PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

Firstly my sincere thanks to those hardy souls who attended the P&C’s AGM last Monday. With what was without doubt the wettest and shortest Kiama AGM on record the following people were elected to executive roles for 2014 - 2015.

President – Donna Flanagan
Vice President – Carrie Hall
Secretary – Chris Ellevsen
Treasurer – Matthew Swain

Congratulations to all I look forward to another productive year with the P&C.

On Tuesday 1 April we will hold the rescheduled Meet the Teacher evening for Year 7 students and parents, 5.30pm in the Year 12 quad, weather permitting.

Following an expression of interest process Ms Sarah Meppem will take over as the SRC Coordinator. The SRC is an extremely important part of student voice and decision making in the school and the co-ordination role is as diverse as it is pivotal to the success of the group. I look forward to working with the group. My thanks go to Ms Hayley Dean who has been the SRC Coordinator for several years. Her guidance, advice and diligence has seen each successive SRC become involved in projects and activities that have benefited the students particularly and the school as a whole, thank you.

Graeme Sutherland, Principal

COMING EVENTS

MON 31/3:  Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams
                      SC Surfing Trials
TUE 1/4:    Meet the Teachers Yr 7 BBQ 5.30pm
                      KLC Leadership Day
WED 2/4:   Open Boys Cricket
THU 3/4:   Yr 7 Cross Country
FRI 4/4:   SC Netball Trials
                      Yr 11 Geography Coast Fieldwork Excursion
                      NSW CHS Swimming Championships

DEPUTIES NEWS

School uniform

We are very pleased at the level of cooperation by most students with the school uniform policy. It is a terrific reflection on both the individual students, and the school as a whole, when we see the uniform worn with such pride and dignity. If you have any uniform issues, please contact either of the Deputy Principals to clarify the situation. Very clear guidelines are in the student diaries. Remember that sport uniform can only be worn to and from school on sport days - Wednesday for Years 8, 9 and 10 and Thursday for Year 7. On other days, students must wear full school uniform and change at the beginning and end of PE lessons.

Please use these next few weeks to get winter uniform organised. By the time we return in Term 2 the cooler weather will have started. There is a good range of winter uniform options available in the uniform shop. Financial assistance is available for parents who are experiencing difficulty – please contact the office for information.

For more information on this University of Wollongong and Centre for Health Initiatives program go to stopunderagedrinking.com
Student absences
Students absent from school must provide a note to their roll call teacher, preferably on the first day back, but at the latest within 7 school days of returning. After this time absences will be recorded as unjustified, and appear on half yearly and yearly reports as such. Students needing to leave school during the day must provide a note of explanation to the front office before school, so a leave pass can be issued. This note must provide a legitimate reason or the absence will be recorded as unjustified. Whether the absence is full day or partial, please use the book of notes provided by the school. These ensure parents provide all the required information and also simplify and speed up the process at the office.

Security of personal belongings
Most students seem to believe that their 'hangout' is safe. In fact, students who have left their bags in their 'hangout' for a short time have returned to find their belongings have been tampered with. This ranges from food missing, ipods and mobile phones stolen, property damaged or bags missing. In most cases there is very little the school can do. In the case of PE lessons students must put their valuables in the bucket provided by the teacher. While the change rooms are usually locked their security is not guaranteed.

Gerard Kelly, Deputy Principal

Attendance Matters - It's not OK to be away!
It cannot be said enough about the strong correlation of students achieving educational outcomes, developing relationships and personal growth, with excellent school attendance.

The table below provides a clear picture of the effect of being absent for just one or two days per week, on the overall attendance of the student in a scholastic year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of days absent/week</th>
<th>Total no. of days/year</th>
<th>Absence Rate % (approx.)</th>
<th>Attendance Rate % (approx.)</th>
<th>Absence in Terms/year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day</td>
<td>41 / 204</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>Nearly 1 term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days</td>
<td>82 / 204</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>1.64 Terms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no 'safe' threshold for student attendance, with the effects of absence accumulating over time. Parents need to be aware of these relationships, and understand that when their child misses school it can have an ongoing impact on their learning.

If your child must miss school, it is imperative for the child to catch up on missed work. If your child has an extended absence, please contact the school and request contact with your child's Year Adviser, who can organise missed work to be sent home.

Openly communicating with the school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your child's Year Adviser, Head Teacher Student Attendance or other relevant staff member know, so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

The school relies on the partnership with parents, working together for the best interest of the student. Be on time; Be at school; It's the rule!

HIGH FLYERS
Congratulations to Cassidy Richardson, Yr 11 for her selection to the State Dance Ensemble. This is a huge honour for Cassidy and Kiama High School.

Well done to Olivia Deans Yr 9 who has been awarded the Kiama Council Youth Arts Scholarship. This gives Olivia $1000 to spend on tuition and courses. Olivia is a dedicated and passionate student who will be able to further develop her talents with this award.
CAREERS NEWS
A reminder to all students in Years 10, 11 & 12 and their parents that all important Careers information is shared via Careers Alert emails. To register for regular email updates, please visit kiama.careersalert.com and click on Email List to add your details. It is vital that all students keep up to date with this information and parents are encouraged to register as well. Some important things for parents to consider: The University of Wollongong (UOW) produces an e-newsletter for parents of potential future students - to register visit www.uow.edu.au/future/school/advise/index
The UOW Year 10 Future Finder Evening will be held on 8 April. This information night is for Year 10 students and their parents who would like information regarding senior subject selection and the HSC. Visit www.uow.edu.au/future/events/futurefinder/index for details and registration.
Mr Heinecke and Mr Grove - KHS Careers Advisers

RIO TINTO MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
All students Yrs 7 – 12 are invited to enter the Rio Tinto Maths Competition that will be held on Thursday 7 August. Entry fee is $6 payable to the front office before 2 May 2014. Permission notes are available from students' Maths teachers.

PHOTOS OF STUDENTS FOR KHS NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE
If you do not want your child’s photo (or name) included in the Kiama High School Newsletter or published on KHS Website please notify the school by phone 4232 1911 or email kiama-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au. Photographs will never appear with captioned names. The newsletter is available on the school’s website every Friday afternoon and a reminder is also emailed to parents with a link to the website. If you do not receive the email and would like to be added to the list please contact the school as above.

SPORT
South Coast AFL And Squash Trials
The South Coast 15years Boys AFL and Open Squash trials are on early in Term 2. Any students interested in attending should see Mrs McGuinness in the PE staffroom this week.

South Coast Swimming
Congratulations to Liam Williams (Yr8) on placing 4th in the 14yrs Age Championship at the South Coast Swimming Carnival. Nathan Cowgill finished 8th in the 14yrs Championship whilst Tom Murray placed 7th in the 15yrs Age Championship. Well done, boys!

South Coast Volleyball
Congratulations to our latest South Coast representatives Madison Michell and Dana Munro. Madi and Dana will represent South Coast in Volleyball at the NSWCHS Championships at Minto this week. We wish them good luck!

Yr 7 Cross Country
The Year 7 Cross Country is on this Thursday 3 April. Any Year 8 students who turn 13 this year and wish to be competitive in the Cross Country will need to run with the Year 7’s.

Ms McGuinness

Tennis update
A correction needs to be made to last week’s Open Boys tennis report. In the semi-final, Geordie Wallace actually defeated Reid Formosa (and not vice versa). Geordie had to leave immediately after the match to attend a First Aid course. He has therefore earned the right to play Bjorn in the final, which will be held shortly.

Mr Berry

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS EXPOSED TO THE ELEMENTS
Year 10 Geography students embarked on their annual coastal excursion to Warilla Beach and Shellharbour Village on two separate days recently. On Thursday, 20th March, the students experienced heat-wave conditions. A few sensible students wore hats (Bradley Miller’s hat was voted the best), the rest had to endure the harsh Australian sun. Last Monday, the students on the second excursion experienced vastly different weather conditions, battling heavy rain downpours. Students on both excursions need to be congratulated on their behaviour and their willingness to complete the worksheet.
Students learnt about coastal management strategies at Warilla Beach and Lake Illawarra Entrance, before interviewing people in Shellharbour Village on their opinion on the Shellharbour Marina. After lunch, students visited the Marina site, before returning to school. Mrs Wright deserves recognition on her wonderful organisation of the excursion and for preparing the worksheets and test that students will be doing this week.

Mr Berry

**KHS BAND ROCKWIZ NIGHT**

KHS Band is holding a FUNDRAISER for the Kiama High School Band Tour of Tasmania June 2014. Details are as follows: Date: 5th April, Venue: Kiama Bowling Club, Time: 7pm. Cost $20 per ticket, tables of 10 includes, Live music (featuring Kiama High Stage band) nibbles, and drinks at Club prices, prizes and also a silent auction. Contact Louise Luke 0425 805 262 or Claire Stevens 0418 269 063 for tickets on sale from 17 March 2014.

**MERIT LEVELS**

Congratulations to the following merit level recipients:

**Bronze:**
Yr 7: Taylor-Lee Byrne, Ethan Corkin, Pedro De Paula, Eva Harrison, Arabella Hely, Megan Hunt, Dean Lancaster, Jacob Laughton, Levi Scott, Demi Stewart, Hamish Tanner, Timothy Wade, Mackenzie Warfield
Yr 8: Robbie Blair, Ruby Chard, Josie Mansell, Joelie Robson, Hannah Sultana
Yr 10: Abby Hall, Caprice Keys, Madelyne Stewardson, Georgia Ward
Yr 11: Sarah Young
Yr 12: Callum Billett, Bright Lee, Kevin Louie, Amber Marsay, Brendan Morton, Clare Sultana, Riley Tomlinson, Lucas Traynor

**Silver**
Yr 7: Emily Kerr
Yr 12: Callum Billett, Kevin Louie, Amber Marsay, Michael Swain, Geordie Wallace

**Gold**
Yr 10: Kiara Spence
Yr 12: Michael Swain

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**CANTEEN**

**Student Volunteers**

**Lunch:** Gemma Garrett, Amelia Plum, Lucy Steel, Nina Willingham

**Recess:** Kye Epps, Tom Bell, Kyle Grant, Robbie Blair

**Mon 31/3** Jonny, Michelle Y
**Tue 1/4** Tracey, Mariella
**Wed 2/4** Vicki C
**Thu 3/4** Lisa W, Susan M
**Fri 4/4** Chris, Bridgett, Mary

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**KIAMA HIGH SCHOOL**

**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**

**Tuesday:** 10.30am – 2.30pm
**Friday:** 11.00am – 3.00pm

Every week of school Terms 1 to 4

Cash and EFTPOS Accepted

**NB:** NO CHEQUES ACCEPTED

Please be considerate with closing times.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

Support Group for Parents and Carers of Children with ADD/ADHD

North Kiama Neighbourhood Centre, Meehan Drive Kiama Downs, Mondays starting 5 May 10am to 11.30am

Contact Sharon 4237 8422, Come along and join us

**CALLING ALL PLAYERS BORN IN 1997 AND 1998...**

**KIAMA JUNIOR RUGBY NEEDS YOU!!**

We’re fielding an U17’s team this year and we need you to play! The Illawarra competition won’t be fielding an U16’s this year so U16 and U17 players will be playing in a combined U17’s competition.

We’ve secured sponsorship for the team, so if you decide to be involved, you’ll receive your jersey at the end of the season, training t-shirt during the season, and also a drink and a steak sandwich each time you play.

So if you’re interested or even just want to have a look, training is on Tuesday and Thursday nights at the rugby club at 6pm, once Stewart kicks off the team. The season is due to commence on 27 April with 14 rounds of games until the finals series. If you’ve already registered that’s great – bring your mates to play also.

Contact the Coach: STEWART PARMENTER ph: 0474188990 or Manager: ANDREW DAVIDSON ph: 0400365666.

Disclaimer: Kiama High School will, as a service to parents, advertise community news, which may be of interest. KHS does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility to the management or organisation.

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RESPECT – COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL EXCELLENCE – RESPONSIBILITY