The elected class representatives of the Student Representative Council. (SRC)

Jellybeans Music: This has quickly become the most popular program at KPS. Music each Monday and Tuesday fills the hall with a variety of percussion and recorder activities, which is a basis for furthering concepts about music. Recorders are being practiced most Monday or Tuesday lunchtimes and after school in the playground.

Congratulations to Georgia (year 6) part of the NSW Public Schools Junior Singers.

This ensemble regularly rehearses on Tuesday afternoons at The Arts Unit in Lewisham during term time. The ensemble will also perform at various festivals/events during the year.
Tell Them From Me
Student feedback survey
For the second year our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.
The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

The information provided by your children helps inform us as to whether what we think is working is the same as student perceptions. For 2016 we have adjusted a program using Bump It Up Walls to be more specific for students based on a piece of data they shared with us last year.

Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses.

The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers is attached.

If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 26 February. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from our school website or the one listed above.

K-2 Term 1 Assembly Roster Tuesday 2.20pm

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<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>23/2</th>
<th>SRC Assembly</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>1/3</td>
<td>Class Assembly</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
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<td>Class Assembly</td>
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REGIONAL TENNIS: Congratulations to Sammi who competed successfully at the zone tennis competition and has been selected to compete in the Regional Championships on the 7th March.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL: Congratulations to all students, staff and parents who contributed to our very successful swimming carnival yesterday. The winning team will be announced next week along with the zone team.

Notes Home

- Year 6 Young Leaders Day
- Years 3-6 Tell Them From Me Student Survey Consent Form

The school photographer was at school today to take two sets of photos. Firstly, the traditional 'My First Day'- Kindergarten Photos, followed by the students who are participating in the following extra-curricular activities:

To make payment for school photos after photograph day you can choose one of the following options -

1. Go to the School Photographer website www.theschoolphotographer.com.au and select the "Click here for Online Payments" button and follow the on screen instructions. OR

2. Call the office on 9674 9824 and we will take your credit card payment over the phone. (Note - there is a processing fee of $5 for phone payments)

We would like to invite you to the New Arrival Parents Communication Meeting to share with you important information about your child’s learning at Kensington Public School. The information will be translated to support all parents to participate. We look forward to meeting with you.

We will discuss topics including:
- School Organisation
- School Events
- English Language Learning Program
- Parent English Language Lessons

The meeting will be held on Wednesday 17 February at 1.45 pm – 2.45 pm in the EAL/D Classroom.

We aim to make this communication meeting a regular event during the school term to keep you informed.
A reminder that the canteen will remain closed for Term 1. However, a tendering process has been started with a view for a new operator in place by Term 2.

Thank you for your understanding with this issue.
Bye Bye

This is probably my last P&C newsletter as I am stepping down from the role of President this year. I was Vice President in 2014 and President in 2015 so I think it’s time for some fresh ideas from a new and enthusiastic volunteer.

Firstly, a big thank you to all the committee members from last year. It was a pleasure to work with you. Last year’s committee members included:

Helen Mourkas – Treasurer
Flavia Julius – VP
Megan Escott - VP
Mary Wong - Secretary

I hope that in and around the school you, as parents, can see the benefits of the P&C’s hard work last year. We tried to ensure that the money we spent benefitted the whole school and educational resources was at the top of our agenda.

If you want to have a say in which events should be run this year or how the money should be spent then consider a position on the Committee – read on for further info…..

That’s all from me. Thank you to all the people who took the time to say ‘Thanks for an event well organised’ during last year. It’s always nice to hear that your work is appreciated.

Good luck to the new committee.

Jude Swain

The School Canteen

‘Love Food Canteen’ will be attending the P&C meeting on the 23rd February to explain their food philosophy. Love Food Canteen will be submitting a tender to run the school canteen from Term 2. If you are interested in hearing what they have to say, please come along to the meeting.

P&C AGM – Tuesday 23rd February

Perhaps the most important P&C meeting of the year will take place this next week.

The AGM (Annual General Meeting) will be on Tuesday 23rd February at 7.30pm in the Library and all KPS parents are invited to attend.

All P&C Committee positions are up for re-election at the AGM.

These positions are:
- President
- Vice Presidents x 2
- Treasurer
- Secretary

If you would like to be an active member of your school community, raise much needed funds for educational resources, be a great role model for your kids and get that warm and fuzzy feeling from volunteering then please consider a position on the committee.

If you don’t feel a committee position is for you then there are still lots of ways you can help out the school including; sausage sizzles, bake sales, selling raffle tickets, creating posters and making decorations for discos. I think the crucial thing is to be involved with the school in whatever capacity you can because as someone wise once said “Many hands make light work”.

By subscribing to the Skool Bag app and reading the school’s weekly newsletter (which has a weekly P&C section) you can keep up to date with what’s happening and learn how to get involved.

If You Would Like To Vote on P&C Decisions

If you would like voting rights then you will need to become a P&C member. Annual memberships are organised at the AGM where you can pay your membership fees (a gold coin). This will give you voting rights on all major P&C decisions - usually to do with how the money is best spent.

You do not have to be a committee member to be a P&C member. Membership is open to all parents who attend the AGM.

I hope to see you there!
Tell Them From Me student survey
Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

1. What is the Tell Them From Me student survey?
The Tell Them From Me student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students. The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights from the student point of view at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

2. What kind of questions will the survey ask?
The survey questions relate to the following 18 measures for primary schools:

- Participation in sports
- Behaviour at school
- Effective learning time
- Participation in extra-curricular activities
- Homework behaviour
- Teaching relevance
- Sense of belonging
- Interest and motivation
- Teaching rigour
- Positive relationships
- Effort
- Experience of being bullied
- Valuing school outcomes
- Positive learning climate
- Skills and learning challenge
- Advocacy at school
- Positive teacher-student relations
- Expectations for success
- Positive learning climate

3. How have schools been selected to take part?
The survey is open to all NSW government schools at no cost to them. Your child’s school has decided to participate.

4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child’s school?
The Tell Them From Me student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students. Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

5. What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?
The survey typically takes less than 30 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

6. Does my child have to participate?
No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable, he/she can choose to stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student’s information.

7. Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?
Parents in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password.

8. What sort of analysis will be done of the survey data?
Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and, in most cases, are available to schools within three business days. School leaders can use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

9. Can all school students participate in the survey?
The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in these Year groups to participate. Secondary schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in Years 7 to 12 to participate.

10. When will the Tell Them From Me survey happen?
The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools at the end of Term 1 and (optionally) Term 3.

What is CESE?
The Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) is part of the Department of Education. CESE has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in New South Wales. CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all of education.

More information about CESE is available at: www.cese.nsw.gov.au

What is The Learning Bar?
The Learning Bar is a Canadian education company that specialises in school surveys for both primary and secondary students. Its survey, Tell Them From Me, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada’s ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years. Australian schools have been participating in the Tell Them From Me surveys since 2012.

The Learning Bar is led by Dr J Douglas Willms. Dr Willms is a Professor and Director of the Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy at the University of New Brunswick, and holds the Canada Research Chair in Literacy and Human Development. Dr Willms led the development of questions on student engagement for the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.thelearningbar.com

If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au or by telephone: 9561 8056 / 9561 8688 / 9561 8370.
Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 1 2016, your school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your school by Friday 26 February.

More information about the survey and the research is available in English on the CESE website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Maurice. Johnston  Dr Jenny Donovan
Principal  Executive Director
Kensington Public School  Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

Years 3-6

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 26 February.

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .................................................................

Roll class/es .................................................................

Name of parent/carer .................................................................

Signature of parent/carer .................................................................

Date .................................................................