2J In The Spotlight

As part of our Inquiry Unit, 2J are turning some of their room into a Forest.

Moniquea: Today I was making an Owl to put up in our forest.

Ashley: Today I was making a Grey Kangaroo with a plastic cup.

Darcy: Today I was making a Red Belly Black Snake, because they are my favourite reptile.
From the Principal’s Desk…
Welcome to Week 7 – Term 1

I hope you all enjoyed your long weekend and were able to use the extra leisure time productively. It is hard to believe that term one is almost over. As I reflect on the term, I must say that it has been a wonderful start to what I anticipate will be a very productive and rewarding year on many fronts. Tomorrow and most of next week teachers, will have the opportunity to do some of their team planning in preparation for term two. The planning days are a crucial element of ensuring the best and most targeted learning opportunities for all of our students.

Our student leadership team are off to Seymour College tomorrow afternoon for the first of their cluster leadership program sessions. This program has been running in our cluster for several years now and provides valuable opportunities for our students to develop their leadership skills and broaden their interactions with students from other school settings. I know they will represent our school well and I encourage them to make the most of this experience.

We had our Annual General Meeting and first School Council meeting for 2016 last night. I would like to introduce the council:

Chairperson: Kim Laffan
President: David MacBean
Vice President: Liza Whitfield
Minutes Secretary: Tracey Crane
Correspondence Secretary: Kristy Brooks
Members: Jennene Cooney, Carolyn Crowther, Jillian Patford, Julie McCarthy, Kylie Rogers, Rachel Keep-Riley, Russell Edwards

This team will be working hard all year to ensure that Kilmore PS is supported in its quest to be the best learning environment it can be. I thank you in anticipation of your support for them and encourage you to use these people as an avenue for you to have input into the decision making processes.

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the ratified Homework Policy for KPS. This policy is the product of feedback from the community during the review last year, input from staff and guidance from the Department policy. Our policy reflects the Department guidelines. If at any time you have concerns about the homework please discuss them with your teacher. I have included below an excerpt from the Department guidelines to help understand the key issues around homework.

Value of homework

Homework helps students by:
complementing and reinforcing classroom learning
fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning
developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection and time management
supporting partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children

Quality practice

It is not necessary to assign large amounts of homework; however it is important that homework provides students with opportunities to practice skills, review content and deepen understanding of concepts learned. Homework and practice can also help students to develop self-regulation processes, such as time management and study skills.

I look forward to catching up with many of our Foundation students’ parents/carers at tomorrow’s morning tea. Please come along and have a chat, listen to others and ask any questions that you may have.

On count down now…only six more getups!!!!

Kim Laffan
Principal

Kids Matter
Mental Health Initiative
CONGRATULATIONS ON A WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENT

First three students in 1V to achieve 25 nights home reading

Riley, Tyler and Maddison.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthday in the coming week. We hope you have a lovely day.

March

16 Zoe 45B
   Yesha 4W

17 Mia 2C
   Nicholas 45B

18 Bella 3M

19 Hannah 1G
   Nate 1V
   Jess 6B
   Cohen 6B

20 Shayla 2J

21 Tyla 2J
   Eliza 2J

2016 School Term Dates

Term 1: 27 January to 24 March
Term 2: 11 April to 24 June
Term 3: 11 July to 16 September
Term 4: 3 October to 20 December
From the Artroom

It has been an exciting start to the year in the art room, with all grade levels again attending art sessions for an hour each week. Foundation students have been getting to know the art room processes, while experimenting with lines and exploring mixing primary colours to create secondary colours in paint. Students in years one and two have developed their knowledge of landscapes by using viewfinders to isolate a specific point on the horizon, before sketching what they saw. They followed this process by learning the technique of crushing rocks to create homemade paint, which they then used to complete their individual landscape paintings. The work of Picasso was the next motivation for year one students, who produced their own Picasso inspired portraits focusing on shape and colour.

Year three and four students have built their knowledge of shading techniques and have learnt that accuracy plays a vital role in creating three dimensional drawings and optical illusion artworks. They have also had the opportunity to develop their observational drawing skills, while using charcoal to create still life drawings which look closely at shape, shading and shadow. Students in years five and six have been working hard to produce self-portraits this term, beginning with understanding the measurements of the face and focusing closely on features such as the eyes, before putting all the elements together and adding shading and personal details. I am sure you will be extremely proud their efforts when you see the final products!

It is our hope that we will be able to showcase the students’ work in a whole school art show later in the year and will give you more details in coming weeks.

In the meantime, please feel free to drop by the art room and see what we are up to!

Kind Regards, Mrs Dixon & Mrs Lewis.
Easter Parade

The SRC proudly presents the Easter Parade,

24th March 2016. 9 am

Wear your Easter Hat or Costume and take part in the parade or come in casual clothes.

Gold coin donation required.

All proceeds to go to the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal

"La comida"

Grade 1’s having fun with Señorita Molina learning about food and the use of articles El & La.

Be Sunsmart

A reminder to students to bring their hat every day during Term 1.

Student Banking

School Banking Day is Tuesday. Bring your deposit books to the office.

Manners matter

This weeks focus

Kind, Proud and Safe at all times

I Give Compliments

Grade 1’s having fun with Señorita Molina learning about food and the use of articles El & La.
We are excited to announce that we are holding an Easter Raffle this year.

We are asking that families please donate 1 item each, to help make up the prizes.

There is a box located in the foyer of the office to place donated items.

The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday, 23rd March.

Tickets will be available to purchase, for $1 each, from the picnic tables on Tuesdays & Thursdays between 2.45pm - 3.30pm, from Thursday 10th March.

Grab a ticket or two for your chance to win some Easter goodies!

Thank you for your support,

……….KPS Fundraising Committee.
Have you applied for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF)?

Parents are reminded that if you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the CSEF. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. The annual CSEF amount per student is $125 for primary school students and $225 for secondary school students.

How To Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the CSEF website. Applications close 3 June 2016.

Further Information
For more information please see www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

This Friday students in Foundation to Grade 4 will be participating in the National Day of Action against Bullying.

Students will gather in the hall after recess at 11:20am for presentations by our SRC’s and our Education Department School Support Officer, Sharon Blackwell. This will be followed by lessons in the classrooms covering topics on how to recognise bullying, how people feel when they are bullied, what are the differences between bullying & arguing (fighting) with someone, activating bystanders to take safe and sensible action and using friendly, appropriate language.

All classes from Foundation – Grade 6 will contribute to a banner displaying a Bullying No Way – Take a Stand message which will hang along the Lancefield Road fence.

Parents are invited to attend our special assembly at 11:20am on Friday and help with our banner display.

Julie McCarthy
Foundation Parents & Carers Forum

Sharon Blackwell School Support Officer for schools in our local network will be visiting Kilmore Primary School on **Thursday 17th March at 8:50am** to discuss any questions you may have and offer advice to parents and carers of Foundation students for 2016.

- Separation anxiety
- Friendships
- Morning routines
- Social interactions
- Discuss issues & concerns
- Share experiences

This is a good opportunity to meet for a coffee and chat with other parents of your child’s new contemporaries and friends and have some of your questions or concerns answered.

WHERE: Stadium foyer  
WHEN: Thursday 17th March 2016  
TIME: 8:50am  

All welcome!

**OSHC**

This term has just flown by. We have had the pleasure of Paul Weatherly, from Blizzard Martial Arts come in to teach the children a few skills. We have also seen the Men's Shed from Kilmore volunteer some time to teach the students at Kilmore some woodworking skills. They will also be visiting Wandong next term. We would like to wish all of our families a very Happy Easter and hope you have a relaxing Holiday. Just remember that the Early Bird Special for the Holiday Program ends on the 23rd March.

For bookings please go to the website. [www.kilmoreoshc.com](http://www.kilmoreoshc.com) or [www.wandongoshc.com.au](http://www.wandongoshc.com.au)

**Special Thanks to..**

OZ TenPin Bowling Epping  
and  
Woolworths Wallan  
who kindly donated to our fundraising raffle
HOMEWORK CLUB

Did you know Kilmore Primary has a Homework Club for students in Grades 3-6?

This year Homework Club will run every Tuesday afternoon from 3.10pm-4.15pm in the school library.

This a great opportunity to:
- work with a teacher
- work with other students
- use the resources of the library
- complete homework set by teachers
- practice timetables, spelling or reading
- or get some extra help with a project or subject area

To join the homework club email kilmore.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au and leave your name and parent contact number or complete the tear off slip below.

Mrs McCarthy

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

KPS HOMEWORK CLUB

for students in Grades 3-6

Tuesdays from 3.10pm - 4.15pm in the school library

I give permission for my child/children to attend the KPS Homework Club.

Name: __________________________ Grade: __________

Name: __________________________ Grade: __________

Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________ Contact Phone No.: __________________________

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

SICK BAY LINEN ROSTER - HELP NEEDED

Each year we ask if parents are able to assist in the washing and changing of the linen in our sick bay. In most cases this means 2 or 3 times a year. If you are able to help out please return this form to the office by 23rd March. A roster will be distributed shortly after that.

Name: __________________________ Contact Phone Number: __________________________

Child’s Name: __________________________ Child’s Class: _________
Kilmore Primary School Homework Policy

We at Kilmore Primary School are committed to the development of lifelong learners in a dynamic learning environment where every child can be confident, successful and challenged in their learning.

Rationale:
Benefits the students by complementing classroom learning through reinforcement, revision and the extension of school based activities.
Contributes to the growth of sound habits and to the student’s overall development.
Provides an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.
Encourages a positive relationship between home and school where parents can be involved in their children’s education.

Aims:
To be explicitly linked to classroom programs.
To support and extend classroom learning.
To develop positive study habits.
To develop independence and responsibility for their self-learning.

Implementation:
Teachers will inform parents at the start of the year or when necessary homework procedures and expectations (such as when homework will be issued and due), through information sessions and detailed explanation sheets.
Classroom teachers will set homework appropriate to each child’s skill level and age.
Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum. All homework activities must be corrected with feedback and support provided by teachers.
Homework will include an area or opportunity for parents to provide comments or feedback.
Unfinished classroom activities may be assigned as homework tasks and teachers will notify parents if this is the circumstance.

Foundation:
Homework will consist mainly of:
Daily reading/reading activities (minimum of five days a week)
Spelling words and numeracy will be a component of the homework expectations when appropriate.
Homework tasks will be differentiated for various ability levels where practical and appropriate.
Home reading will be a minimum of 10 minutes per day and will not be set during vacation periods. Home reading will be encouraged throughout the holiday periods.

Grade 1 and 2:
Homework will consist mainly of:
Daily reading/reading activities (minimum of five days a week)
Spelling words and numeracy will be a component of the homework expectations when appropriate.
Occasional simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.
Homework tasks will be differentiated for various ability levels where practical and appropriate.
Home reading will be a minimum of 15 minutes per day and will not be set during vacation periods.
Home reading will be encouraged throughout the holiday periods. Independent reading on a daily basis (minimum of five days a week)
Completion of research tasks may be set.
Grade 3 and 4:
Homework will consist mainly of:
Independent reading on a daily basis (minimum of five days a week)
Completion of research tasks may be set.
It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.
All homework will involve a literacy and numeracy component and may include inquiry and technology work related to the current theme.
Homework tasks will be differentiated for various ability levels where practical and appropriate.
Optional extension tasks may be set for students who want additional challenges.
Homework, including reading, will be a minimum of 20 minutes per day of which ten minutes at least must be reading. It will not be set during vacation unless the child has failed to complete the set homework or classroom tasks during the term.
Processes for failing to meet homework requirements:
Students may be asked to complete homework during lunchtimes (maximum of 30 minutes)
Parents will be contacted if a student does not return homework satisfactorily more than twice in a term.

Grade 5 and 6:
Homework will consist mainly of:
Independent reading on a daily basis (minimum of five days a week)
Weekly homework tasks which will revise and consolidate class work
Completion of projects and/or research tasks may be set.
Optional extension tasks may be set for students who want additional challenges.
It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.
Homework tasks will be differentiated for various ability levels where practical and appropriate.
Homework, including reading, will be a minimum of 30 minutes per day of which ten minutes at least must be reading. It will not be set during vacation unless the child has failed to complete the set homework or classroom tasks during the term.
Processes for failing to meet homework requirements:
Students may be asked to complete homework during lunchtimes (maximum of 30 minutes)
Parents will be contacted if a student does not return homework satisfactorily more than twice in a term.

Guidelines for Parents:
Positive parent support is essential for a successful homework program. Homework on a regular basis should be actively encouraged.
Parents are asked to sign their child’s reader cover and/or homework before it is returned to school.
Parents should offer encouragement and help where appropriate and provide a quiet space for your child to work. It is essential that students themselves complete the work to the best of their ability.
Parents should contact their child’s teacher if they have any questions or concerns regarding homework or if their child has been unable to complete the assigned work.

Student Responsibilities:
Record details and due dates of homework in their diary or homework book.
Develop independent learning habits to complete homework on time and to an acceptable standard of neatness, content and presentation.
Ensure that a parent has checked and signed homework before it is handed in.

Evaluation:
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s policy review process.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in………March 2016
Homework reminder

………………………………. did not complete their set homework task this week. I have
ticked below which task was not completed.

I thank you in anticipation of your support in encouraging your child to complete and return
the work to school. Can you please sign and return this notice with your child’s completed
homework.

Thanking you.

☐ Reading  ☐ Numeracy  ☐ Spelling  ☐ Inquiry/research

Parent signature: ________________________       Date: ___________________

---

Homework reminder

………………………………. did not complete their set homework task this week. I have
ticked below which task was not completed.

I thank you in anticipation of your support in encouraging your child to complete and return
the work to school. Can you please sign and return this notice with your child’s completed
homework.

Thanking You.

☐ Reading  ☐ Numeracy  ☐ Spelling  ☐ Inquiry/research

Parent signature: ________________________       Date: ___________________

---

Homework reminder

………………………………. did not complete their set homework task this week. I have
ticked below which task was not completed.

I thank you in anticipation of your support in encouraging your child to complete and return
the work to school. Can you please sign and return this notice with your child’s completed
homework.

Thanking you.

☐ Reading  ☐ Numeracy  ☐ Spelling  ☐ Inquiry/research

Parent signature: ________________________       Date: ___________________
Unfinished school work notice

………………………………. did not complete their set school tasks this week even though they had an appropriate amount of time and support. I have spoken to them about how they could have made choices that would have enabled them to meet the expectations of the class so that they can improve next week. As a consequence they will need to complete this work at home.

I thank you in anticipation of your support in encouraging your child to complete and return the work to school. Can you please sign and return this notice with your child’s completed.

Thanking you.

To complete the work your child must:

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Parent signature: ________________________       Date: ___________________