social skills
- 3-5 year implementation timeline for long term sustainability

How Does PBL Support Students? In a PBL school the focus is on creating a positive and safe environment in the playground and classroom. It is about acknowledging students doing the right thing. All students respond to a consistent and fair discipline system and genuine recognition. All students know how they are expected to behave and where they need to be at any time within the school.

PBL has a three tiered approach to implementation. Once the groundwork is completed (Universal Systems), strategies for managing groups of students requiring additional support are developed (Targeted Systems). The final stage of implementation (Individual Systems) deals with those students with significant high level needs.

How Does PBL Support Teachers? PBL is about influencing teacher behaviour as well as that of students. Clear and commonly understood processes and systems allow teachers to be more consistent and confident when dealing with inappropriate student behaviour resulting in more time for quality teaching. All teachers have a shared understanding of student behaviour expectations.

How Does PBL Support Schools? PBL is about a school with student/teacher interactions in a positive and respectful learning environment. PBL enables schools to be preventative and proactive rather than reactive. The establishment of commonly understood values form the basis for strong links and productive conversations with the community.
Please make sure your child has their name on each jacket, jumper and hat.

1V Build a Toy House

This term, Year One’s English Unit has been based on Ursula Dubosarsky’s award winning picture book, “Too Many Elephants in this House”.

The protagonist Eric builds a special home for his toy elephants to live in after his mother complains that they are taking up too much space in the house.

Students in 1V have built a toy box from recycled materials for their favourite toys.

More spectacular 1V toy boxes can be found at: http://issuu.com/tonicconnectivedesign/docs/toy_houses

School Banking News

The School Banking Team wishes all students a fantastic holiday.

School banking resumes Tuesday 15 July.

Over the holidays, could everybody please check their deposit books to ensure that no completed slips have been left inside their books? If you find any, please bring them next time and let the school banking ladies know. Thank you.

School Development Day

Students return to school on Tuesday 15 July. Staff will be working on the NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum during the School Development Day specifically the new Maths and History syllabus. The staff will also be trained in a new online roll marking system called WebAttend.

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