Principal’s Report
Grounds improvements

Our school environment should provide the school community a space that provides for the function of the school, but also creative and inspirational as well. It should be stimulating and inspiring, and a place that children, parents and staff feel excited to be coming into each day. During the recent school holidays a number of projects were completed that I believe have made a positive contribution to our school environment. The improvements to the front of the school have been completed and the upgrade has made a significant impact in making our school more welcoming. Our musical playground has also been completed. The musical playground has been a jointly funded project from the school, P&C and a Kuring-Gai Community Grant received in 2012. Mrs Whiteman is keen to get her musical fingers on the new instruments and it is a wonderful addition to our outside space here at Killara. Please feel free to come and sit on our sonic bench, have a spin of our rain wheel and give our chimes a go when you are next at the school.

Education Week
Next week we will be celebrating Education Week and all of the values and programs which make public education and in particular our school outstanding places of learning. I warmly welcome you to our Education Week events planned for next week.

| Open Classrooms | All parents and friends are invited into our classrooms to share in our work and achievements from 9:30 – 10:30am on Tuesday 30 July. This is a wonderful opportunity to see your children’s work. |
| Parent Forum ‘Appsolutely Amazing’ | On Wednesday evening at 7pm, Dr Kristy Goodwin has been invited to Killara Public School to speak to parents about the educational possibilities of iPads and practical tips for you as parents in using iPads at home with your children. I had the opportunity to attend a session with Dr Goodwin earlier this year and I was impressed with the practical nature of the presentation which has made a significant impact on me both as an educator and parent. If you wish to attend the session I ask that you complete the RSVP that was sent home last week (it can also be found on our school website). Killara Kids will be open on the evening if you require care for your children so that you are able to attend this forum. |
| Art Exhibition | Last term at Killara we were fortunate to welcome Margaret Adams to our school as part of an Artist in Residence Program. Aunty Margaret is considered to be one of the most esteemed Kamilaroi artists in the Moree community and it was a wonderful experience for all of our students. During Education Week an art exhibition will be on in the school hall showcasing all the student artwork that was completed as part of this program as well as share the artwork that Margaret Adams completed during her week here at Killara. The exhibition will include a technological component with QR codes |
accompanying each art work. The QR codes are links to recordings and reflections written by the students following their time with Aunty Margaret and will provide a wonderful insight into their artworks. Please make sure you have downloaded a QR Reader app onto your smartphone or tablet prior to coming to the exhibition so that you can listen to the students share their thoughts and ideas.

2014 Kindergarten Enrolments
The places we have available for students starting Kindergarten in 2014 are filling quickly. Our transition to school program begins on Wednesday 11 September with our Playgroup Session. This session will be the first opportunity for our Kindergarten 2014 students to meet each other and become familiar with our school environment. Invitations for the playgroup will be sent home shortly to all the children who have submitted an enrolment form. If you have a child or know of a family considering enrolling at Killara in 2014 please encourage them to contact the school as a matter of urgency to complete an enrolment form so that they can participate in our transition program.

Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal

Creative and Critical Thinking in 5W’s Classroom
5W have made a quick start to a busy term with some fantastic projects in the making. We have been using a variety of technologies to develop ideas, demonstrate knowledge and display the finished products.
We have enjoyed writing and creating digital stories using iPads and have come up with some very clever ideas for how to illustrate the story using drawings and photos, or sometimes a combination of both. Many of us particularly enjoyed recording our stories, using our best story-telling voice, complete with sound effects.
Meanwhile, with our scientist coats on, 5W have been working in groups to discover more about electric circuits. Our groups used role play to demonstrate an electric circuit, before using the batteries, light bulbs and wires to make a real circuit work.

Kate Wurth
5W Teacher

Seasons for Growth
Seasons for Growth® is a loss and grief education program. 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 second program for this year will be starting on Friday 9th July. The students meet each week for 8 weeks and the program will end with a celebration session during Term 4. Students who participate will join a small group with Mrs Wurth each Friday.
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.

**Kate Wurth**  
*Seasons Coordinator*

**ICAS – English**  
Parents are reminded that the ICAS English competition will be held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July, at 8:00am. A reminder note containing information about venues and supervising teachers will be handed out early next week to all students who are entered in this competition. Students will need to bring a 2B or B pencil and an eraser.

**Helene Brunker**  
*ICAS coordinator*

**School Photos**  
As part of the celebrations for our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, we will be having a whole school photo on the oval on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 9.30am. Students will need to wear their full winter school uniform. Boys must wear their ties. No sports clothes are to be worn on this day.  
Class groups and family group school photos will be taken on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August.  
Sports photographs will be taken on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August. Further information will follow shortly.

**Helen MacDonald**  
*School Photograph Coordinator*

**Garden Club**  
We are starting a Garden Club at KPS for interested students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The Garden Club will meet every Friday at lunchtime.  
The Garden Club will be re-developing the two existing garden beds near the oval. We have some very exciting projects (such as growing plants from seeds, making a school orchard, making origami newspaper pots) planned and look forward to your exciting ideas, too.  
If you would like to join our Garden Club, please come to Ms Holland’s KH classroom at 1.10pm this Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**Ella Holland, Helen MacDonald, Donna Carruthers and Ruth Collett**  
*Garden Club Coordinators*

**Maths Olympiad**  
Our second Maths Olympiad test was held on Monday 17th June. It was a very difficult paper and the students worked hard to solve the problems. Momoko, Grace, Harry, Thomas and Kevin scored 5 out of 5. Niamh, Joshua, Oscar, Calvin and Eric scored 4 out of 5. Well done to all students who participated. The next Maths Olympiad test will be on Monday 5th August at 8.30am sharp in 1MC classroom.

**Helen MacDonald and Ruth Collett**  
*Maths Olympiad Coordinators*
Premier Sporting Challenge
As with previous years KPS has registered to participate in the 2013 NSW Premier’s School Sport Challenge. The purpose of the challenge is to encourage students to participate in sport, games and physical activity and to be more active, more often!
Over the 10 weeks of this term, students will be recording their physical activity in a booklet which has been distributed to them.
K-2 tick the box in their booklet for a given day, when they have participated in any physical activity at some point in the day. Years 3-6 record their physical activity in 20 minute increments with the aim of achieving ‘diamond level’.

Please support our students in achieving the goal of participating in physical activity every day. If you have any queries about the program, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Kate Walker
PE Teacher
**Lost Property**
Our Lost Property basket is overflowing. If your child has lost any of their uniform please have a look in the basket on the veranda outside 3B. Please remember to label all of your child’s uniform so that we can return it them if found.

**McGrath Blanket Drive**
Just a reminder that the last day for the Blanket Drive is Wednesday 31 July. Please bring your blankets into the office in the plastic bag sent home last week.

**Stewart House**
You will be receiving Stewart House bags this Friday. Please place all your unwanted clothing in the bag and return it the office by Friday 2 August. Please note there are not enough bags for one per child so any bag will do.

**PSSA Selection Procedures**
Last term I received a query regarding the PSSA selection process at Killara. Schools in the North Shore Zone combine to form sporting competitions each Friday throughout the year. The Sydney North PSSA encourages schools to select teams that provide opportunities for all students with a focus on inclusiveness and sportsmanship. The Sydney North PSSA aims to hold a competition that encourages all students to participate in a fun and friendly atmosphere and aim to increase student confidence, skills and ability to work as a team while representing their school.

Here at Killara there are always more students wanting to participate in the PSSA competition than there are spaces available on teams and as such a selection process is required. This process requires the consideration of a number of factors. Each week the team is required to represent the school outside of school grounds and as a coach it is important that I take a team that I can trust will exhibit the behaviour that is required. Therefore, a major factor of team selection during the trials is the ability for students to behave in an appropriate manner.

Effort during the trials is also an important factor. Putting in 100% effort into every single task and following instructions is a good indicator that they will be a good team player. Consideration of individual skill is also essential in selecting a team. During the trials multiple opportunities are provided for students to display their skills through a range of pre-determined drills and activities.

Gender is also a small factor which is considered when selecting a team and this is part of the Sydney North PSSA focus on inclusiveness and opportunity for young children. Selecting a school-based team is a difficult process, it can also be difficult for students when announcing teams, much care and thought is put into letting students know about the decisions that have been made.

As a result of this query a selection criteria for team placement will accompany any correspondence regarding PSSA team trials in the future.

*Luke Thompson*
*PSSA Coordinator*
### Merit Awards

**Term 2 Week 8**

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<th>Term</th>
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<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>Abigail J, May S</td>
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<td>K1/M</td>
<td>Gerrard L, Alex K</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Daiju K, Liza K</td>
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<td>Lauren S, Ken L</td>
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<td>Adam S, George V</td>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Pika K, Harry C</td>
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<td>Joseph H, Jaiden L</td>
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**Term 2 Week 9**

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### Certificate Of Merit

The following students have received their Certificate Of Merit for achieving 5 Merit Awards at Assembly: Daiju K and Ryan M.

### Up And Coming Events

- **30 July** - Education Week Open Classrooms 9:30 – 10:30am
- **30 July** - Art Show 8:30am to 4pm
- **30 July** - Blanket Drive Finished for Smith Family
- **31 July** - Parent Presentation “Appsolutely Amazing” with Kirsty Goodwin 7pm
- **31 July** - Art Show 8:30am to 4pm and 6pm to 7pm
- **31 July** - ICAS English
- **1 Aug** - Art Show 8:30am to 4pm
- **2 Aug** - 1M/C and 1D Excursion to Muogamarra
- **6 Aug** - K1M and 5/6H Excursion to Muogamarra
- **7 Aug** - KH and 5W Excursion to Muogamarra
- **8 Aug** - 3-6 Athletics Carnival
- **12 Aug** - Stage 3 Incursion
- **12 Aug** - 5/6 Dance School Spectacular Audition
- **13 Aug** - Stage 3 SSO (Yr 6)
- **13 Aug** - ICAS – Maths
- **14 Aug** - Zone Athletics Carnival
- **14 Aug** - School Tour 10am
- **15 Aug** - K-2 Athletics Carnival 10am – 12pm