

# School Newsletter 1917, 29 November 2017

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## Coming Events



- Wednesday 29 November – Christmas music concert encore performance 7pm
- Thursday 30 November – Pizza in the Park PP-Year 2 (invitations have been sent)
- Friday 1 December – Pizza in the Park Yr 3-Yr 6 (invitations have been sent)
- Monday 4 December to Thursday 14 December – swimming lessons for PP – Yr 5
- Wednesday 6 December – Board meeting, 5pm in the library
- Monday 11 December – Yr 6 graduation rehearsal – drop students off at Lifestreamers at 9am (students will be transported back to KPS)
- Tuesday 12 December – Reports emailed to parents/carers
- Tuesday 12 December – Year 6 Graduation Ceremony (at Lifestreamers) 9.15am start
- Tuesday 12 December – Year 5/6 Social 6.30pm – 8.30pm
- Wednesday 13 December – Year 6 Bounce excursion
- Thursday 14 December – Year 6 river excursion
- Thursday 14 December – Year 6's "final ringing of the bell" 3pm
- Thursday 14 December – P&C end of year ice-cream stall
- Thursday 14 December – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- **FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS IN 2018 IS WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY 2018**

## Principal's Message



### Thanks and Farewells

Today we thanked all our parent and volunteer helpers by inviting them to a morning tea put on by the staff. We enjoy such wonderful support from our community that we sometimes take it for granted. However, without this support we would not be able to provide the level of support we do for each child or to run all the extra-curricular programs. We are sincerely grateful.

We also took the opportunity at this morning tea to recognise the many years of service from Mrs Delia Carter. Mrs Carter has been at the school since 1991. Her teaching has had a positive impact on so many of our KPS students, past and present. While the staff will officially say farewell to Mrs Carter at the end of the year, the P&C recognised her contribution to Kensington PS with a gift. We wish her well in her retirement.

Mr Pestana is also retiring and the P&C also recognised his contribution to the school with a gift. He has been at the school since 2013, although he has been working in the Department since 1986. He has worked closely with the staff on implementing Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) at the school and is responsible for the high level of technologies available to the staff and students (with the financial support of the P&C and Department of course). He is a real gentleman and a wonderful role model. We wish him the best in his retirement too, although he is not going to give schools away entirely as he hopes to take on a chaplaincy role.

### **Welcome to our New Deputy starting in 2018**

We have included her introduction letter below, and welcome Claire to the team in 2018.



My name is Mrs Claire Backhouse. I've had the privilege of being an educator for 15 years in public and private schools throughout country and metropolitan WA and QLD. Over many years I have held leadership roles aimed at improving student outcomes in both literacy and numeracy. In addition, I have been seconded by the federal government to deliver professional learning on Autism to teachers as part of their Support Autism package from 2008 to 2015. Most recently I've spent two years as the Deputy Principal at Moora Primary School.

I believe in life-long learning and hold the following qualifications

- Bachelor of Education in Primary Education
- Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies Japanese
- Masters of Education in Special Needs

In addition, I am currently completing the National Excellence in School Leadership Initiative's Deputy Principal Colloquium.

I am passionate about ICT as it engages students in other areas of the curriculum that they may not have thought they would be interested in, whilst also preparing them for the future world through development of creative and critical thinking skills. It is an honour to have been selected to join the Kensington Primary School team and I look forward to working with the staff, students and community to join Kensington PS's continuous improvement journey and enable students to meet their potential.

### **Japanese in 2018**

Mrs Atsuko Yazawa will be taking a leave of absence from KPS in 2018. Her replacement is Miss Maria Gultisno. We will introduce her to you in 2018. We wish Mrs Yazawa all the best in 2018 and will see her back in 2019.

### **Christmas Concert**

We had a lovely Christmas Concert run this morning organised by Mrs Lynette Dewing, our wonderful music teacher; and ably supported by the staff and parents. It was a lovely way to celebrate the end of the year and to help us thank our helpers too. The children did a terrific job. Don't forget, if you missed it this morning there is an evening concert tonight at 7pm.

### **Election Process for Student Leaders**

Students in Year 5 nominate with the closing date set in time for the Electoral Commission to issue the electoral papers. The school has to fit around the WAEC activities.

Once nominations close, the position on the ballot paper is conducted with students selecting the number out of a container. The draft ballot is sent to the WAEC and then the final copy is returned to school for verification by the teachers.

All student nominees are given an opportunity to speak and then the election process is conducted by an officer from the WAEC. The individual classes organise the way they want to prepare the candidates from their class.

Students from Years 4 and 5 and any interested staff members who wish to, are given an opportunity to vote. Teachers are issued with the same electoral voting paper as the students and no distinction is made between teacher and student. Once the votes have been cast, the electoral officer takes them away for the count.

The full preferential count is completed for Head Boy and Head Girl, followed by the six councillors – 3 girls and 3 boys, then the faction captains and vice-captains. This year, the school received a large number of nominations requiring two different ballot papers to be produced, one for boys and one for girls.

In the past, the school has only announced the Head Boy and Head Girl along with the councillors on graduation night. This was changed recently to announce all elected positions.

### **Surf Online Safely**

Thank you to the P&C and Paul Litherland who presented the Surf Online Safely workshop to the Year 5 and 6 students on Monday afternoon and to parents on Monday night. We had approximately 50 parents attend. While it is scary what can happen online – the best defence is knowledge. So I know those parents who attended are now well armed to help their children negotiate the online world safely. This was a wonderful parent-lead initiative.

### **2018 Enrolment Numbers**

Currently our enrolments are down on 2017. This year we started with 470 students. Next year, it appears we will start with 433. This is, in part, due to decreasing enrolments in the kindergarten which will flow through the rest of the school as the years progress. For the past

two enrolment periods we have only been getting 40 students enrolling from within our boundaries. However, we have taken 60 because we have helped out Victoria Park PS who can't cater for all their kindy enrolments. But, in Pre-primary those students return to Victoria Park. We will, therefore, next year, be down two classes from this year (this year we went up by one class).

Kindergarten:	55 (includes VPPS enrolments)
Pre-primary:	40
Year 1:	58
Year 2:	48
Year 3:	57
Year 4:	69
Year 5:	50
Year 6:	56
TOTAL:	433

### **Facility Upgrades**

You might have noticed that, in readiness for the OSHClub, we have installed two extra enclosing sets of doors in the undercover area. These have been funded by the OSHClub payments and the P&C (thanks to the President – Sam Thompson) who sourced a donation of \$5800 from the Royal Perth Golf Club through John McGrath MLA, along with school funds.

The Department of Education has also committed funds to replace the manhole covers and extend the repairs around them on our basketball courts and netball court with a budget of \$27,000. They will also replace the footpaths running from the staff car park down to the office and the one running along the donga near the office and car park. We are also hoping to get the quadrangle verandahs reinforced to ensure they last well into the future.

### **Donation requested**

We are seeking a donation/s of good quality Lego. If anyone has any spare clean Lego pieces that they would be willing to donate to the school, please see one of the deputy principals or the ladies in the office.

### **A Day Made Better award**

As reported in a previous newsletter, Miss Alicia Taylor was a winner in the Australia-wide competition run by OfficeMax, "A Day Made Better". Please [click here](#) to read the write-up in the local South Perth paper, The Southern Gazette.

### **REMINDERS:**

#### **Community Survey (National School Opinion Survey)**

As we are embarking on a new Business Plan for 2018 – 2020 we ask that each family completes a Community Survey so that we can gain a baseline on how we are travelling and so we can ensure our next Business Plan is driven by community feedback too. All students



whose families complete the survey will earn an icy pole so please have these completed and submitted by *Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017*. Please print out the thank you page at the end of the survey so your child(ren) can show these to their teacher for the icy pole.

<https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/KensingtonParent2017>.

### School App



Have you subscribed and/or updated the school app “Smartlink” yet?

By making sure you have installed the app on your mobile device, you will receive instant notifications as they come to hand. You can also view school information (ie the new OSHClub information has just been placed on the app under “School Documents”), put events directly into your diary from the “Calendar” and view the current Term Planner at any time, just to name a few of the functions. Please [click here](#) for instructions on installing “Smartlink” to your device or [click here](#) for details regarding **updating and the need to resubscribe to KPS and any sub-groups**. Next year, we will be relying on the app as a major means of communication with parents/carers so please ensure that you have installed it.

### Booklists

The booklists for 2018 have now been sent to all parents by email and via the school app. Paper copies will not be sent home – instead, you can access the booklists by going to <https://www.officemaxschools.com.au/WA/Kensington/Kensington-Primary-School> – the access key is W4BJ9S. Orders placed on or before 3 December will be delivered to you free of charge before the end of December 2017, and orders placed between 4 December and 17 December will be delivered free of charge before 24 January 2018.

You also have the convenient option of paying for Voluntary Contributions (\$60 per child) and P&C Contributions (\$60 *per family*) when you order your booklist.

### Lost Property

Lost property is located in a box (often overflowing) outside of the staffroom. At the end of each month, any unclaimed items remaining in the box will be donated to the Uniform shop for re-sale. Please ensure that you check the box promptly if your child is missing any item/s.

*Bronwyn Jones*  
**PRINCIPAL**

## Sports News



### Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons commence next week for all student from Pre-primary to Year 5. It is part of our school curriculum and all students are expected to attend. The lesson schedule has changed slightly from the permission note that was sent out earlier this term. The new schedule is as follows:

Lesson Time	Rooms
11.35 – 12.15	PP2, R10, R5, R6
12.20 – 1.00	PP3, R3, R9, S4
1.10 – 1.50	P1, R8, R1, S1
1.55 – 2.35	R2, R7, R4, S3, S2

### Edudance

In Term 1 2018, we are going to participate in the Edudance program. Permission notes and payment (approximately \$30 per student – final cost to be confirmed) will be required in the first week of Term 1 as the program commences in Week 2.

### Summer Carnival

It was an extremely warm day for the Summer Carnival and our students coped really well. Well done to our Year 4 Newcombe Ball team who played the game with great sportsmanship and a competitive spirit. Congratulations to the Tee Ball team who won the shield for the third year in a row, winning all their matches.



Overall, we came third.



Final Results:

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Cricket (Boys)</b>	Lathlain	EVPPS	Millen	Kensington(2)	Kensington(1)	Vic Park
<b>Cricket (Girls)</b>	Lathlain	EVPPS	Millen	Kensington(1)	Vic Park	Kensington(2)
<b>Tee Ball</b>	Kensington	Lathlain	Millen	Vic Park	EVPPS	Bentley
<b>Volleyball</b>	EVPPS	Millen	<i>Bentley Kensington</i>		<i>Vic Park Lathlain</i>	
<b>Newcombe Ball</b>	EVPPS	Kensington	<i>Lathlain Millen</i>		<i>Vic Park Bentley</i>	

### Southside Penrhos Wesley School Swimming Challenge



30 swimmers represented Kensington in the Schools Challenge last Friday night. The girls came 3<sup>rd</sup>, the boys came 4<sup>th</sup> and overall we placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Super effort, swimmers! Congratulations to Eliza and Sashana for winning the Runner Up Year 5 swimmer award.

### **Running Club**

We had our final run for the term on Tuesday. This term we have reached our goal of having over 100 runners at a session (which we have done on several mornings). We farewell our Year 6 runners – thanks for being great leaders this year. Special mention to Ben who has been coming regularly since he started in Pre-primary!! A huge thank you to Martine who will also be leaving us – she has been at every session for the last 7 years taking attendance, encouraging the runners and helping with the breakfasts. I am looking for a volunteer or two to fill her ‘big’ shoes. Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to help with the activities – it is greatly appreciated.

We will re-commence midway through Term 1 in 2018. Keep running over the holidays.

### **Rebound WA**



On Monday, the Year 4 to 6 students participated in the Rebound WA program. The students played several games whilst being in wheelchairs. It was fun for the lesson but many realised the challenges faced by people living with a disability. Amber from Rebound WA has a disability and shared her experiences with the classes.



## Circus Equipment

I have a limited amount of circus equipment for sale from my office, cash only.

Juggling ball: \$12 or \$15

Fishtail Poi: \$25

Scarves: \$12

Spinning Plates: \$7



## Chaplain News



THANK YOU for your generous donations! We collected a total of 362 items. A representative from Southcare was present at the Christmas assembly this morning to receive our gift. The cans, non-perishable food and gift items will be made into hampers by volunteers of Southcare and distributed to families in our community before Christmas.

### Resources for transition to high school

Starting high school can be both exciting and anxiety-provoking for children. With the help of younger siblings in KPS, ex-KPS students, now in high school, responded to the invitation to write some words of wisdom regarding their transition experience for our current Year 6 students. Year 6 teachers have these resources and will share with students in due course.

Below are some websites which parents can access to support children in this transition:

Starting secondary school: [http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/secondary\\_school.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/secondary_school.html)

Transitioning to high school: <https://parents.au.reachout.com/common-concerns/everyday-issues/things-to-try-school-and-education/transitioning-to-high-school>

Interview – supporting the transition to high school:

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/enewsletter/interview-supporting-transition-high-school>



With children starting high school, there could also be a need for adjustment in parenting style. Aussie Optimism is an excellent resource with a self-directed *Parents and Families program*, designed for families to address this transition. This resource covers issues such as searching for identity, pushing the limits, working together as a family, thinking optimistically, friendships and the move to high school. It includes information, cartoons, tips, and activities. It costs \$15 and can be ordered at: [http://healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2016/08/aussie-optimism-order-form\\_2016\\_020816-1.pdf](http://healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2016/08/aussie-optimism-order-form_2016_020816-1.pdf)

**Congratulations**



At the Diving WA annual awards breakfast last week, Hannah from Room 9 was awarded the 2017 Diver of the Year – Junior Development Squad. She was recognised as the first athlete of her age to learn and execute the largest amount of dives within their first year of diving. Congratulations, Hannah!



## General Information



### **Furniture for sale**

There are some desks and chairs that the school wants to remove from the site. They are located at in the quadrangle next to the staffroom if you would like to see what is available. Please place your donation in an envelope marked furniture and give it to Mr Pestana or the front office.

### **Found**

A wicker bicycle basket was found on the school grounds last week. If this belongs to you, please come to the front office.



### **WA Education Awards 2017**

The winners of the WA Education Awards 2017 were announced on Friday. Read the inspiring stories of outstanding staff and schools by [clicking here](#).

### **STEM parent booklet for families with children from Kindergarten to Year 2**

[\*Exploring STEM at home\*](#) provides parents with activities and ideas to support their children's learning and development at home. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

## WA Youth Strategy

The Department of Communities invites 10 to 25 year olds to participate in consultation and feedback on the new youth strategy. We encourage students to register for the Youth Summit on Tuesday 5 December or provide online feedback before Monday 18 December at [Better Choices: Youth in WA](#). Bursaries for regional travel and interpreter services are available by contacting the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia on 9227 5440.

## P&C News



**Icy poles are back! Icy pole sales will take place each Friday at lunch time from November 3rd until Friday December 8th. Icy poles cost \$1 each and are 99% fruit juice!! Profits raised will contribute to Year 6 end of yearbook.**

## Community News



Origin Martial Arts and Fitness Academy are offering a special price of \$10 for 2 weeks of lessons – please [click here](#) to view the flyer.



Lifestreamers Childcare are running the Blast Vacation Care program from 8-30 January 2018 – [click here](#) for all details.



## **Enrolment for all 2018 Sacramental Programs at Holy Family Parish (Como-Kensington)**

All Catholic children who are eligible to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2018 are requested to enrol for their respective Sacramental Programs by **Sunday, 4 Feb 2018**.

Enrolment forms can now be obtained by sending an email to the Sacramental Program Coordinator at the following address: [comocath.sacramental@ymail.com](mailto:comocath.sacramental@ymail.com)

Enrolment forms are also available in the Holy Family Church foyer. Completed forms should be placed in a designated box in the church foyer by **Sunday, 4 Feb 2018**.

*\*The above community advertisements are for your information only and should not be taken as endorsement by Kensington Primary School.*