Welcome back to Killara for Term 2. I trust that you and your children all had a great holiday and were able to spend time with family and friends. This term is only a nine week term so I’m sure it will be a very busy couple of months. All teachers are currently working in grade teams on assessing your children in all Key Learning Areas as information is gathered as part of our Semester 1 Assessment and Reporting process. Semester 1 reports are due to go home in Week 9 and will provide you with information on how your child is progressing towards the achievement of stage outcomes in all Key Learning Areas. Grade newsletters were sent home on Monday giving you an insight into the focus of your child’s teaching and learning programs this term. This term we will see the implementation of a new programming strategy for our Unit of Inquiry topics. Units Of Inquiry this term were planned collaboratively in grade teams during Term 2 planning days at the end of Term 1. Units of work were written collaboratively with our Gifted and Talented Enrichment Teacher, Ms Sophie Honeybourne, our Learning and Support Teacher, Mrs Sue Salter and our English as a Second Language Teacher, Miss Maree Somerville. This collaboration has led to the creation of units which have student-centred differentiation built into the program to provide for the diverse learning needs within every classroom.

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.
NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.
An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers.

Year 5 2014 OC Placement Test
Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is opportunity class placement which provides intellectual stimulation and an educationally enriched environment for gifted and talented students.
Offers for opportunity class placement will be made on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 24 July 2013. If you have a child in Year 4 and would like to apply for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2014 on behalf of your child, you need to apply online at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement or complete a printed application and return it to the school office by 17 May 2013.
Creativity in the Digital Classroom

Last Thursday seven classroom teachers participated in a professional learning course which focused on creativity and digital storytelling. Our participation in the program is part of our work on the Connected Communities 21 Century Project which focuses on the relationship between technology use and teacher professional learning that allow the effective integration of the general capabilities in ICT and creative thinking. Our project focus at Killara is on digital storytelling. Teachers participating in the project will work in pairs throughout Term 2 in classrooms on using iPad technology with students to collaboratively develop creative digital stories. I am looking forward to the project kicking off in classrooms over the next few weeks and sharing the digital stories with you all.

With such a busy time ahead of us please keep up to date with events on our school calendar on the school website. Finally good luck to all our runners in the Cross Country Carnival tomorrow and I would like to wish all our mothers a very happy Mother's Day for this Sunday.

Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal

What’s up in 3/4T?

There has been lots of goings on in the 3/4T classroom throughout this year already. A real highlight being the week away at the Great Aussie Bush Camp last term. An awesome time was had by all.

We have learnt all about our councils and the services they provide to their local communities. We held ‘mini-elections’ in class and crowned our class Mayors. The Stage 2 skills program also saw the students learning new soccer and hockey skills.

The public speaking competitions were a great success revealing some very talented speakers. The school finals are fast approaching and the 3/4T finalists, Blair and Mia, have been attending workshops with Miss Mooney in preparation for the big event. We are all looking forward to supporting all the finalists in Week 4.

This term 3/4T has begun to explore the relationship between the sun, the moon and the Earth. This unit entitled ‘Cycles of Change’ has already evoked some excellent thinking. Excited learners are everywhere in 3/4T, which makes their teacher just as excited! Our first lessons surrounded the location of the sun, moon and the earth. We also considered the relative size in comparison. The student’s first task was to discuss between themselves how they might represent this information using all the class members. Here is their first attempt.

We found after the first attempt that the size of the sun, moon and Earth was too large. We then proceeded to try and fix it.

On the second attempt the class was getting closer to the right sizes. The sun was now larger, the moon was smaller, as was the Earth. But we all agreed there was still some changes to make.

Aaaahah! Bingo! Now this looks much better. The moon is much smaller than Earth, and the sun is huge in comparison to the Earth. The students were amazed by the relative size differences and are now keen to research more on the subject.
A very exciting term of learning is ahead for 3/4T. If you think the students are excited, you should see their teacher!

**Luke Thompson**  
**Classroom Teacher**

**News from HQ**  
If you are looking for a lost or misplaced note please visit our website, as all notes can be found under “Notes and Forms” and then in the relevant section.

This Monday you received your **Term 2 Invoice** for fees. Please make payments promptly and ensure that if your child has been selected to play in PSSA netball or soccer for the school that you include this with your payment.

**What’s happening at Killara High School?**

In years past you may have read an occasional article in your primary school’s newsletter entitled *What’s Happening at Killara HS?* in which we’ve highlighted the achievements of students once enrolled at your primary school and now doing great things at Killara HS.

We value the relationship with our local primary schools and their families. Hearing of the achievements of young people as they grow up, young people that you may have known from an early age, is a lovely aspect of being part of a local community. We want to help you to ‘keep in touch’ as well as let you know of good things happening at your local public high school.

On this occasion I write to provide you an update on other developments at Killara HS and some background information. The much anticipated construction of new permanent accommodation is about to commence. Richard Crookes Constructions (RCC) has been awarded the contract to complete this NSW Department of Education and Communities major capital works project. Block G, comprising Technological and Applied Studies and Creative Arts learning facilities, will be a prominent feature of the school site as you drive along Koola Avenue. The major capital works project also includes refurbishment of learning facilities in Block B.

The Killara High School P&C Association is supplementing this work with significant technology enhancements to the new learning spaces in Block G and additional refurbishments in Block B at a cost approaching $200 000.

Over the April school holiday seven demountable buildings were moved onto the school’s Jubilee Oval in order to make way for the construction of the permanent facility. On completion of Block G it is anticipated that a number of these demountable buildings will be removed and as a consequence the Jubilee Oval and adjacent grounds will again be available to students. Two additional demountable classrooms were also placed on site because of recent increases in enrolments.

Increases in enrolments?

I realise that there are some in the community who believe that the enrolment increases and resultant accommodation issues at this school are a product of mismanagement on the part of the school. It is an assumption easily made without knowledge of the mandatory Departmental enrolment policy with which the school must comply. Many are probably unaware that a comprehensive co-educational high school must accept the enrolment of any student who lives within the school’s designated local area. In other words, this school can never hang out the ‘No Vacancy’ shingle, unlike selective and single sex high schools or non-government schools.

There is a good reason for such a policy. It guarantees every student in this state an enrolment place at his or her local school. But when there is a confluence of a strong school reputation, a high demand for places and new residential construction in the local area, enrolments grow.
Killara has accepted very few non-local enrolments to Killara HS since 2007. This year 94% of our 225 Year 7 students enrolled as local students. There are specific circumstances of non-local enrolment which the school accommodates, consistent with its published enrolment criteria, but in general Killara restricts enrolments to those from families who demonstrate local addresses. Evidence must be provided to confirm the legitimacy of local addresses. The school is rigorous in its administration of these enrolment requirements. An enrolment placement panel considers all non-local enrolment applications and, because of the relentless increases in local enrolments, usually declines them. A parent representative is a member of this panel.

Despite what many may assume, schools and principals do not have authority to terminate enrolments because families change addresses. Killara High School manages enrolments consistent with the Department of Education and Communities Enrolment Policy. Staff invest large amounts of time in the careful and considerate management of all enrolment enquires and applications. The school receives more than 400 written applications for enrolment in Year 7 each year and responds to more than 1000 additional enrolment enquiries during the course of a year. This is equivalent to five enquiries every day the school office is open in a calendar year. The community can be confident that fairness, courtesy, and consistency guide the school’s enrolment practices and that these practices are consistent with Departmental policy.

Killara is a terrific school characterised by high expectations of all. It is a safe place to educate your daughters and your sons – together. It is certainly a big school and it may not be perfect, but it is filled with wonderful, happy and optimistic students who are served by dedicated, passionate and highly professional staff. One Mum put it this way, “… my daughter absolutely loves KHS and in her own words would rather "die" than move to another school!!!!!”

**Dr Mark Carter**  
**Principal**  
**Killara High School**

**Merit Awards**  
**Term 1 Week 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>KH</td>
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<td>2C</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jade D, Maxime A</td>
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When kids ask “the” questions . . .

Interrelate’s high quality sexuality and relationship education program is coming to your school! With more than 85 years' experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today over 35,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate.

Many parents find it hard to discuss or answer questions relating to sexuality education . . . We know how to ‘help break the ice’. Interrelate programs are interactive, family focused and presented in the context of caring relationships. Our fully trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics, conduct the program.

Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?”
1 hour – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
In this session children are eager to learn more about how their bodies work and the differences between males and females. This session extends their understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”
1 hour – Years 5 & 6
This session helps to prepare children and parents/caregivers for the physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty. Changing emotions and relationships with families and peers are addressed. Information is also presented on menstruation and wet dreams.

You and your child will benefit from the information presented in this program. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive. What parents have said about us:
“The educator has a great way of putting things simply”  “Provided me with a solid foundation”
“Covered areas I hadn’t thought of talking about”  “Entertaining and informative”

Interrelate SCHOOL SERVICES presents
A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM
FAMILY ADMISSION: 1 session $25 per family  •  2 sessions $30 per family
(cost to the school, inclusive of GST, is $27.50 and $33 respectively)

Where: KILLARA PUBLIC SCHOOL
When: Monday, 20th May 2013
Time: 6:00 pm SHARP (“Where Did I Come From?”)  7:15 pm (“Preparing for Puberty”)

Please Note: Speciality books are available for purchase on the night.

- - - - - Please complete and return to the school office, with payment in an envelope labelled with student’s name and class - - - - -

A SPECIAL EVENING PROGRAM

Name of Family: ...........................................................................................................................................................................................................

No. attending:  □ Session 1: “Where Did I Come From?”  □ Session 2: “Preparing for Puberty”

Amount enclosed: $ ............... □ Cash □ Cheque (please make cheques payable to school)

Tel: (02) 8882 7875  •  Fax: (02) 8882 7890  •  schoolservices@interrelate.org.au  •  www.interrelate.org.au

interrelate family centres  Strengthening Family Relationships...since 1926
Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin

Mandarin Language Club at Killara Public School for 2013!

The Mandarin Stars program offers:
- An engaging program that will inspire a love for learning Chinese.
- An immersion based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, Chinese songs, rhymes and games.
- The teaching of Chinese characters, reading, writing and Pin Yin.
- The discovery of Chinese history, culture, festivals, Calligraphy, Tai Chi and even Kung Fu!

Classes on Thursday afternoons
3:30pm – 4:00pm for K-2 Students
4:35pm – 5:35pm for Year 3-6 Students

CONTACT US TODAY AND BOOK A FREE TRIAL LESSON!
enrol@mandarinstars.com.au

www.mandarinstars.com.au

Up And Coming Events
9 May – Cross Country Carnival
10 May School Tour – Kindy 2014
14 May - NAPLAN
14 May - Cross Country Ribbons Assembly
14 May - Band Program Starts
15 May – NAPLAN
15 May - P & C Meeting (9:15am)
16 May – NAPLAN
17 May - PSSA Starts
20 May - Interrelate Family Program
22 May – 3-6 Multicultural Public Speaking Comp
23 May – Zone Cross Country Carnival
23 May - Public Speaking Competition
27- 30 May - Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
31 May – Reconciliation Week Assembly