From the Assistant Principal’s Desk…

Welcome to Week 2 Term 3

What a wonderful start to the term! As I visited many classrooms last week and this week, it was evident that the students had settled quickly back into their classroom routines and were happy to be back with their friends. Well done to everyone and keep up the good work.

Road Safety

Yesterday, Mrs. Cooney witnessed a very near miss at the end of the school day on Lancefield Road as a child came out from behind a car to cross the busy road. Children need assistance dealing with the traffic environment until at least the age of 10 as they are not equipped physically or developmentally to make the crucial decisions to keep them safe. Please, we urge all parents and students to use the pedestrian crossings – our children are very precious!

Buddy Reading

Reading Buddies are back in action this term in Foundation B. The reading buddy program is designed to provide support between junior and senior students by creating a friendly and caring school community. Younger students feel safe and cared for, and older students feel valued and respected. Each week a number of grade 5/6 students visit their buddies to hear reading and help build literacy skills. Check out the photos in this week’s newsletter.

Grade 1 Unit

This term the grade 1 unit are studying habitats. Each class has taken on the task of caring for a small, easy to care for animal. 1J are looking after hermit crabs, Ted and Thunderstorm; 1A are caring for a guinea pig, Nibbles and 1L have their very own Nemo fish, Doughnuts to care for. Students are learning about the different characteristics of a variety of creatures and the habitats they live in. Look out for more Grade 1 class pet news in future newsletters.

Calendar

**JULY 2015**

- Friday 31st July
  - Out Of Uniform Day
  - Proceeds going towards our Bee Hive

**AUGUST 2015**

- Monday 3rd August
  - School Assembly, 9.00am
- Tuesday 4th August
  - School Council, 7.00pm
- Monday 17th August
  - School Assembly, 9.00am
- Monday 24th August
  - Grade 5/6 Camp
- Wednesday 26th August
  - Term 3 Conveyance Allowance Claims Close
- Monday 31st August
  - Curriculum Day
  - PUPIL FREE DAY

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- Year 5/6 Camp - 24th - 26th August 2015
  - 4th instalment - $60.00 (due 16/07)
  - Balance/final instalment due 6th August
- Year 3/4 Camp - 14th - 16th October 2015
  - 3rd instalment - $50.00 (due 13/08)
  - Balance/final instalment due 10th September
Parent Opinion Survey - Commencing Monday, 27th July
Each year DET conduct a Parent Opinion Survey of 15 per cent of our school community. Parents are randomly selected by the computer system to participate in this annual survey, which is designed to take no more than 20 minutes to complete. The information will be very useful and will assist in identifying future school improvement areas.

The survey is conducted anonymously and if you are randomly selected I ask you to take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school. Do not hesitate to contact the Acting Principal, Jennene Cooney if you have any questions or queries about the survey. If you receive a survey please return it to the office by Friday, 31st July 2015, as we are expected to encourage a 100% return rate.

The surveys will be sent home with students next Monday, 27th July 2015.

As always, a great deal is happening at Kilmore Primary School. Stay warm and have a great week.

Mrs. Julie McCarthy
Assistant Principal

Conveyance Allowance
Do you live more than 4.8km from Kilmore Primary School?
Is Kilmore Primary School your child’s ‘nearest’ school?

If you answered yes to both of these questions then you may be eligible to claim this travel allowance. Please call at the office or call 5782 1268.

Conveyance Allowance Claims Close 26th August
If you have already received the Term 2 Conveyance Allowance then the school will submit your claim for Term 3 on your behalf.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) - Financial Assistance
The Victorian government has announced there will be a Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF), to ensure all eligible students are able to participate in school trips and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.
The annual CSEF amount per student will be $125.00 for primary school students.

How to Apply:
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date:
You must lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 11th September 2015. These payments will then be paid during Term 4 to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school office.

School Entrant Health Questionnaires
Please return these questionnaires for the School Nursing Program. Parents are reminded to ensure they have signed the document prior to returning.

Thank you

Notices Handed Out This Week
- Young Leaders Program
Happy Birthday
Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday in the coming weeks. We hope you have a lovely day.

July
24 Zehra 56G
25 Cooper FA
26 Ben 34S
   Abi 56C
27 Summer 1J
   Reece 34F
   Lakaylia 56G
28 James 34N
   Darragh 56L

Manners Matter!
This week's focus
I help others to stay calm
Kind, Proud and Safe at all times

KGT IS BACK!
Each Thursday lunch time at the Stadium Foyer there will be a performance for you to come and watch.

This year, all auditions and performances will be LIVE!

Students are able to come and watch the contestants preform and try to make it into the Semi-Finals, F-2 will be held on the 20th August and 3-6’s will be held on the 3rd September. Contestants could possibly make it to the Grand Final! The grand final performances from grades F-6 will be held on 10th September and a special performance from the 1st place winners will be held on 17th September.

The Grand Prize is to perform at the end of year Christmas Picnic, along with some cool stationary from Smiggle!
Second and Third prize will be cool stationary from Smiggle!

Auditions dates
P-2
Thursday, 23rd July
Thursday, 30th July
3-6
Thursday, 6th August
Thursday, 13th August

We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 15 June and Tuesday 8 September 2015. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

Simply pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it’s completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program, and we’d like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for mathematics, English, science, art & crafts, through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at school.

OSHC
Welcome back to Term 3. We have two exciting things happening at Out of School Hours Care this term. One day a fortnight Dylan or one of the Personal Trainers, from Totally Fit Gym is coming in to work with the children on Physical Fitness. On the alternating week Carolyn Lunt, an Environmental Educator, will be working with small groups of children developing their environmental awareness. We are looking forward to sharing the expertise of these wonderful people and all the things we will learn.

Thank You
Karyn Homewood
Service Coordinator
Congratulations to all the students who received Literacy and Numeracy Awards at Assembly this week.
Out and About This Week at KPS

Jade Hamilton from Seymour Toyota presented T Shirts and gardening gloves to our Grade 2 students at assembly on Monday. Toyota are supporting National Tree Planting Day and have supplied tree guards and stakes to protect our young trees. Bring your gumboots along next Tuesday at 11:00am to help our grade 2’s with the planting.

Reading Buddies

Mathletics Awards

Congratulations Erin, Damien & Rebecca
CAFE Strategy: Tune In To Interesting Words

When children learn to tune in to interesting words, they build word awareness and the understanding of words. This leaves them with “thinking power” in their brain to comprehend and make meaning of what is read. Have you ever heard a new word, looked it up, and then repeated it often to remember it? Students who tune in to interesting words expand their vocabulary by focusing on these new words and their meaning. By looking for words that are interesting and unique, children not only increase their vocabulary, but they also enhance their comprehension. A child must have multiple exposures to a word in order for it to become a part of his/her vocabulary.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. Ask your child to tell you about his/her word collector at school. The word collector is a form that allows your child to keep track of interesting words found in books he/she is reading. Create a word collector at home to hang on the refrigerator or to keep in a special place.

2. When your child is reading or you are reading to your child, ask your child to find three interesting words. Have your child write these words down and talk about the meaning of these words. See if anyone in your family is able to use the words in a sentence. Add these words to your family word collector.

3. Encourage your child to find interesting words when watching TV or in daily conversation. When tuning in to an interesting word, help your child understand the word and then add it to the family word collector.

4. As always, modeling is a wonderful way to spark interest in children. When you are reading a magazine, newspaper, or book, tune into an interesting word and discuss it with your child. Explain that even adult readers tune into interesting words to better understand text.

Thank you for your continued support at home!

- Ideas and strategies are taken from: The CAFE Book, written by Gail Boushey & Joan Moser
- Written by: Allison Behne ©www.thedailycafe.com
Second Hand Clothing Sale

This Friday, 24th and Friday 31st July.
2.30pm to 3.20pm
In the Portable behind the Foundation building.

All items $2
Heaps of Windcheaters and Jackets in sizes from Foundation to Grade 6.
Some dresses, shorts and pants also available.

KPS Grade 2
Gardening Club

Hola, Hello. We are looking forward to great term 3 in garden club making some beautiful art for our school and gardens.
We will have a focus on reuse and upcycling. We are seeking donations of coloured tiles, outdoor water based paint, ribbon, pavers, metal watering cans, terracotta pots, wire baskets and chicken wire.
If you are free on a Wednesday afternoon at 2:20pm we would love some help. Even if you can only make one or two sessions it would be much appreciated.
(Grade 2 clubs will be on a two week rotation, and you will need your Working With Children Check).
We look forward to displaying the kids beautiful creations.
From the Grade 2 Teaching Staff and Helpers.
It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true. The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That’s not a reason to be away!

It’s now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling’s birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

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