Year 7 Selective High School Placement in 2017

Information for parents can be found at

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

There have been changes made to this process from previous years.
- All applications must be made online
- Late applications will not be accepted
- Parents can only make three choices, not four
- Family placement claims are not considered

Application Website Closes 16 November 2015.

All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on 10 March 2016.

Red Room Poetry

Congratulations to Lachlan in Year 4/3W who has made it into the finals for the Australia wide Red Room Poetry Competition.

From 2550 entries, Lachlan proceeds to the next round.

Have a look at his ‘My Tick Tock Yoda Clock’ poem at

http://redroomcompany.org/poetry-object/poems/5974/.

The coordinators words illustrate what an achievement Lachlan has made.

“After many days immersed in your vibrant and vast worlds of words we have finally collected a short list of wonderful poems based on the selection criteria. As you can imagine it was not an easy task and we feel enormously privileged to have read so wide a range of students’ work displaying such deep thinking, extraordinary attention and the courage to sculpt language in unusual and heartfelt ways.”
Notes Home

- Yrs 4, 5 and 6 ‘Suitcase Stories’ Excursion
- Yr 6 Graduation Keepsake order form
- Tennis Tournament Expresson of Interest Yrs 4-6

Suitcase Stories

The students in Years 5&6 will attend a performance at the Seymour Centre on the 5th November about true life stories of the refugee journey.

Treehouse Theatre presents “Suitcase Stories”
True life stories of the refugee journey
“The honesty and bravery of these young performers is well beyond their years.”
Noura Hasan spectator Tree Of Life, 2013
From the creators of Tree Of Life, Treehouse Theatre brings you its new production, Suitcase Stories. Witness 30 stories of the refugee experience; powerful fusions of spoken word, movement, sound, light and projected imagery.

Experience first-hand stories direct from the young people who lived them. Originally from Iraq, Syria and Sudan, these students now attend Miller Technology High School and Intensive English Centre. These bittersweet true stories will make you smile, cry, laugh out loud and leave you feeling inspired.

"I was so powerfully moved by your production...The portrayal of the personal stories and journeys of our young and brilliant students was truly inspiring!"
Stephanie Lyons. Drama Teacher, Liverpool Girls HS, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre

Doncaster Avenue Gates

As from today, for SAFETY reasons, the second gate on Doncaster Ave near Bowral St will be closed permanently until 3pm. All other gates will remain open until 9.15am. After that time entry will only be through the first Doncaster Ave gate near the traffic lights. **KPS OOSH parents please note.**

Walkathon

It is time to send in the money for our walkathon held last term. All funds raised will finalise our payment for the shade shelter (COLA).

So far we have raised $6904.25, which leaves us only $3095.75 to reach our $10 000 target. As you know the shade shelter cost $151 000 including all services such as storm water, lighting, electrical and sound. We funded all of this ourselves from various sources.

Ethics teachers required

**Would you like to be trained to facilitate ethics classes at Kensington Public?**

Primary Ethics is a not for profit organisation which provides an introduction to ethical values through learning activities and discussions around age appropriate ethical issues. The program is delivered with the approval and validation of the Education Department, for children of families who choose not to participate in faith based scripture programs.

Currently, the program is available in four stages for all years from kindergarten to year 6. To maintain this program we need additional class facilitators to join the Kensington Primary Ethics team.

Parents and friends of the KPS community are invited to apply and will be trained to facilitate classes in the Primary Ethics program. Ongoing support and feedback for facilitators is available at a local level and throughout the Primary Ethics teachers’ network through online forums and regular workshops programs.

Please visit the Primary Ethics website [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au) to find out more and reply to the KPS Ethics Coordinator, Brad Tarlington (btarlington@gmail.com), if you are interested in participating.

Brad Tarlington, Primary Ethics Coordinator – Kensington Public School
K-2 Term 4 Assembly Roster Tuesday 2.20pm

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<thead>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>8/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>15/2</td>
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Student Representative Council

Congratulations to the following students in Years 2-6 for being elected to the Student Representative Council (SRC).

2C – Arki and Ethan  
2N – Clarissa and Frank  
3B – Luke and Alicia  
4R – James and Annie  
5E – Faye and Richard  
6D – Dodo and Aleksandr

SRC meetings are held every Wednesday from 11 – 11.15am in Ms Fredman's room.

Operation Art

Once again the school has been successful in having two students succeed in winning a place in this state-wide art program. Congratulations to Emily 6D & Anni 3B.

Their work will go on regional tour and then exhibited at Art Gallery NSW. It will then be on permanent display at Westmead Children's Hospital.

Book Club News

The latest Scholastic Book Club catalogues have been sent home - the last chance to purchase for 2015! Please note that orders can now be placed and paid online via the Scholastic LOOP system so that there is no longer a need to send cash or cheques to school. Simply proceed to the Scholastic website at https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au and place your orders under Issue 7, 2015. The deadline to order is Friday, 24th October which means your child's books will be delivered to school, individually wrapped, by early November. Happy reading!

Book Clubs LOOP for Parents

Do you have a hobby or skill you would like to share with children?

We are looking for parents or community members who have skills or hobbies which they would like to share with students in a small group setting. We are already fortunate through the Squiggler Academy and Vacation group to have access to special art classes. However, more artists of any media digital, sculpture, craft or paint etc. are welcome. Your love for an interest or hobby can be passed onto a young person and set them onto the path of a lifelong rewarding activity, just as it has been for you. To make it easier for parents or community members to respond we have set up an eForm (where our absence notes can also be sent) on our 'Skoolbag' app. Please type in your interest or hobby that you would like to pass onto students. Know of anyone who can help? Can you be available on a Thursday afternoon in 2016? The school can cover costs.

We have two helpers so far.

Thank you so much to Ronnie Walker for the amazing wallpaper and paint donation. It is being used for the kindergarten concert and for next year’s Year 3-6 musical. Ms Fredman

Invitation New Arrival Parents

We would like to invite you to the New Arrival Parents Communication Meeting to share important information about your child's learning at Kensington Public School.

We will discuss topics including:

- Upcoming school events
- English language learning program
- Assessment and reporting
- Helping your child to learn to read

The meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 October at 3.00 pm in the Confucius Classroom.

Our Uniform Shop Video can be viewed here http://youtu.be/HEIdmbYJoO4
A Speech from Year 6 to the 2016 Kinder Parents

Kensington Public School is different to other schools which is why I love being here. It’s like a huge family, welcoming and loving. Where we make friends, we play, learn and grow. The open spacious grounds to run and play, the world of books, where we live in the characters described in them, experience living a life with different characters in novels. Where we learn to be kind, compassionate, forgiving and good. There are so many things that I would love to share with you. Let me first tell you my story at this special place.

Not knowing a single English word, my brother and I arrived at Kenso in the middle of my year two. Feeling nervous and out of place, I tried to fit in with the students in my classes. Trying to make myself scarce among the chattering, hoping nobody would notice me. MISSION FAILED...Being the caring people that they are my classmates and teachers helped me throughout my difficulties. In no time at all, I felt like I belonged. I had a group of friends to hang out with, I had finally mastered the English language and I didn’t feel nervous at all. Like I said before, our school will always make you feel at home.

It is where I have learnt the difference between right and wrong, to read and enjoy what I read, the ability to modify my behaviour, respect my elders and friends. I learn all this from my teachers who have all these qualities. They never lose their patience, they do not scold. They forgive us for our mistakes and we learn to forgive others for theirs.

Learning can be in our school. We debate, discuss, question and then conclude. The best part is the teachers, who learn with us, rather than making us learn.

I love Kensington Public School. It is like the blood that flows in my veins, I cannot live without it. I am what I am because of this wonderful part of my life.

Sasha, School Captain

Next week we will share Lucy’s speech to the parents.

3B News

3B has been having a fabulous time learning about convict life. We hope you enjoy reading some of our convict journals and seeing our own fleet of convict ships! Land ahoy!!

May 15th 1787

We have been on this ship for about two days now. I’m feeling anxious and ready to get there and I’m also feel nervous for the long journey ahead. During the next few hours we will be preparing all the sleeping places. I just found out that we are sleeping on rough hammocks that we have to sew ourselves. The waves are getting higher and higher. Still the huge waves constantly strike over the deck and onto the boat. I can hear loud screams from everywhere and there is no way out. Finally, the ferocious waves stop for now. Everyone gets a nap on the hammocks. It’s getting so hot that some people are sleeping below their hammocks and someone’s tummy must be sore because a bucket of faeces spills all over the prickly wooden and goes on everyone sleeping on the floor without them knowing. Today we will do hard jobs like cleaning the floors, washing metal plates, dumping the buckets of faeces and taking down the hammocks and folding them ready for the next day. I hurry up the ladder to breakfast at about 7 o’clock and we wake up at 4 o’clock to do jobs. For breakfast we have soggy bread and salted meat and for lunch salted meat and vegetables. After we eat dinner we go to sleep. I hope, when we arrive in Australia I can start fresh again.

Justin

May 21st 1787

We have been on this ship for eight days and I am feeling bored already. The guards woke us up at 4 am and then made us roll up our hammocks. This morning I rolled out of my old, scratchy hammock and folded it up slowly. I only started to fold up faster when the guards bellowed at me. Scrubbing the deck was really hard work. It hurt my back a lot. The food is okay. We have to eat salted meat, cheese and soggy bread. I wonder how long it will take to get to Australia and if we are stopping anywhere? I think that in Australia our heads are going to be chopped off. I hope not.

Danny

June 3rd 1787

I’ve been on the boat for 2 months at least that’s what the guard says. I have no idea where we are. I am so tired. I hardly slept last night, but luckily I’m not hungry. I am here because I stole a bit of bread. The food on the ship of okay but we don’t always get what we want. But I am happy that I’m not at the Old Baily and that I am eating anything at all.

Work is one of the most boring things on the ship. The guards yell at you just if the deck is not clean all. I felt angry that they shouted at me. I’m a bit scared to go to Australia. I wonder if Australia has any more people there.

Alva

Our Uniform Shop Video can be viewed here: http://youtu.be/HEIdmbYJoO4
Bring Your Own Device

With the rapid change in technology and costs of providing Information Communication Technology (ICT) services, most schools are turning to a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) to cope with the demands of 21st century learners and with the development as critical and creative thinkers.

"21st century learners" is best defined as developing four super skills both within the classroom context and through the Information and Communication Technologies wave that is already with us. The following image best sums up the four super skills students need to engage with both in class and in an online environment.

Kensington Public School is currently investigating the implementation of a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for 2016. Could parents of the students who will be attending Year 4, 5 or 6 next year please complete this survey to share some of their thoughts? There are many issues for which to develop solutions. An obvious one is security, both online and storage of the devices between school and home and at school. Other issues include, ensuring each different device can be used in the safe school environment and the most important one, how parents can be sure the effort in implementing this program will make a difference to student learning.

Please share your thoughts via this link to a survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R9CHCHS

Reference: www.p21.org/4cs
**Halloween Disco**

There is much excitement and talk of costumes in my house at the moment as the Halloween Disco is rapidly approaching.

The format for the night is simple. Disco, sausage sizzle, drinks, games, snacks and 300+ children dressed up in costumes (and some adults came dressed up too last year). Sounds like your idea of a fun night – then come along at 5pm on Friday 30th October.

The entrance fee per child is $5. Under 4’s are free. It’s also free for parents. This is not a school activity so parents must accompany and supervise their children. The entrance on Doncaster Av, closest to the pedestrian crossing, will be the only entry and exit on the night so if you are picking up children from Aftercare, please bear this in mind.

**Volunteers**

We need your help. This is a mammoth task to organise and run on the night so we need Kensington parents to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in. I have listed all the jobs we need to fill in order for this event to happen. If lots of people volunteer then the shifts get shorter so its in everyone’s interest to help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th># of People</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General set up</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food set up</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.00pm-5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>School gate supervision</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.00pm-6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>School gate supervision</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.00pm-7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.00pm-6.00pm</td>
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<td>Games*</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.00pm-7.00pm</td>
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<td>Drinks/snacks table</td>
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<td>Drinks/snacks table</td>
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<td>Hall ticket sales</td>
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<td>5.00pm-6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hall ticket sales</td>
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<td>6.00pm-7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assembling/Selling BBQ</td>
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<td>Assembling/Selling BBQ</td>
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<td>6.00pm-7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean Up</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.00pm-7.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Games – we also need a creative person to come up with/design/build source Halloween games for the night!*

As you can see we need help! If you are able to lend a hand then please email kensopandc@gmail.com

**PSSA Sport – The Battle Continues**

If you think that it’s wrong for school sport at Centennial Park to cost $75 in 2012 and $23,000 in 2015 then please sign the petition sent out by Ron Hoenig MP for Heffron.

Mr Hoenig will take the completed petitions to the Legislative Assembly of NSW. The petition covers the general commercialisation of Centennial Park and the obscene fee increase for PSSA sport.

I have left the petitions at the school office. I would strongly encourage all parents to sign as the costs for sport get passed back to you. You can also sign the petition online at tinyurl.com/parklandspetition

**Next Meeting**

The next P&C meeting is on Monday 26th October at 9.15am in the OOSH room. We hope to see you there.