Welcome to KPS

A new school year creates an excitement of the learning will we all experience together as classes start, new routines are organised and projects get underway.

The P&C started the process by creating playdates for the incoming Kindergarten students and their parents, with one planned for today at 1pm. Kindergarten students start on Monday 2 February.

Work will shortly commence on the installation of a hard cover shade shelter. Most work will take place during the weekend but the area will need to be roped off during the week. The first part of the process is the removal of the existing poles.

Unfortunately the canteen remains closed for the near future. Tenders have closed. As soon as possible the P&C and Principal will make a recommendation to the Department of Education and Communities as to the preferred operator so the legal documents can be prepared.

Staff

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten): Mrs Zrinka Krivosic, Mrs Nicolette Marshall, Ms Kristyn Howley and we welcome a new permanent staff member to the school, Miss Lauren Pitt. Our new Assistant Principal (Mon–Wed), Mrs Meghan Curtis will lead Kindergarten

Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2): Mrs Mary Carroll, Mrs Nicole Vlahos, Mrs Alyce Samarakoon, Ms Joanne Robinson, Mrs Aziyadee Peyrou and a very welcome return of Ms Linda Noordeweir. Mr Ben Colmer will be leading this stage.

Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4): Miss Bettina Croft, Ms Gail Wanless, Mrs Julie Parsons and Mr Grant Rimmer, who is the stage leader for both Stage 2 and 3.

Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6): Mrs Cathy Espinosa, Mrs Karen Davis and Mr Ryan O’Connor.

Language Teachers: Ms Ya’onna Guo, Ms Simy Chen, Mrs Maria Alexandrou and Miss Yanli Wang

Specialist Teachers:

Mrs Sue Mendelsohn, Mrs Emma Fredman. This team will be joined by Ms Rana Straker our new permanent ESL teacher.

Counsellor: Mr Wayne Gillies

Library: Mrs Meghan Curtis (Mon – Wed) and Mrs Sandy Blanch (Thurs–Fri)

Office: Mrs Sibel McKenna, Mrs Christine Horton, Mrs Pam Chow and Mrs Veronica Venianakis.

Cleaning and GA: Mr Bruce Gollan, Betty and Effie.
Classes
Most schools place students in their 2014 classes for the first week until we can confirm of how many students will be attending. As you can appreciate families leave and move into the area during the holiday period. It is not always possible for them to advise the school until the first few days. In addition, families extend their holidays.

These and many other factors prevent the school from knowing the make-up of each grade grouping and therefore hinder us from settling on the final class character until all parents have advised us of their intentions.

It is our intention to commence 2015 class groupings for Years 1-6 on Monday. Your child’s teacher will send home a note on Monday introducing themselves and detailing class requirements for the year. For example, one of the items we require of students is for each student in the class to donate one box of tissues each term.

### Voluntary Fees and Contributions

Students received a note with this newsletter requesting payment for the use of textbooks and resources used in each classroom. These are the subject fees and are detailed on the note sent home. Thank you to the parents who make this payment so promptly. Please see Mr. Johnston should any parent need an extension of time or seek assistance in the payment of these subject fees.

The note also requests that parents consider the voluntary contribution towards providing extra resources to support our school programs. There are two we ask parents to consider making a contribution towards:

1. The $50 technology contribution for each child ensures we can provide IT resources that students in this digital age can use to demonstrate their critical thinking and learning.

2. Parents are also asked to contribute towards the Library through the Thomas Flowers Library Fund so books needed to support our implementation of the Australian Curriculum can continue to be purchased.

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Water, Crunch and Sip
With the hot weather impacting upon us it is important that children stay hydrated so as to be able to fully participate in lessons. We encourage the use of water as well as a healthy fruit or vegetable break during the morning session.

Please make sure that your child has sunscreen on any exposed skin each morning before they come to school and a small personal sun block in their bag. Staff do promote the application at recess and lunch playtimes. Most importantly each student must have a hat. The rule of ‘No Hat No Play’ does apply.

School Council Elections
Our School Council is due for re-election following the procedures as prescribed in the School Council Constitution, which are:

- Procedures for the election are advertised
- Nominations are returned to the school office, in writing, on the form provided. Each nominee (staff & / or parent(s)) must be proposed and seconded by members of the appropriate constituency (staff/staff, parents/parents) and the nominee must sign the form as evidence of acceptance of the nomination.
- If more than enough candidates are nominated, an election will be conducted, by secret ballot.
- The results of the election will be published within 14 days of the election.
- Each eligible voter may vote once, and has only one vote. (both parents of a student may vote.)
- All parent nominations should be in a sealed envelope to the Admin. Office by 3pm Friday February 14th.
- Ballot papers will be in the newsletter of 19 February with voting papers to be returned to school by 3pm, 24th February 2014.
- The election process must be concluded before the Annual General Meeting to be held at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 24 February, 2015.

School Council Parent Nomination Form 2015

Nominee’s name ____________________________
Nominated by ______________________________
Seconded by ________________________________
Nomination accepted ________________________
Date ________________________________

Parents will be able to pay for student invoices using Visa or MasterCard. On the website will be a set of instructions for parents to use.
**Sport**

Students in Years 3-6 will next week receive permission notes for participation in sport both school based and the Primary School Sporting Association (PSSA) inter school competition.

The following sports will be available:

Swimming, AFL, Soccer, Volleyball and Dance. Each sport is held during Term 1 every Friday from 14 February through to 4 April with costs $48 for the eight week program. These costs are to assist in the payment of specialist coaches.

The school has a policy that each student from Year 3 must be able to swim 25 metres before they are eligible to participate in school sport choices.

The students in K-2 are involved in the Sportspro program. A separate note will also be sent home soon detailing the costs and program for term 1.

**P&C Welcome 2015**

Welcome back to all families. We hope you are well rested and ready for another exciting year at KPS. In 2014, we held a number of fun community events and raised $29000. We look forward to another successful year supporting the school.

**Kindergarten Parents Tea and Tissues**

After leaving your child with their teacher on Monday, please join us and other Kindergarten parents for a cup of tea and a chat.

Kindergarten playdate today (Wednesday 28th) at 1pm Kensington Oval playground

All P&C committee positions are open at the beginning of each year. All parents are welcome to attend meetings and/or be part of the committee. Elections are held at the AGM, with accepting candidates being asked to commit to 1 year. There are 5 positions:

**P&C President**  
**Vice President 1**  
**Vice President 2**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**

If you would consider being nominated for one of these positions, please email kensopandc@gmail.com or phone Helen on 0431 959295 to find out more information.

We hope to see many of you at the P&C AGM on Tuesday 24th February at 7.30pm. Meetings are typically 1 1/2 hours in length and there is no obligation to sign up to do anything. Fundraising is only a part of P&C business and contributing could be as simple as telling us about a source for a particular service we need. Simply by listening to what is going on you will be well equipped to make a valuable contribution when you do have the time.

In short, we encourage everyone to really embrace our school’s P&C in 2015 and join in the exciting opportunities to share in enhancing our children’s educational journey. You should consider using our online payment system for the payment of the accounts requested.

**Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop will be open on

- **Thursday 30th January**
- **Friday 31st January**

And each day next week from Monday 2 February through to Friday 6 February 8.30am to 9.00am.

Please note that payment is by cash or cheque only.

**Calendar**

A newsletter was sent to parents via the Skoolbag App and posted on the school's website last week. Additionally, the website calendar is up to date. Please make special note of the following dates

**March**

- **4th** Zone Swimming Carnival
- **12th** Selective High School Test
- **18th** Kindergarten Best Start Reports go home
- **21st** Harmony Day
- **23rd** Year 6 SRC Young Leaders Day
- **23rd-26th** Parent/Teacher interviews
- **28th** State Election

**Term 1 for students**  
Wed, 27 January 2015 to Thurs, 2 April 2015

**Term 2 for students**  
Tuesday, 21 April 2015 - Friday, 26 June 2015

**Term 3 for students**  
Tuesday, 14 July 2015 - Friday, 18 September 2015

**Term 4 for students**  
Tuesday, 06 October 2015 - Wed, 16 December 2015

**Speech & Drama Class**

A Speech and Drama Class is planned for each Tuesday commencing 17 February from 8am – 9am. This is a service provided by Sheila Hammond a teacher in this specialist field for many years.

12 positions are available at a cost of $14 student for a total of $56.00 for the term.

Please phone 9663 3955 to register for one of the available places by 8th February.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 TERM 1 Week 1</td>
<td>27 School Development Day Teachers will be developing a Scope and Sequence for the Maths Syllabus focusing upon Working Mathematically</td>
<td>28 Term 1 begins for students in Years 1-6</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>1 February</td>
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<td>Kinder Photos</td>
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<td>9 TERM 1 Week 3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 9am Years 3-6 Sport</td>
<td>14 8am -11am Sandpit Working Bee and Laying pavers in the Alumni Garden</td>
<td>15 Bus Passes All students with current bus passes in Year 2, entering</td>
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<td>16 TERM 1 Week 4</td>
<td>17 Swimming Carnival 8am Speech &amp; Drama Lessons Start</td>
<td>18 K-2 Sportspro Meet the Teachers Evening times to be confirmed</td>
<td>19 Kensington Parents &amp; Citizens Get to Know Parents Meeting</td>
<td>20 9am Years 3-6 Sport</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 Year 3 in 2015 will need to complete a new Transport for NSW application form now.</td>
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<td>23 TERM 1 Week 5</td>
<td>24 School Photos</td>
<td>25 K-2 Sportspro</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27 9am Years 3-6 Sport</td>
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January/February 2015

Please note this calendar will be updated in the first newsletter of the school term. This is a rough guide for events in the next four weeks.

Kinder 2015 students start

School Council Nominations and Elections will be held during February. Please nominate for one of the two vacant positions on the council.