Principal’s Message

Welcome Kindergarten 2013

Monday was the highly anticipated first day of school for our kindergarten students. Our new students were eager to begin their educational journey. The students are already delighting their teachers with their love of learning and eagerness for school. As a cohort they have had a particularly settled start and we are looking forward to watching them blossom over the next 7 years at Killara! A big thank you to the P&C for organising a welcoming morning tea for our Kindergarten parents on Tuesday morning – it was delicious!

Stage Coordinators

The Stage Coordinators for this year are:
Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 (Yrs K-2) – Miss Julie Renwick (R/Assistant Principal)
Stages 2 (Yrs 3-4) – Mrs Helene Brunker (Assistant Principal)
Stage 3 (Yrs 5-6) – Mrs Kate Wurth (Assistant Principal)

The Stage Coordinator is responsible for leading and managing their year groups including the teaching and learning programs and the pastoral care of students. If parents have any concerns about their child they are encouraged to see the class teacher first and/or the Stage Coordinator. My door is always open if you need to speak to me; please do not hesitate to make an appointment at the office. A full list of staff for 2013 is included in this newsletter.

Parent Information Evening Wednesday 13 February

Our teachers are looking forward to meeting with you next week at our Parent Information Evenings. The purpose of this evening is to inform you of the proposed programs and routines that will be relevant to you and your child this year. Items on the agenda include teaching and learning programs, Term 1 events, homework, communication channels and question time. Please see the note that went home today regarding this event.

Killara Kids Out of School Care has again kindly offered to open on the Parent Information Evening for those parents needing child supervision. KK will open between 7:00pm and 9:00pm on the evening and the cost will be $5:00 per child per session. If you want to put your children into Killara Kids on this evening please notify Virginia at killara.kids@bigpond.com or drop into Killara Kids by Monday 11 February so they can arrange staff for Wednesday evening.

P&C AGM Wednesday 20 February

The Annual General Meeting for the Killara Public School P&C will take place on the 20 February. As has occurred in the past, all of the current executive will be standing down and new members will be elected. There are many opportunities both big and small for parents to become involved in the school. Please support the school by attending this meeting.
Communication our priority in 2013
During Term 4 I sent home our annual school evaluation surveys and I was delighted with the number of parents who took the time to respond. A key issue that was highlighted in these responses were families who felt that communication between school and home could be improved. As a result of this feedback communication will be a key priority in 2013. A number of new initiatives will be introduced to enhance our communication:

- Our new look website went live during the holidays. If you haven’t seen it yet then please take a look. All notes and newsletters are available on the website for you to download and each grade has its own page for news.
- Later this week your child will bring home their Grade Newsletter for Term 1. These newsletters will have information about term learning programs, excursions and events specific for each grade.
- Improved email communication will be used for reminders about school events. Please make sure the office has your best email address to contact you.
- Tonight we will be holding our first information night specifically for new families to Killara Public School. The purpose of this evening is to ensure a smooth transition to our school community.
- As in 2012, Parent Forums will be run throughout the year to provide you with an opportunity to understand our teaching and learning programs here at Killara.

KPS Sports Uniform Days 2013
I have had a lot of queries about which days students should be wearing their sports uniforms. Details of class programs will be going home in our class newsletters later this week but in general all students in Kindergarten to Year 2 should wear their sports uniform on a Thursday and all students in Year 3 to Year 6 should wear their sports uniform on a Friday. Class Sport days are as follows:

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A safe start to the year at Killara
As a new year begins I ask that you take some time to reflect and act on the following points to help keep all of our students safe around our school.

- Students must not be left unsupervised before 8:45am and after 3:15pm.
- If your child is coming to and/or from school by car please ensure they are dropped off and picked up safely in the appropriate areas outside the school. The drop off zone is not a place to park your car.
- Please take the time to revise road safety behaviour with your child. This includes crossing streets, getting in and out of cars safely, using traffic lights and crossings.
- When you walk onto the school grounds and when you are leaving please shut the pedestrian gate each time. Do not walk through the car park.
- Please take the time to revise stranger danger messages with your child. This includes what they should say and do if approached by an adult who makes them feel uncomfortable.
- If you are spending time at school please go to the office and pick up a visitors badge and return it to the office before leaving.
- Please ensure that every day at school your child has protective clothing of a hat and raincoat.

News From HQ
This paper based newsletter is the only hardcopy you will receive for the year. This newsletter will also be placed on the new website www.killara-p.schools.nsw.edu.au and emailed to individual families. Please check that you have received your email copy and contact the office if you have any problems with the electronic version.
• Mrs Unity Taylor-Hill: Principal
• Miss Julie Renwick: R/Assistant Principal
• Mrs Kate Wurth: Assistant Principal
• Mrs Helene Brunker: Assistant Principal

• Miss Nicole Mooney: K/1M
• Ms Victoria Rampton: KR
• Ms Ella Holland: KH
• Mrs Helen MacDonald & Mrs Ruth Collett : 1MC
• Miss Katherine Dean: 1D
• Mrs Donna Carruthers: 2C
• Mrs Julie Renwick: 1/2R
• Mrs Cathy Bodegraven: 3B
• Mr Luke Thompson: 3/4T
• Mrs Helene Brunker: 4B
• Mrs Kate Wurth: 5W
• Mr Jeremy Hart: 5/6H
• Mrs Elena Mammarella: 6M

• Mrs Cathy Roberts: Library
• Mrs Jenny Whiteman: Music
• Mr An Nguyen: Physical Education
• Mrs Sue Salter: Learning & Support Teacher
• Miss Maree Somerville: English Second Language
• Ms Sophie Honeybourne: Enrichment
• Ms Vashti Casey: School Counsellor

• Mrs Margaret Quick: School Admin Manager
• Mrs Wendy Bright: School Admin Officer
• Mrs Carol Burley: Library Assistant
• Mr Paul Nolan: General Assistant
• Miss Jennifer Salinas : Teachers' Aide