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. We are looking forward to a really exciting Term 2. It was great to discuss the exciting learning programs our teachers have planned for your children during our planning sessions as part of our Staff Development Day this term. In addition to a core focus on developing the literacy and numeracy skills of all of our students, there are some great units planned in Science, HSIE and Creative Arts. Grade term letters were sent home on Monday with detailed information regarding the learning programs for each class. These notes are available on our website.

I would like to warmly welcome back Ms Victoria Rampton from maternity leave. Ms Rampton will be working with students from Kindergarten to Year 6 in our Learning and Support Teacher role each Tuesday and Thursday for the remainder of the 2015 school year.

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 12, Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 May, students in Year 3 and Year 5 will take the 2015 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.

Opportunity Class Placements
Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2016 are required to submit an application by 15 May 2015. A note went home last week with all Year 4 students requesting that they notify the school of their intention to apply so that a school assessment score can be calculated. Parents will be able to apply for up to two schools of their choice on the application form. It is expected that parents will make appropriate decisions when choosing a school that is within reasonable travelling distance. Parents of students currently enrolled in a NSW public school should apply for opportunity class placement online by going to this internet website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Kindergarten 2016
Enrolments have opened for students wishing to enrol in Kindergarten in 2016 at Killara Public School. Information about Kindergarten 2016 at KPS can be accessed on our school website and our front office. This flyer includes details of school tours, playgroup session and our orientation program in Term 4. Children can enter Kindergarten if they turn five by 31 July 2016. Please let friends and neighbours know about this flyer and that enrolment forms are available at the school office.
Annual School Report and 2015 – 2017 School Plan
The 2014 Annual School Report and 2015-2017 School Plan will be available on our school website from 1 May. The Annual School Report is a comprehensive document which highlights all of our achievements in 2014. It also presents the evaluations and future priorities. The school plan is a detailed document which sets out our three key strategic directions over the next three years. I would encourage you to have a look at both of these documents and thank all of the staff and parents who had input into putting them together.

Mrs Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal

What’s happening in KD?
KD have enjoyed participating in all sorts of fun activities with their buddies from 6/5F.

They met once a week and to conclude Term 1 the buddies worked hard to create a story written especially for each student in KD. The stories included important lessons that linked to our PBEL values.

Katherine Dean
KD Classroom Teacher

ICAS Reminder
A reminder to parents of students in Years 2 - 6 that ICAS permission notes need to be returned by next Thursday 7th May. Please note that this is the absolute last date for returning your permission slip. Permission slips received after this date will not be processed.

Helene Brunker
ICAS co-ordinator
ANZAC Day assembly – Friday, 24th April

Last Friday, all students at Killara Public School attended a special assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day. The student leadership team led the assembly. The Vice Captains read a poem entitled “The Mirror of ANZAC”, which was composed by the mother of a former teacher, and the School Captains presented the ANZAC Day address, which outlined the events of the first landing at Gallipoli, one hundred years ago. The Senior Choir, led by Mrs Whiteman, performed a beautiful song entitled “Here we lie, side by side” which was inspired by the words of Kamal Ataturk, and a student representative from each class laid a wreath at the front of the assembly whilst the string group performed Pacabel’s Canon. The assembly culminated in the playing of the Last Post, one minute’s silence and the Rouse, followed by the National Anthem. This assembly provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to reflect on the meaning of ANZAC Day and to honour all those who have died in the service of their country so that we may now live our lives in peace.

It was pleasing to see so many family members attend the assembly, and we look forward to seeing you all again at our Remembrance Day assembly in November.

Mrs Helene Brunker
Assistant Principal

News From HQ
Term 2 Invoices will be going home this week to the eldest child in your family. As these costs reflect excursions/incursions for this term we would appreciate payment as soon as possible.

Our application for a school bus is still being assessed. We have contacted the bus company last week who have advised us that it is still in the hands of NSW Transport. We will keep you updated with any further developments.

Mrs Margaret Quick
Office Admin Manager
Band Program

Welcome back to Term 2

Welcome back to Term 2 and what a great term of music making we have ahead of us!

All band rehearsals and tutorials are now under way and you should all have the music you need for this term.

Remember to have everything you need for your tutorials and rehearsals so that we can get working straight away on your new music.

Don’t forget to visit the schools webpage on our website at - www.directionsinmusic.com.au

Upcoming performances!

- Junior and Senior Band – Killara High School Workshop - TBC
- Junior and Senior Band – Winter Band Bash - TBC

What to practise!

- **Junior Band** – Junior Band will be looking at the exercise on page 8 in your red books as well as getting your first proper piece of music, *Beethoven’s Ninth!*
- **Senior Band** – Continue to work on *Let it Go* and *This Band Rocks* from Term 1 as well as your new pieces of music, *Irish Dance* and *Firework.*

Practise tip – Make your practice area comfortable!

Is your seat comfortable? Is the room well ventilated? Is there proper lighting? Make sure that your practice area is comfortable and free from distractions so you can concentrate. Also, consider adjusting your practice schedule depending on the time of year. For example, during summer when the temperature is hotter, you can schedule your practice in the mornings when it’s cooler. During winter and if possible, set your practice time in the afternoons when it’s warmer.

Section of the week!

This week it goes to the…….*Flute section***

Richard Sandham
KPS Program Manager
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 – 4:30pm for K-2 Students
4:30pm – 5:30pm for Yr 3-6 Students

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

Certificate of Merit Awards
Term 2 Week 2
KA Matilda, Charles and Mayra
KC Frankie, Charlie and Olivia
KD Aimee, Yali and Remus
1B No recipients
1H Meilin, Sehjal and Ryan
2/1S No recipients
2J Alexandra, Lucy and Adrian
2M May, Daniel and Nicole

Music
Joseff (KC), Mia (2J) and Jack (2J)

Library
Melisa (2/1S) and Daniel (2M)

Sport
Daniel (2J) and Alexander (KC)

Up And Coming Events
Term 2
7 May – Mother’s Day Stall
12 May – NAPLAN Language & Writing
13 May – NAPLAN Reading
14 May – NAPLAN Numeracy
20 May – Combined Strings - KSP
22 May – School Tour – 12:00pm
27 May – P & C Meeting
28 May – Multicultural Public Speaking(Yrs 3-6)
31 May – Maintenance Day
2 June – Math-a-thon
15 June – ICAS Writing this week
16 June – School Tour – 10am
 ICAS Spelling
 Year 2 Excursion MCA Light Show
19 June – Year 1 Excursion MCA Light Show
24 June – P & C Meeting
24 June – Reports go home
26 June – Last day of Term 2
14 July – Students resume for Term 3