Principal’s Report
A wonderful start to the 2013 school year
I am so proud of all students in our school for the impressive manner in which they have settled into their new classes and are now busy working on their 2013 learning programs. The transition our Kindergarten students have made to school life has been especially impressive. It was wonderful to see so many parents come along to our Meet the Teacher Evening last week. It was a fabulous opportunity to meet our staff and spend time with your child’s class teacher talking about their learning programs and classroom organisation for 2013. Please don’t hesitate throughout the year to meet with your child’s class teacher if you have any questions or concerns. From today Mr Luke Thompson has needed to take some extended leave for personal reasons and will be returning to us at Killara Public School on Monday 4 March – just in time for our Swimming Carnival! Ms Carol Seiffhart will be teaching 3/4T during this time.

Innovative programs inspire our gifted and talented students
At our Meet the Teacher Evening last week I briefly mentioned our 2013 School Improvement Targets in Literacy, Numeracy, Differentiated Learning and Indigenous Education. Our focus on Differentiated Learning has gotten off to a flying start thanks to the wonderful work of our Enrichment Teacher, Ms Sophie Honeybourne. Ms Honeybourne will be working in each classroom from Kindergarten to Year 6 throughout the year and this term will be working with K/1M, 1D, 1MC, 3B, 5W and 5/6H. The focus of this enrichment program is to team teach alongside classroom teachers providing an in-class enrichment and extension program across a variety of Key Learning Areas. An important component of this Target will be the implementation of our Gifted and Talented Policy. The first step towards the implementation of this document is the identification of our Gifted and Talented students. This week all staff participated in Professional Learning which focused on identifying gifted students and have begun the process of identification. Today an information brochure about Gifted and Talented programs at Killara was sent home. Next Wednesday, 27 February at 7pm, we will be holding an information session for parents about Gifted and Talented programs here at Killara. Please come along if you would like to learn more.

P&C Annual General Meeting
This evening is our Annual General Meeting for our Parents & Citizens Association which begins at 7:30pm in the PAC. I would particularly like to extend an invitation to new parents to come along and find out what is happening at school and learn about ways you can be involved in supporting your child.
Killara Legobots Compete At National FLL Finals
On Sunday 24 February our 2012 First Lego League team, the Killara Legobots, will be competing in the National Finals at Macquarie University. Mrs Wurth and Mr Hart have been working with the team to fine-tune their programs and presentations for the big day. I wish our Legobots luck for this event and look forward to cheering them on. Our first Killara Café for the year will be held this Friday, 22 February, under the trees near the play equipment. I look forward to seeing you at the cafe!

Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal

1/2R Celebrates Chinese New Year!

Last Tuesday Helen Feng (Jade’s mum) came to visit 1/2R to celebrate Chinese New Year. First Helen read a story about the reason why certain animals are in the Chinese Zodiac Calendar. The story told us that the animals took part in a race and the winning animals were selected in the order they appear on the calendar.

Next we practiced speaking Chinese by saying the names of the twelve zodiac animals.

After that, we looked at photos and ornaments of significant Chinese landmarks, events and objects including Terracotta Warriors, intricate paper cutting and Chinese Opera characters. We even got to dress up in some traditional Chinese costumes.

Finally we decorated some beautiful snakes to represent the Year of the Snake.

1/2R and Mrs Renwick would like to thank Helen for taking the time to come and visit our class and teach us some interesting information about Chinese culture.

Julie Renwick
1/2R Classroom Teacher
Meet our 2013 School Captains
School Captain – Molly Dixon and Stuart Paine

My name is Stuart Paine. I was born in Victoria, Melbourne. I live in Killara with my mum, dad and sister. I was elected for school captain for 2013. I share interests in different types of sports; high jump, running, soccer and basketball. I’m a fan of dance and I participated in the 2012 5/6 Dance Group. I was also in Drama for 2012 my part was Prince Percy, and the play was called Prince Percy of Pillara. I attended zone in Year 4 and 5 for high jump, long jump and the 100m sprint. I’m helping Killara in any way I can, the school is already amazing but I just want to help some shy kids into having a bright and fantastic future, really I want to help everyone in any way I can. I want to represent this school the best way!

Hi everyone! My name’s Molly Dixon, I’m one of the school captains, and am looking forward to a great year with you all at KPS. I’ve had fun meeting some of the new kids, especially the little kindys, in the playground and can’t wait to get to know you all better. So what’s there to know about me? I’m almost 12, am mad about netball and love to cook Pavlova. Scouts is one of my favourite out of school activities. I spent two weeks on camp at the Australian Jamboree in Queensland during the school holidays – it was an adventure! What I love most about KPS is all the kids are friends with each other. I love nothing more than saying hi to younger students in the playground or even when we are out at the local shops. My goal this first semester is to see if I can learn everyone in the school’s name...wish me luck!

Library News
Calling all parents–we need your help!!!!!!!!!!! The library has purchased an exciting range of new books for the students to read, but they need to be covered. Anyone with some spare time please see Mrs Roberts. You can either take the books home and cover them, or do them at school, which ever you would prefer. Why not organise a get together with a few friends and have a group covering session. Don’t worry if you haven’t done it before we will show you how.

Seasons For Growth
Seasons for Growth® is a small group program which focuses on Loss and Grief Education for young people. It aims to strengthen the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people (aged 6 - 18) who are dealing with significant loss or change including the death of a loved one, parental divorce or separation, the experience and aftermath of natural disaster and moving house or school as well as many other life changes and losses.

The program will start before the end of Term 1 and runs for 8 weeks with a celebration session before the end of Term 2. Students who participate will join a small group with Mrs Wurth once a week.

If you are interested in the program or would like to nominate your child, please contact the school with the name of your child, their class and a brief history of the change or loss involved.
On Tuesday the 12th of March we will be having a mufti and sausage sizzle fundraising event at KPS to raise money to enable a child in Cambodia to receive a life saving heart operation. The money raised will be donated to a charitable, non-profit organization called Operation Open Heart. Killara Public School will be the first official sponsor for a child to receive an operation with OOH.

Our target is to raise $1990, which is the estimate of how much it costs for a patient to receive life-changing surgery. The children can wear red on the day, symbolising the healthier heart this child will have after surgery. During the day and later on in the week during Library lessons, the children will be learning more about Cambodia and how OOH can help children whose families cannot afford the procedures due to them being inaccessible in that country. They will be writing cards and making heart craft activities to that child and other children who will be receiving heart procedures during that week in Cambodia. The children will also have the opportunity to make HEART CRAFT ACTIVITIES during lunchtime library sessions.

I will be joining this trip to Cambodia later on this month with OOH and feel very privileged and excited to be involved in this fantastic initiative. I will have many opportunities to meet the child that our school will be sponsoring, talk to them and their parents, take photographs and on return to KPS, feed back to the school how their fundraising has helped this child.

Last year, Chris the OOH official blogger wrote –“after a days operations at Angkor Hospital for Children in Siem Reap we provided the parents with colouring in books, crayons and balloons to help entertain their kids. They adore their gifts and the smiles are priceless as they spend hours playing with the most basic of toys. There are no Nintendos, PlayStations, or electronic games in sight!! Despite being stable, the kids are incredibly sore on arrival from ICU, however the best recovery techniques involve trying to get their bodies moving. Rebecca and team set up some
simple games that act as basic physio. This includes blowing bubbles into a small bottle of water through a hose and reaching up to softly hit balloons with their hands. These tasks are aimed at getting fluidity back into their chests.”

If you would like to donate any new pencils, pens, colouring in books, note pads, sticker books, etc. please drop them in to a box outside the library called OOH donations. The children are also welcome to make some hearts at home (badges, key rings, stickers, necklaces...) and bring them into me to give to the children receiving heart operations in Cambodia by March the 15th.

Thank you for your generous support.

Mrs Cathy Roberts
Librarian

News From HQ
Thank you to all the parents who have returned their school contributions and paperwork that was sent home last week. Please remember that you must return your Student Emergency Contact Detail Report whether you have changes or not. This will assist us if we have to contact you in an emergency.

We will be collecting clothing for Stewart House again this year. Our first collection is Thursday 28 February. Your child will receive a bag today. Don’t panic-if your child doesn’t receive a bag just use garbage bags. Please return to the school office.

Please remember when dropping off or collecting your children from school you must not park in a bus stop. A neighbour has advised us that parents are parking in the bus stop on Calvert Ave, this is a “no parking zone”. Please be aware that hefty penalties apply. For further details see the RTA website.

St Ives High School
St Ives High School is holding a Gifted and Talented Assessment Test on Friday 22 March 2013. Applications are available at www.sihs.nsw.edu.au, no applications will be accepted after Wednesday 13 March 2013.
Blame Their Brain:
Why Our Children Do What They Do!
FREE PARENT PRESENTATION – Thursday 14 March 2013
7pm - 8pm in the Kerrabee Centre at Killara High School

Have you ever wondered why your children act and behave the way they do? Have you marvelled at the stages of development you have witnessed and simultaneously felt bewildered by that very journey of growth and maturation? This presentation for parents unlocks some of the mysteries of the development of the mind from birth through adolescence by examining the developing brain and shedding light on why children and teenagers may act the way they do. A look at neurological development also gives parents an avenue for understanding a range of developmental inevitabilities including the importance of just saying ‘no’ to a toddler and the understanding why adolescents seem to have difficulty explaining their actions when doing the ‘wrong’ thing or indeed why they are, at times, seemingly incapable of responsible decision making. The evening’s presentation will look at those ideas with a focus on contemporary research into how your child’s brain develops, how boys and girls brains may differ and what this might mean for parenting in the 21st century.

Dr Michael Nagel is an Associate Professor in the School of Science in Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast where he teaches and researches in the areas of cognition, behaviour and learning and human development and early learning. He obtained his PhD from the Queensland University of Technology, has written a number of books related to neurological development in children and has delivered over 200 workshops and seminars for parents and teachers nationally and internationally. His most prominent books have all been heralded as excellent and practical blends of neuroscience, psychology and education for parents and teachers alike and will soon be complemented with “In The Middle: The Adolescent Brain, Behaviour and Learning”.

Our community of schools group including Killara High School and the local primary schools of Beaumont Road, Killara, Gordon East, Lindfield, Lindfield East and Roseville invite you to attend this once off presentation. Our community of schools have funded this presentation so there is no cost to parents to attend.

To secure your place at the evening, please return the acceptance form below to your school by Thursday 7 March, 2013 or email the contact listed below.

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FREE PARENT PRESENTATION ACCEPTANCE
I would be delighted to attend the Free Parent Presentation by Michael Nagel on Thursday 14 March 2013.

Name: _______________________________ Number attending: ________________
Child(ren): _______________________________ Class(es): ____________________
Email contact: ___________________________________________________________________
Or confirm your participation by email to: Killara-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Certificate Of Merit
The following student has received their Certificate Of Merit for achieving 5 Merit Awards at Assembly: Raydon M from 1/2R.

Term 1 Week 2

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>Chloe B, Benjamin H</td>
<td>3/4T</td>
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<tr>
<td>KR</td>
<td>Yasmin P, Jack M</td>
<td>4B</td>
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<tr>
<td>K1/M</td>
<td>Gerrard L, Julia L</td>
<td>5W</td>
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<tr>
<td>1M/C</td>
<td>Louie T, Nadine W</td>
<td>5/6H</td>
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<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Lily L, Sascha T</td>
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<td>1/2R</td>
<td>Nicole X, Raydon M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Claudia H, Nicolas L</td>
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<td>Portia S, Jaehyun</td>
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Term 1 Week 3

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<td>Abigail J, Nathan Z</td>
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<td>K1/M</td>
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<td>3B</td>
<td>Madison W, Genevieve M</td>
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Special Achievements
Congratulations to Michael G (3/4T) who won first place in the High Jump at the Regional Little Athletics Competition. He jumped 1.16m. Well done Michael!

Up And Coming Events

- 20 Feb - P & C AGM 7:30pm in PAC
- 22 Feb - Killara Café 3:15pm
- 27 Feb - Gifted and Talented Parent Info Evening 7pm in hall
- 4 Mar - Swimming Carnival
- 7 Mar - Zone Swimming Carnival
- 14 Mar - Killara Schools Partnership Parent Evening
- 18 Mar - Area Swimming Carnival
- 19 Mar - OZ Opera
- 20 Mar - P & C Meeting
- 21 Mar - Harmony Day
- 22 Mar - Seniors Week Assembly
- 25 Mar - Stage 2 Camp (25/3 to 27/3)
- 28 Mar - Easter Hat Parade
- 4 Apr - Parent/Teacher Interview
- 12 Apr - Anzac Day Assembly

For more important dates our school calendar can be found on our website.