Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Community,

It is now going into Week 4 of the term and I believe that all is well in the main. However, if you have concerns let us know without delay and we can work together to fix them and provide support for you and your children.

Our Peer Support Year 7 Camp is on Monday of Week 4 at The TOPS – Stanwell Park and we have many students in Year 7 and 11 looking forward to it. I want to thank Mr Poppett, Year Advisers and all the staff attending for their extra effort over the course of those three days and nights. I also want to thank the Year 11 Peer Support students giving up their time to assist the wellbeing of our new Year 7 students.

Our Kiama High School Budget Allocation (RAM) is not as large as some schools because we have a population that is reasonably well off. The money we get from the DEC under the new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) in the areas of Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI) is based on the income and education of the parents of our students. KHS attracts a small amount of budget based on this data. This means that we cannot provide for as many resources and programs as some other schools unless we acquire all of our student fees and voluntary contributions. The equity loading for socio-economic background is a funding allocation to support NSW public schools to meet the additional learning needs of students from low socio-economic backgrounds. Schools with lower income and education backgrounds will be given more money to assist students who are not as well off as others.

How does the community of KHS overcome this shortfall? The only way we can have more money is by way of parents ensuring that subject fees are paid quickly and that they assist through voluntary contributions. This extra money allows us to provide more for your children.

In 2016 we will be continuing our Incentive Program for Payment of Fees and Contributions. Any student whose family has paid fees and contributions or has entered into an agreed payment plan will go into the draw for a Mini Ipad. In the last week of Term 2 we will hold an assembly to draw out the winner of the Incentive Program. Traditionally, we usually only recover about 50% of contributions from parents. I hope that this will boost the number of parents paying as soon as possible into the year to assist the education of their children. Invoices and fee schedules will be coming home later in the term.

HARRISON RAINNIE SELECTED TO REPRESENT THE STATE IN VISUAL ARTS (ARTEXPRESS)

On Wednesday 3rd February, Harrison Rainnie was invited to represent ARTEXPRESS at the HSC showcase season launch of exemplary students from 2015 HSC. The 2016 showcase season is celebrating excellence across the Creative Arts and Technology subjects and launched the event at the Art Gallery of NSW. This launch marks the start of the annual season of HSC student showcases, featuring eight concerts and exhibitions. An example of each creative field formed the launch.

From the 9,082 students in Visual Arts, sitting the HSC, 241 students have their work appearing in 10 galleries across the State. It is outstanding that Kiama High School had four students nominated for ARTEXPRESS and three selected, and Harrison then selected from all the ARTEXPRESS works to be displayed at the launch. Attached is the article from the Sydney Morning Herald reporting on the showcase launch with Drama, Music and Harrison’s artwork.

Term 1 and 2 will be created and held for parents interested in gaining more information and skills to assist their children. At the P&C last week a number of parents put forward the following suggestions as to what their needs were in terms of these workshops –

- Dyslexia/Literacy Issues and Other Learning Needs - what help is offered in schools?
- Resilience for our High School Students
- Drug and Alcohol Awareness
- Technology – supporting students with technology needs – cyber bullying, managing Facebook etc
- How can parents help within the school?
- Study strategies and awareness for parents to help their children
- How can I be the best High School parent?

I have attached a link to a Survey Monkey for you to add any additional ideas or requests for these up and coming workshops and forums.

FAQ – at the P&C I also asked parents to write down any questions that they wanted answered about the school. This was from a new parent perspective. However, we will take questions of any nature to add to our booklet. We want to put together a FAQ Booklet for our KHS Website for parents so that you can do your own research at any time. Can you also use the Survey Monkey to suggest any other questions that you have or that you feel may be helpful to answers for our parents? We will answer those questions and publish them.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R2YG3KM

Saddleback Mountain Road issues are continuing with Kiama Council, Gareth Ward and the Department of Education. I hope to know more over the coming weeks as to a timeframe of building our Drop Off Zone near the Roundabout. In the meantime, please be aware of the danger of doing three point turns on Saddleback Mountain Road. Be
aware that you will be booked by Council Rangers if you drop off in the wrong zones both to the South and to the North of the school.

Best of Wishes
I want to take the opportunity to send the school’s best wishes to Mr Wild on his recovery from surgery. As ever, he has insisted that he return to school as soon as he could to teach your children. I also want to send our best wishes to Kayla Gibson of Year 11 who is undergoing some more surgery and will return to us in the near future.

Improved Communication is one of our strategic goals over the next couple of years. At present we communicate with you and you to us via the traditional and new online methods

- phone calls, fax and emails,
- SchoolStream – we are encouraging all parents to download the APP.

Kiama High School Needs Parents to come get involved with our new communication platform

DOWNLOADING SCHOOL STREAM.

Please download the Free APP from App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Google Play (Android) search for School Stream and download the app to your phone. and or electronic device. Follow instructions once you download or go to schoolstream.com.au/download

- SMS texting service – soon to be switched on
- Facebook – about to be launched – we are waiting for returns of the Permission to Publish forms from all students, which were handed out in roll call today.

Anniversary of the National Apology for the Stolen Generation was on Saturday the 13th of February. Kellie Evans has written an article, which includes Kevin Rudd’s Apology in Koori Korner of the newsletter. Please have a read and remind yourselves and your children of the significance of this act of apology. The school will be recognising this event and the importance of understanding the repercussions on indigenous people of the Stolen Generation. If you would like more information on actual stories and accounts from Indigenous Australians, please follow the link below.


Have a great week.

John Salmon, Principal

DEPUTIES NEWS

Swimming carnival
Congratulations to those students who attended the Swimming Carnival last Monday. Once again students and staff had a great time, behaviour was exemplary and some outstanding results were recorded. I would like to give a special thank you to Mrs McGuinness for organising this event. Well done.

School photographs
Students will soon be issued with their individual school photograph envelope. This envelope contains all the details for securing a wonderful photographic memory of your child. School photographs will be taken on Thursday 25th February. A catch-up day has been organised for Thursday 3rd March.

School uniform
Parents are reminded to check the length of their child’s skirt and shorts. Students have been informed that their parents will be contacted if the lengths of their skirt or shorts are inappropriate.

Excursions
A quick reminder to all students and parents about the need to return notes and payments for excursions by the due date to avoid the disappointment of being told NO. Money must be paid before school, at lunch, or by the end of recess on the due date.

High Flyers
Fantastic news coming in recently about a number of our Ex-Students and their performances in their chosen field.

- Grace Stewart was recently selected to play for the Australian Women’s Hockey Team – the Hockeyroos;
- Reuben Garrick was selected to play in the St George Illawarra Dragons squad for the Auckland 9’s Tournament; &
- Harrison Rannie has had his HSC Artwork displayed in a number of different exhibitions and is gaining much media attention for his outstanding work.

Well done and congratulations to these outstanding young people.

Gerard Kelly and Paul Roger, Deputy Principals

SCIENCE TEXTBOOKS
It appears that some students have borrowed text books from Science last year and have not returned them yet.
UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING HOURS
Tuesdays 10.30am – 2.30pm
Fridays 11am – 3.00pm
Cash and Eftpos Only
Between the Hall and L Block
Please be considerate with closing times.

CANTEEN STUDENT
VOLUNTEER ROSTER
Lunch: Lucy Steel, Tara Brady, Hugo Ikeda, Carlo Cullen
Recess: Eliza Corkin, Josiah Tuaoi, Reuben Thomas, Bailey Cousins

PARENT
VOLUNTEER ROSTER
Mon 15/2: Jude, Lette, Kim
Tues 16/2: Help Needed
Wed 17/2: Robyn, Ronaha
Thurs 18/2: Cheryl
Fri 19/2: Heidi, Connie H

COMMUNITY NEWS
RMS SAFER DRIVERS COURSE
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 are available on Saturday 27 February and Saturday 9 April 16. For more information contact Julie Dryer on 0424 628 703 or visit www.redcardrivertraining.com.au.

YOUTH DRUG & ALCOHOL WORKSHOPS
Young People & Drug Use — this workshop is about making sense of young people’s action, and why they do what they do, more importantly it’s about what parents can do to help their children be safe and how to help them grow healthily and happily in a world where drugs legal and illegal, whether we like it or not, do exist and show no signs of going away. To be held at Centenary Hall, Tongarra Road, Albion Park 12.30pm-2.30pm, Wednesday 24 February.

Drug Use – Choice & Change — this workshop is for people who work with young people where substance use is a concern. This workshop is not about drugs – it’s about understanding both a young person’s inner and outer worlds, and what drives drug use in terms of who a person is and the world they personally live in. To be held at Innovation Campus UOW, Building 233 (ITAMS) Squires Way, North Wollongong on Wednesday 24 February.

Bookings are essential — contact 4254 2794 or email Donna.forknall@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au.

FSC WIN NETWORK – SENIOR BOYS ACADEMY
For boys aged 13-16 years, Monday nights 5pm-6.30pm, Ian McLennan Park, Kembla Grange. Summer term starts Monday 15 February – Monday 11 April, cost $160. For more information www.footballsouthcoast.com.

THINKING ABOUT STUDY AND REJOINING THE WORKFORCE
Crt III’s and IV’s in Business Administration or Accounts are starting soon. For more information contact Kiama Community College on 4232 1050 or www.kcc.nsw.edu.au

SOUTHLAKE/ILLAWARRA BMX CLUB
We are having a free come and try day on Saturday 20 February from 10am-1pm at the Croome Road Sporting Complex located on Croome Road, Albion Park. For more information contact Andrea Dallinger 0418 245 268, Russell Robeille 0411 645 644 or Tim Robson 0450 095 150.

WEP STUDENT EXCHANGE
World Education Program (WEP) is now accepting applications from students who wish to participate in 2016/17 exchange programs for a summer, semester or year. Students can choose to study in a country of their choice and experience life with a carefully selected host family. For more information contact info@wep.org.au.

WOLLONGONG BODYBOARD CLUB
Sign up for 2016 has now started:

Where: SWS Bodyboarding 1b/144 Lake Entrance Road, Oak Flats.
When: Now till 19 February to qualify for first comp. Any entry after this date will qualify for start in March.

For more information gongbodyboarders@hotmail.com.

KIAMA JUNIOR AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB
2016 Registrations are now open for boys and girls aged 4-16 years. $120 per player all inclusive. Register online at www.kiamajunior afl.com.au or in person on Tuesday 23 February from 4-6pm at Bonnaire Oval – Bonnaire Street and Girrawheen Avenue, Kiama. For more information 0427 903 171 or 0413 027 939.

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.

RESPECT · COMMITMENT TO PERSONAL EXCELLENCE · RESPONSIBILITY