PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

We are nearly at the end of the term but there are a lot of things to get done before that time on 26 June.

REPORTS are being finalised and will be handed out at the end of this term for Years 7-10.

Our PARENT TEACHER NIGHT WILL BE HELD IN WEEK 3 OF TERM 3. Already we have some feedback from parents and teachers who came along to the Parent Teacher night earlier this term for Years 7, 11 and 12. Interestingly 90% of staff was happy with the timing as opposed to 43% of parents being happy with the timing. In relation to the venues chosen, staff was happy at 90% but parents were only 58% happy and thought that moving around was difficult and that timing of appointments was harder to manage. Many wanted a central location. 58% of parents were very satisfied with the information gained from the night. Interestingly, 45% of staff believed that their performance and exchange could be made better if they brought a greater knowledge of students and more documentation to show. There are obviously some changes and improvements to be made and we will be discussing these in time for our next Parent Teacher night in Term 3.

STRATEGIC PLANNING is continuing. You can find the plan at this stage of development on the school website. Please have a look. There is always opportunity for your feedback via email, letter, P&C discussion or forums. The next step is with the Planning Team right now designing three projects for each strategic direction. This will give us 9 projects over the next 2.5 years. Stay tuned for more information and some ideas on how you can be involved. You will note that one of the strategic directions is clearly about improving our communication with the school community as a two way function. Your input here will be very much appreciated.

NAPLAN TESTING – Once again thanks to the vast majority of students and parents in Years 7 and 9 who sent their children to be part of this process. The results will be out later in the year and will inform the school and yourself in a number of ways. Firstly, you and your child will know that on that given day you achieved these results in Numeracy and Literacy. Secondly, it will tell the school the same information and enlighten us to some extent about the success of our strategies over the last year in regard to specific areas of Numeracy and Literacy. Thirdly, the information will allow us to tailor the next year’s teaching for your child in order to make a difference. Finally, I ask you as parents and you as students to consider your part in making those improvements in your child’s Literacy and Numeracy.

For Example: If Little Billy finds himself successfully in the middle bands in writing but really has the capacity to move higher – as we all want for our children – then what can you do as a parent to assist meeting this higher standard? Some suggestions might be that you as parents focus on his or her writing – support some writing at home, check their writing in workbooks and ask some questions of teachers. Students need to do the same. Results do not improve without a plan. Certainly as teachers we are creating a plan to support growth and improvement.

I had the privilege of attending the SOUTH COAST DANCE FESTIVAL on Friday 12 June at the IPAC in Wollongong. What a great night of innovation and performance involving so much talent, motivation and promise. Of course I thought that the Kiam Dance Performance was superb and the best. I hope that we can find a time at an assembly to get these talented people to perform that routine for the whole school. Elizabeth Gilbert will be so proud of these students and we send her our thanks and support for all the hard work that she and the group have put in leading up to this great night. Well done.

Work hard in the next two weeks.

John Salmon, Relieving Principal

DEPUTIES NEWS

CYBERBULLYING – HELP FOR PARENTS

In the last Newsletter I raised the matter of our anti-bullying policy and strategies of dealing with such incidents. In this issue I would like to draw your attention to cyberbullying – the silent menace.

Make sure your child feels comfortable reporting incidents which they find upsetting or don’t know how to handle. Discuss cyberbullying and smart usage of the internet before problems arise. Let them know they will not lose access to their equipment if a problem comes up. Your child is unlikely to seek help from you if you react by banning the internet or their phone.

It is good practice to make sure your child only uses the internet in public spaces in your home where you can monitor what they are looking at. Experts on cyberbullying recommend that children do not use internet in their bedrooms.

Parents should know the passwords of their child’s favourite sites: Facebook, Tumblr and the like. Parents should frequently look at what their child posts on Facebook, to monitor what is written and to check the photographs their child posts.

KEY BEHAVIOURS TO WATCH FOR:

Your child appears agitated or unnaturally reserved after using the internet. They may generally display behaviours such as secretiveness, sleeping problems, neglecting schoolwork, withdrawing from the family.

Text messages come more frequently than usual and your child answers quickly or seems stressed.

Your child is unhappy for no apparent reason or says they don’t want to go to school or social functions.

You notice your child changing the computer screen or closing emails when you enter the room.

Your child spends too much time on the internet or is online late into the night.
PRACTICAL TIPS FOR KIDS WITH AN ONLINE BULLY:
Do not have fights or confrontations with anyone (even friends) on the net or by texting. What you or they say will be misunderstood.

Do not reply to anything that is said about you or to you. The bully wants to see that you are angry or upset – they feel like they are powerful if they can make you react.

Never give your password or login details to anyone, even your best friends. If something unacceptable is written you will be blamed and could be charged with an offence by the police – you are held responsible for what is written on your site.

Always be aware that a person you meet in a chat room may not be who they say they are.

Dangerous people pretend to be kids and eventually want to meet you.

Do not post revealing pictures of yourself on the net. Anyone can use this photo against you into the future—even to stop you getting jobs. Privacy settings do not stop this happening.

Gerard Kelly, Deputy Principal

ATTENDANCE MATTERS: IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY
Kiam High School acknowledges that educating students for academic success, developing life skills and ultimately, creating and shaping a student’s career path, is a partnership between the school, parents and the wider community.

The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time students spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success, leading to the realisation of career goals and full time employment.

Conversely, students who take more time off school are at the greatest risk of not achieving their full academic potential, dropping out of school early and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

It’s clear, attendance does matter.

When it comes to attendance, Kiam High School’s student attendance rate is over 90%. It is also clear that Kiam High School is a high performing school in the HSC, second to Smith’s Hill High, a selective high school. These two reasons alone are enough reason for parents to send their child to Kiam High School.

The Education Act 1990 requires that parents and carers ensure that children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school or are registered for home schooling. The NSW DET may take legal action against parents and carers who do not send their children to school without a valid reason.

Semester 1 reports for Years 7-10 will be distributed last day of Term 2. If your child is unable to attend school on this day you may provide an A4 stamped ($1.40) self-addressed envelope and the report will be posted or alternatively can be picked up next term. Reports WILL NOT be available for parents to pick up on the last day. These documents can only be collected by the student or by a person with a letter of authority.

Kiam High School does not make apologies for its strong adherence to DET’s Attendance Policy, the results speak for themselves.

.....So I would like to take the opportunity to inform or refresh some of the attendance procedures that are in place at Kiam High School.

When a student is absent - a note of explanation must be presented at roll call within 7 days of returning to school, otherwise the absence automatically becomes unjustified. Both justified and unjustified absences are evident on the school report.

An absence is deemed as justified for reasons like sickness, an urgent family situation e.g. a funeral, or a religious or cultural event.

Unjustified reasons for absence include going shopping, mind ing a younger sibling, having a birthday and not attending sporting carnivals, incursions or excursions.

Requesting an early departure or late arrival, it is just that – a request. As much as some parents do not like it, it is not a matter of giving permission for their child to miss some of the school day. It is a matter of seeking approval from the school. It is also requested to schedule medical appointments outside of school hours as much as possible. When an appointment is organised within school hours, then it is in the school’s right to request the name of the professional, a contact number and the exact time of appointment.

Sport: when a student is unable to participate in sport due to illness or injury, then he/she will attend non-sport where the student can complete homework or assessment tasks. Permission will not be granted to go home.

As a school community, we need to support the school’s attendance policy and procedures and in doing so, we are acknowledging the value that education has to the lives of our children.
SPORT

KIAMA HIGH MAULS MORUYA IN OPEN BOYS TENNIS IN REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS

Our amazing tennis side were up to their old tricks last Wednesday, scoring an emphatic victory against the stunned Moruya crew. Bjorn ‘Mighty’ Myers gave his opposing number a tennis lesson with a ruthless 6/0 victory. Reid ‘Fearsome’ Formosa repeated the dose and just for good measure, Lochlan ‘Sizzling’ Southgate also chimed in with a 6/0 drubbing. Bailey ‘Magic’ Morphett prevailed 6/3 over his older counterpart. Our doubles specialist Danyon ‘Flaming’ Farrell, combined with Bjorn to record a 6/0 victory and the combination of Lochlan and Reid worked wonders with another 6/0 win. These results guaranteed progression through to the Southern Region Finals against Figtree High.

This was a far tougher affair. Our doubles teams fought out a couple of close matches. Lochlan and Reid went down narrowly 6/4 to their top pair. Bjorn and Danyon lived up to their names – Bjorn was all-powerful and Danyon was on fire! They won 6/3. Unfortunately, Reid strained his bicep muscle in the doubles and opted not to play the singles - could it be all those hours flexing in front of the mirror? This meant that Danyon was called in as a singles player and Lochlan and Bailey had to play higher ranked players. Both players put up a good fight but were out muscled by their opponents. Bjorn retaliated with a 6/1 victory and Danyon played fantastically to win 6/3. Reid courageously volunteered to play the return doubles. Unfortunately both teams went down 6/4, giving Figtree a narrow victory and a rite of passage to the State Final play-offs.

Congratulations to all players in our team, and a special farewell to Bjorn and Lochlan who are in Year 12 and Danyon, who is changing schools next year. We look forward to seeing Reid and Bailey in action again next year.

Mr Berry

2015 SHOALHAVEN ZONE SECONDARY ALL- SCHOOLS RUGBY LEAGUE CARNIVAL

The Shoalhaven Zone Carnival was held on Wednesday 3 June at Nowra Rugby Park. Kiama High was represented in the 13s, 14s, 15s and 16s divisions.

THE 14 YEAR REPORT

Team members:- Levi Scott, Jacob Farquhar, Tim Wade, Baxter Kane, Jack De Las Heras, Denver Ford, Tom Chandler, Oliver Wilbraham, Brayden Holland, Lachlan Rogers, Henry Cox, Callum Young, Tasman Berry, Mitchell Deans and Travis Gelfius.

The boys played 3 games on the day with the winner of each age division progressing to the NSW All-Schools Finals at a date to be confirmed.

Kiama’s first game was against Vincentia High who had a number of first time players in their team. Kiama proved far too strong and ran away with the game 48-0. Tries to Baxter Kane(3), Oliver Wilbraham, Tom Chandler, Lachlan Rogers, Mitchell Deans, Tim Wade and Jacob Farquhar with Baxter kicking 4 conversions, Denver Ford 2 tries and Oliver 1 try.

The two wins in the round games were enough for Kiama to progress through to the final against the other undefeated team Bomaderry High. Unfortunately, several uncharacteristic errors in the first half of the final allowed Bomaderry to jump to a solid 10–0 half time lead. However, to the boys’ credit they fought back in the second half and drew level at 10 all with tries to Baxter and Callum, with Baxter converting one try. Unfortunately, time ran out and Bomaderry progress through to the State All-School Carnival because they were the first try scorer in the match.

Congratulations to all players for their effort on the day and thank you to the parents who helped and supported the team throughout the day.

Steve Hudson

OPEN BOYS TOUCH 2015

The Open Boys Touch team has progressed through to the next round of the State KO after a successful day at the Milton Ulladulla touch finals on Tuesday.

The team began the day with a solid hit-out against Warilla High and despite being defeated 5–3 the boys worked hard to win their next two games against Figtree High 6–3 and Bowral High 4-2. These wins placed them second in their pool and they were drawn to play Ulladulla High in one semi-final with Warilla playing Mulwaree High in the other semi. Ulladulla High knocked the team out of the competition last year so the boys were keen to turn the tables this time round. Kiama played strongly and after an exciting game they defeated Ulladulla 4–1.

Each region is permitted to have two teams progress to the next level of the State wide KO with Kiama and Warilla now representing the South Coast area in the final 16 teams in the State. At present we are not sure who our opponents will be.

Members of the Kiama team were: Hayden Moon, Dylan Morris, Nic Wingrove, Tyran Wishart, Callan Thistlethwaite, Jayden Roots, Lachlan Burley, Riley Buddle, Daniel Blomley, Bailey Chaplin and Toby Gumley-Quine.

I would like to congratulate the players for their efforts on the day and wish them the best for their next game.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM – SOUTH COAST CHAMPIONS

The Boys Volleyball Team beat Nowra High (25-23, 25-13, 21-25, 25-19) and Bega High (25-18, 19-25, 25-17, 25-15) last Tuesday to become South Coast Champions! Congratulations to Zac McHugh, Reid Formosa, Bjorn Myers, Matt Price, Eamon Cupitt, Callum Cooper, Nick Keatley, Keelan Robinson and Sachin Hall. They will now be competing in the State Finals in Sydney next term.

MUFTI DAY AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE – FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2015

Raising fund for Year 12 send off and graduation gift to the School. Wear mufti and bring a gold coin donation. Sausage sandwiches $2.50 each and soft drink $1.50 each will be available for purchase during lunch.

CANTEEN STUDENT VOLUNTEER ROSTER

Lunch: Bella Petersen, Anne Alards, Callia North, Thomas North
Recess: Tione Harris, Luke Mitchell, Taylor Parkinson, Sophie Miller
RESPECT · COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL EXCELLENCE · RESPONSIBILITY
### ATTENDANCE GRAPH:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses ..........</th>
<th>That Equals ......</th>
<th>Which is ......</th>
<th>and over 13 years of school that’s ......</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is ......</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 Days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 10</td>
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<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in Year 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much but ......