Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

**FAREWELL YEAR 12**

The last week of Term 3 is fast approaching. It will be a very big week with Year 12 celebrating the end of their educative time at KHS with Activities Day and Presentation Night.

This is the time of year when Year 12 starts to relax and lose focus as their time here draws to a close. It is imperative that students attend class, focus on work and not lose sight of the HSC Exams coming up. Truancy will not be tolerated or any anti-social behaviour that disrupts their learning or the learning of others. I do not want to impose sanctions or consequences on any student but will not hesitate to do so if the expected behaviour and procedures are not met. I attach a copy of the letter that has been sent home with Year 12 students at our Year Meeting on Friday 11 September. They are a fine group of students and young people and their potential is wonderful.

**PROHIBITED ITEMS**

Last week we had a situation where a student inadvertently brought a knife to school for food preparation. Attached is a copy of the Department’s policy and procedures on prohibited weapons – please have a close look at the guidelines within the Fact Sheet and discuss these issues at home. Talk to your children about bringing such objects – if it resembles a knife or could be used as such then it should stay at home. If your child has gone camping or fishing over the weekend and is using the same bag then sometimes it can be left in the bag. The consequences are very severe with a long suspension often the only course of action. The same situation goes for illegal drugs or prohibited substances.

**HOCKEY**

Last week our hockey players under the coaching and mentorship of Ms Winwood played Lithgow in the State Finals of CHS Championships, unfortunately they were defeated 3-1.

**SUPPORT CLASS**

At present we are establishing an IM Support Class for students with support needs. We are the only high school from Warilla to Shoalhaven that does not have a class or unit and we are beginning that journey. Some of our students will be placed in this class and others will come from outside our area. Setting such a class up means establishing a classroom, appointing a specialist teacher and teacher’s aide and getting the infrastructure right. This will mean that these students will have a specialist class as a base and then go out, as they do now, into mainstream classes – usually for electives where specialist rooms are needed.

**NAPLAN RESULTS**

A few parents have been concerned about the NAPLAN results for both their children and in general. Though these tests are once a year tests, they do give us some baseline data as to your child’s progress from Years 5 to 7 and from Years 7 to 9. Coupled with other internal testing and assessments, they advise us on what your child may need in order to improve on a comparison with their peers, schools like ours and across the nation. In Term 4 I will be holding a parent forum for any parent interested in learning about and talking about these results – what they mean, how they can be interpreted, what measures KHS is putting in place to address some of the issues like improving the middle groups to the top in areas such as reading, writing, grammar, spelling and numeracy. We will tell you when that is going on early next term. At present all the learning partners from our Kiama Community of Schools will be meeting early next term to begin a Combined Community of Schools plan to address some of these issues as a single structure. This should allow sharing of resources, understanding the way we all teach and learn and involvement in a number of key programs and platforms to make a difference for your children from Primary School to High School. I am very excited about these plans.

**INDIGENOUS EVENTS**

Last week I had the privilege to attend the Graduation of Indigenous Students studying the HSC at Bombaderry Bowling Club hosted by the Nowra AECG. Mrs Kellie Evans – Aboriginal Education Worker; Mrs Eggins – English Teacher and Mrs Power – Head Teacher Wellbeing, joined in the celebrations. We went to support one of our Indigenous students Harrison Jones and his family. Harrison is the only member of his immediate family who has attained the HSC. Well done! It was a great honour to speak about Harrison and what a great student and ambassador he has been for our school and community. As the Indigenous Student Representative for the Student Representative Council (SRC), he has been integral in all the wonderful activities of this student group – fundraising, resource gaining, volunteering, leadership conferences and camps. Harry has grown in confidence and in ability from being involved in this adventure. He has stepped out of his comfort zone as a true leader does and has overcome self-esteem issues, confidence issues and self-doubt and he and the school are the better for it. We wish him well into the future and look forward to many more Indigenous students finishing Year 12.

**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

Parents/Carers and Students, As the holidays approach, I wish all the students and their families well. Thanks for a great Term 3. Of course next term is a reporting term full of nice surprises like...
DEPUTIES NEWS

YEAR 12 GRADUATION CEREMONY

All parents of Year 12 are invited to attend the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony being held on Thursday 17 September at 7.00pm in the new gym. Space is limited, so each student may purchase up to 2 guest passes at a cost of $5 each from the front office by Monday 14 September.

YEAR 12 SEND OFF

The Year 12 Activities Day will take place on Thursday 17 September, beginning with a BBQ breakfast for Year 12 students and their teachers at school commencing 8.00am.

The school will send our wonderful Year 12 students out into the world with a celebration and party. After the BBQ, all of Year 12 will assemble to have a photo taken of their whole year group; then it is off to the oval to have some fun. We start off with tug-o-war and three legged races to break the ice, after which the students will be free to use the equipment hired from Bubbling with Energy. This year the activities will be: the dunk tank (where students can dunk teachers and each other into a tank of freezing water); a giant water slide; and bubble soccer (for the more competitive types). To finish the morning, we have a water bomb fight involving volunteer staff and Year 12, where everyone is given a pair of strong goggles to protect the eyes – safety first. The Year Adviser then gathers all Year 12 students into ‘The Circle of Love’ and they give themselves three big cheers and run to the centre of the circle for a group hug. Year 7 then form a Guard of Honour for the seniors to walk through, leading out of the school gate. We hope they have a great morning and a fabulous life.

I would like to thank Ms Cutting for her tireless efforts in organising the send-off.

YEAR 11 EXAMS

Year 11 are completing their Preliminary Exams this week. They should then be giving serious thought to their future plans and goals. Term 4 sees the start of the HSC course.

This is the last newsletter for the term. Term 4 starts on Tuesday 6 October. I would like to wish all of our students a safe and pleasant holiday.

Gerard Kelly, Deputy Principal

ATTENDANCE MATTERS – IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY!!

DoE statistics indicate that parent condoned absences are the biggest reason for students to not attend school and in actual fact these parents are not abiding to the Education Act. Not sending your child to school is indeed breaking the law, unless there is a justified reason for the absence.

As Term 3 closes, it is timely to reinforce to parents and students that all students should be attending school right up to and including the last day of term.

Parents are asked not to take seriously the reasons your child might give you for not attending the last day of term.

All students are expected to attend and teachers will be conducting purposeful and engaging learning experiences – business as normal. If a student is absent on the last day of term, a note of explanation must be returned within 7 days on returning to school in Term 4.

This culture KHS students are adopting of not attending the last day term is not best practice for parents and/or students to follow. To change this culture, the school and parents must work in partnership – it is vital for the school to ensure parents are well informed about attendance policy and procedure and for parents to support policy and procedures.

Please contact the school for any further clarification of the school’s attendance policy and/or procedures.

Be on time: Be at school: that’s the rule

Mary Cooper, HT Attendance

HIGH FLYERS

* Well done to the Girls Hockey team who recently placed 2nd in NSW at the NSWCHSSA Knockout State Finals. All of the girls who played were a credit to the school and should be very proud of their achievements. Well done also to Mrs Winwood who was their coach. An outstanding effort!

* Huge Congratulations to Caycee Stratten from Year 7. This High Flyer recently won the Big Air Comp at Thredbo which put her in the lead for Overall Winner of the Thredbo Series (Grom Division). Caycee also won 2 snowboards and 2 bindings as a result of her achievements.

* Closer to home, we have had a number of students recognised for their hard work in their subjects. These include:
  - 9TE: Nathan Cowgill and Aidan Galovic are going above and beyond with their Engineering designs with well thought out solutions to design briefs. They source innovative materials just from around the home, Nathan is using bamboo and Aidan some Lego.
  - 8GT: Anne Alards, Beau Simpson, Jordyn Bond and Hannah Brockman are making some ‘Caravan’ floor plans done in CAD come alive building up custom 3D models.
  - 10 TWB: Wade Kingma is chopping hard to finish his bedside cabinet before he leaves us.
  - 8 Tech: Oliver Lamb and new student Cooper Avis impressing with a no fuss can do attitude.

* Jacob Mierendorff and Adelaide Galovic have both been selected to be in the National Youth Science Forum in January next Year. They are both in Year 11 and have gone through a very rigorous process of interviews to be included.

* Mrs Chapman would like to acknowledge the hard work of her Year 11 Hospitality class. They represented the school well whilst on work placement and impressed their employers. They have also worked extremely hard this term catering for staff at lunchtime on a Thursday.

Finally, well done to all of our Year 12 students who finish up their official classes this week. Congratulations to you all for making it to the end of your schooling here at Kiama High School. I hope that you will all leave here with lots of fond memories of your time at Kiama. We would all like to wish you the best of luck in your upcoming HSC exams.
Well done to all of the High Flyers for this week.

**SPORT BOYS TENNIS**
The Open Boys tennis side was called in at the eleventh hour to compete in the State Finals of the Stan Jones Cup. The team consisted of Bjorn Myers, Reid Formosa, Danyon Farrell and Lochlan Southgate. Unfortunately we were defeated in both of our ties against Westfield Sport High and Merewether High School, but not before some gallant tennis. Bjorn and Reid won both their singles matches but went down in the doubles. Lochlan and Danyon put together some great rallies and represented our school with pride. Congratulations to all the boys and to Bailey Morphett, who was a part of the team that helped qualify for the event.

Mr Berry

**SRC NEWS**
The SRC has been involved in many activities and fundraisers this term. The students decided to focus on Cancer Awareness Week this term raising funds and awareness for two charities – ‘The Ride to Conquer Cancer’ and ‘The Garvan Institute’. The Ride to Conquer Cancer Charity was chosen in support of two of Kiama High’s Year 10 students, India Beauchamp and Gabby Zoratto, who are completing the 220+km bike ride in October to raise funds for cancer research. The Garvan Institute is annually supported by Kiama High School in memory of Mrs Gail Burgin. Mrs Burgin was a PDHPE teacher at Kiama High for over 30 years and she wished the team that helped qualify for the event.

Boys Tennis Side

**R U OK? DAY AT KIAMA HIGH SCHOOL**
R U Ok? Day is an annual day in September (the second Thursday) dedicated to remind people to ask family, friends and colleagues the question, “R U OK?”, in a meaningful way, because connecting regularly and meaningfully is one thing everyone can do to make a difference to anyone who might be struggling. It was an important day to remind students and staff to look out for one another and remember to ask ‘R U OK?’ The school was reminded by posters and announcements in Roll Call, promotions at lunch and consistent ‘R U OK’s’ throughout the day.

**MAJOR AND GENERAL MANAGER MENTOR PROGRAM**
Darcy Lawton and Bryce Humphries from Year 10 were selected to undertake the Kiama Council’s Mayor and General Manager Mentor Program this term. The boys attended Council meetings, morning teas, toured the Council Chambers and took part in the Vietnamese Independence Day celebrations at NSW Parliament House on 21 August. The Mayor and General Manager along with other members of the Hoi An Friendship Committee were invited to attend a reception in celebration of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Darcy Lawton (SRC, Year 10)

“We arrived at Parliament House in Sydney around midday, we had travelled with the Mayor and General Manager; they had invited us because of their relationship with the city in Vietnam called Hanoi.

Once we got to Parliament House we were brought into a function room that overlooked the Domain. Bryce and I went around with the Mayor (Brian Petschler) and engaged in conversations with the Consulate General of Vietnam and the Consulate General of Korea as well. The food they served us was amazing, from spring rolls to smoke salmon eclairs. Whilst we were eating we listened to a great speech from the Vietnamese Ambassador and watched an amazing slide show of Vietnam and saw a few pictures of Hanoi. The experience was insightful and Bryce and I have taken so much from this event”.

An excellent Term 3 from our newly inducted SRC (2015-2016). Keep up the great work Kiama High School!

**MISS SARAH MEPPM, SRC COORDINATOR**

**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS**
Tuesdays 10.30am – 2.30pm
Fridays 11am – 3.00pm
Cash and Eftpos Only
Please be considerate with closing times.

**CANTEEN STUDENT VOLUNTEER ROSTER**
Lunch: Ethan Chapman, Will Webb, Tom North, Ellie Cashman
Recess: Bailey Robbins, Charlotte-Lee Perez, Alex Westley, Damon Rice

**PARENT VOLUNTEER ROSTER**
Mon 14/9: Help Needed
Tues 15/9: Help Needed
Wed 16/9: Help Needed
Thurs 17/9: Penny, Help Needed
Fri 18/9: Half Day, Lunch Orders Only
Help is always needed if you can spare an hour we would love to see you. Our school canteen is P & C operated and all funds raised go back to the P & C and school via funded support. We are taking names for Term 4 now; call the Canteen 4232 2007 if you would love to join our team.

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN PROGRAM

As you know our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program. The Program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We are now at the important stage of the Program where the sticker sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker sheets. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they may be stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps! Thanks again for your support!

COMMUNITY NEWS

HSC LOCK IN – KIAMA LIBRARY

The doors will be locked, mobile phones will be silenced. Kiama Library is hosting a Lock In for HSC students! The library doors will close as normal at 5.30pm and only students will be allowed to remain inside. Bookings are essential – first in, least stressed. Use our WiFi, personal or group study; what you do is up to you as long as you do it quietly.

When: Wednesday 7 October 5.30pm-8.00pm
Who: HSC students
Where: Kiama Library

For more information and bookings phone 4233 1133. There will be free snacks and drinks.

SAFER DRIVER COURSES

The Safer Driver Course aims to provide learner drivers with driving strategies such as speed management, gap selection, hazard awareness and safe following distances so students are more prepared when they drive unsupervised on their provisional licences. The Course also aims to help learners identify situations that will put them at greater risk of a crash and consider strategies that will help avoid them.

Participants must have 50 actual hours logged in their log books to be eligible for the Course.

On completion of both modules of the Course a learner driver will receive a 20 hour credit in their learner driver log book. The cost of the Course is $140 including GST. Places available on 26 September, for more information contact Julie Dryer on 0424 628 703 or www.redcardrivertraining.com.au to book on line.

KIAMA CLASSIC FAMILY FUN BIKE RIDE

Enjoy a great family day out at the 2nd Annual Kiama Classic Family Fun Bike Ride. The 5km return course skirts Kiama Harbour across multiple beaches on family friendly off road paths.

Registration: 9-10.30am Saturday 19 September 2015.

Entry: $2 per person or $5 family with proceeds to the Heart Foundation.

Start: 10.30am

For more information and registration forms: Road Safety Officer, Kiama Municipal Council call 4232 0444; email council@kiama.nsw.gov.au; visit www.kiama.nsw.gov.au

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.