Principal’s Report
Well done to our Year 3 and 5 students who have worked so hard last week completing the National Assessment Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. These diagnostic tests give us useful information about each child’s academic progress and reports will be available in September. Students in all years will receive written reports at the end of this term reporting on their progress and achievements. Please remember that we encourage parents to contact us at any time if you would like to discuss your child’s progress or have questions about their learning.

Our Very Own Archibald Finalist!
Congratulations to Alec L. who has been selected as one of the finalists of the Young Archie competition. His artwork is on display at the Art Gallery of NSW from 10 May to 2 June 2013 and features his father, a chef, at work in his restaurant in Chatswood.

Years 5 And 6 Out And About In Canberra
Stage 3 head off to Canberra next Monday to undertake activities to support their study of the concepts of Power and Influence. Students will have the opportunity to visit Parliament House, the National Gallery, the War Memorial and Questacon. I will be joining our Stage 3 students from Tuesday evening and am looking forward to a wonderful trip (although a little chilly!). I will be sending reports of our adventures back to school so look out for some emails during our time away.

Artist In Residence
In Week 6 Killara Public School will be hosting Margaret Adams, as part of an Artist in Residence program. Margaret Adams is considered to be one of the most esteemed Kamilaroi artists in the Moree community. In 2010 the artist received the title “Patron of the Moree Plains Cultural Art Foundation,” an honour held by only two other people. We will be transforming our Performing Arts Centre into an artist’s studio and each student will be painting alongside Aunty Marg to create their own canvas. These artworks will be displayed during Education Week early in Term 3.

Reconciliation Week
Next week is Reconciliation Week and the theme this year is 'Recognition'. National Reconciliation Week celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. The week-long celebration is an ideal opportunity for us to explore ways to join the national reconciliation effort. Each stage has been given a different aspect of recognition to focus on in classrooms. On Friday 31 May a special Reconciliation Week assembly will be held at 10am.

Finally this Friday is Walk Safely to School Day. It would be great to see as many families as possible participate in this event. We should all try to walk more often as it is an excellent form of physical activity as well as good for the environment. Healthy and active children live better, learn better and grow up to be more healthy and active adults.

Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal
What’s Happening In 3B?
Term 2 has already been busy in 3B. Last week all the students participated in the NAPLAN tests over three days. A celebration was had by all when the final test was completed.

This term our Unit of Inquiry is ‘Cycles of Change’. In this topic the students have been exploring the relationship between the Sun, the Moon and the Earth. They are all very enthusiastic and excited about the topic and have already begun to discover some amazing facts. We have looked at gravity and discussed what Earth might be like without it. The students had to choose a regular everyday item then make some adaptations to it so it would be useful in a place without gravity. They came up with some fantastic ideas and designs.

This week’s lessons are focusing on the Earth’s rotation and orbit around the sun. During one of our lessons the children had to go outside and demonstrate the difference between rotating and orbiting, using their bodies. Their second task was to then demonstrate how the Earth orbited the Sun while it was rotating. We had a few challenges but had lots of fun participating. Over the next three weeks the students will be observing the phases of the Moon each evening and recording their results for activities later this term.

Next week our class will begin to participate in a project called ‘Creativity in the Digital Classroom’. Our focus will be on digital storytelling where the students will have the opportunity to work in groups with their peers during our writing lessons to create a story. The students will plan and write their stories together and then use iPad technology to present them. We look forward to sharing the stories with you when they have been completed. Miss Mooney and I will be working collaboratively on this project with the class. There are lots of exciting things happening in our classroom this term so drop in to have a look at all our amazing work if you can.

Cathy Bodegraven
Classroom Teacher

Library Lessons Term 2
Kindergarten: Mem Fox author study focussing on the study of the land, location, animals and culture of the people in Australia through the books ‘Possum Magic’ and ‘Sail Away.’

Year 1: Jeannie Baker author study with an environmental focus, using the books ‘Window’ and ‘Where The Forest Meets The Sea.’

Year 2: Anthony Browne author study, focussing on human relationships and different emotions using the multi modal texts: ‘Silly Billy’ and ‘Voices In The Park.’

The 3-4 children are currently working on a research project called ‘Postcards from The Moon’ using their note taking skills learnt last term.

The 5–6 children are about to start lessons related to their new UOI on forces. In the library, they will be learning about how earthquakes are formed and analyse the types of waves produced by earthquakes, as well as interpreting seismograms with associated damages. They will also be researching different earthquakes around the world.

Borrowing
Please remind your child to bring their library bags! I am trying to promote them taking responsibility for bringing in their library bags as they help to protect our precious books. It still amuses me how many children continue to blame their parents for not remembering to pack
their library bags! After 2 weeks of borrowing, books become 'overdue'. Many children have received more than 10 overdue notices going back from last year. Could these books be returned as soon as possible or if they are lost, paid for. If you have any queries about overdue books, please do not hesitate to see me.

*Books may be renewed once, at the circulation desk.

**Returning**
Please return your books to the library in the mornings before school starts from 8:45am. House points are available to children who return their library books before school.

**Opening Hours are Wed - Fri 8:45- 3:15**
The library is open during the first half of lunchtime on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:10 – 1:30 for all students. There are books to read, fun activities related to different author studies, books to be made and games to play as well as using the library to research.

**The Premier's Reading Challenge**
These children’s reading records have been validated and they will be receiving a certificate at the end of the challenge. Many children are close to completing the challenge, which is fantastic. Keep up the great reading everyone! You have until the first of September to complete the challenge. If you are having any difficulties recording books on the PRC website please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Caring for your library books**
Please take care of library books and report any defects or damage to books so I can repair the book. Thank you for looking after our books!

**Help in the library**
Thank you to all the parents who covered books last term. We still have some books to cover and any help covering books would be much appreciated.

*Cathy Roberts  
Teacher librarian*
News from HQ
A reminder that Term 2 fees are now overdue. Please make payment as soon as possible.

KH Needs Donations Of Old Compost Bins And Tools
During Term 2 KH is going to start a composting program for Years K-2. We will be collecting the fruit and vegetable waste from the Sip and Crunch morning snacks and recycling it by making compost. The children will learn about how we can recycle food waste right here on the school grounds. The compost will be used to enrich the garden beds around the school. If you would like to donate an old compost bin (preferably with a lid) or composting turning tools that you no longer require, please contact Ms Holland.

Ella Holland
KH Classroom Teacher

Up And Coming Events
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