Congratulations to Michael, Maxi, Issac and Genevieve who will represent Kur-ring-gai Zone next Monday at the Area Athletics Carnival at Homebush. It is a tremendous achievement to get to Area level and I wish them all the best in their events. I would also like to wish our Junior B Soccer Team all the best at the PSSA Semi Finals this Friday.

**Recognition Week for our Administrative and Support Staff**

This week is a special week in the Department of Education when we acknowledge and thank our amazing non-teaching staff members who form part of our Administrative and Support Team. School Administrative and Support Staff who work in the office, library, on the school grounds or in the classrooms are important, if not vital contributors to the success of our school. I think you would agree that Margaret Quick, Wendy Bright, Sarah Brown, Ted Neilson, Lesley Porteous, Virginia Ringrose, Louise Smith and Jane Williamson are the most wonderful support team a school could possibly hope for. They regularly go well above and beyond their job descriptions to help each of us in so many ways. Please let them know how much we appreciate their efforts if you see them this week – and any other week for that matter!

**2015 NAPLAN**

NAPLAN results were sent home to all parents of students in Years 3 and 5 last week. These results provide us with a snapshot of our students’ academic achievement as it was in May of this year and allow us to look at each student’s strengths and areas for development. We are also provided with extensive data to enable school-wide longitudinal analysis of our performance. This analysis informs our teaching practice and school improvement initiatives. Our results this year are strong with both Year 3 and Year 5 students performing well above state averages across most areas of literacy and numeracy. Some of the highlights of our results include 70% of students in Year 3 achieving in the top band compared with 30% of students across NSW and 68% of students in Year 5 achieving in the top two bands in numeracy compared with 31% of students across NSW. I congratulate both our students and teachers on their achievements. If you would like to discuss your child’s results I encourage you to contact their class teacher to make an appointment.

**Playgroup for 2016 Kindergarten Students**

All children and their families who are starting Kindergarten at Killara in 2016 are warmly welcome to join us in the school hall next Wednesday 9 September for a playgroup session hosted by the school’s kindergarten teachers, some of our current Kindergarten and our senior students. This will be an opportunity to meet staff, other parents and share in morning tea while your child plays with other children starting school next year. This session is the next event in our series of transition to school activities. We encourage all families to join us.
School Drop-Off Zone Reminder
In the interest of the safety of our students at Killara PS, I ask that you are aware of the following procedures for using the school DROP OFF ZONE.

The DROP OFF ZONE allows for one car at a time to safely drop off a child and enter the school grounds safely and is clearly marked with diagonal yellow stripes. The DROP OFF ZONE is for dropping off and picking up only. Please be mindful to keep the queue moving and only use it if your children can exit and enter the car independently. If your child is not ready to get in your car then you will need to park your car and walk into the school. If you need to leave the car, assist your children, get something from the car boot, do hair or put on shoes, please park your car and walk your child into school. If the space is occupied, please wait until the spot is free. Your child should exit or enter your vehicle from the left hand side of the car so that they can walk directly through the gate. Do not let your child out of the car unless you are parked on the diagonal yellow stripes. Please do not let your child walk through the car park to enter your vehicle.

I appreciate your support in keeping our students safe.

Father's Day Breakfast
I am looking forward to seeing over one hundred Killara dads at our Father's Day Breakfast this Friday. Breakfast will be served from 7:45am and classrooms will be open from 8:30am-9am. THANKS to all the parents who have volunteered to come and help.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that discussions have commenced with the Department of Education regarding the building of more permanent classroom accommodation at Killara Public School to support our growing enrolment. An architect has been engaged to prepare designs for an upgrade. A Project Advisory Group will be established over the coming weeks with a P&C representative included in this consultation process. I look forward to sharing more updates on this over the coming months.

Mrs Unity Taylor-Hill
Principal

News From HQ
As from last week the parking conditions in Fitzroy St have been changed. There is now ‘No Parking’ signs in the lower section of Fitzroy St in front of the four houses on the left, past Calvert Ave. The rest of the lower area of Fitzroy St is ‘No Stopping’. This also includes both corners of Calvert Ave.

These new parking conditions will be policed by the council rangers and fines will be issued to people who illegally park.

No Stopping - means just that, even if you stay with the car and leave the engine running. These areas must remain clear and all times.

No Parking - means you can stop but you can only stay there for a few minutes.
**Library News**

Premier’s Reading Challenge – Has finished for 2015

Congratulations to all the students who completed this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. We had 188 students in total, which is an increase from last year. Each student will be presented with an official certificate at the end of the year, and also be recognised with their name appearing on the library wall, starting this week. Completing this challenge is a fantastic way to enjoy books and improve reading, so congratulations to all of these Killara students.

**Book Week**

Last week the library celebrated Book Week. It was a fantastic week with many events that promoted books, reading and writing.

On Tuesday, it was great to see Killara students enjoy the book launch and their copy of *Tunnel Trouble*. Many students are very curious about a possible tunnel underneath Killara, as well as guessing who the mystery teacher is in the book!

On Wednesday, the library held the Indigenous Book Swap. The students raised $950 for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, which is fantastic. Almost 2000 books were donated by Killara families, and at the end of the swap, we had enough for another school swap again. With all the spare books, many students took home up to 10 books. Congratulations to all students and families for a very successful book swap.

Author Kate Forsyth visited the students on Thursday, and as the only Australian author with a doctorate in the re-telling of fairytales, she holds a special place amongst Australian children’s authors. Kate spoke to the students about her writing journey, inspiration, and ideas. She also re-told some century old stories to the students. The art of telling stories by memory is very rare, and Kate did this with unique detail.

*Mitchell Stone*

*Teacher Librarian*
**Staying Cyber Smart at KPS**

**Focus: How much is too much?**

Your child may be spending too much time online if their online behaviour is having a negative impact on other aspects of their life.

The number of hours that children and young people spend online can vary significantly. There is no guideline for the ‘right’ amount of time for children to spend online, however, if their online activity appears to impact negatively on their behaviour or wellbeing, or that of the family, it may be time to discuss expectations and establish time limits.

It’s important to remember that some of the time your children spend online may be related to their education. With more and more schools moving toward the implementation of a 1:1 device policy in the classroom, online education has become a mainstay in the modern classroom. It’s crucial that you help your children strike the right balance between online time for educational purposes and online time for gaming and social networking.

You can help by discussing the consequences of spending too much time online with your children. The following tips can help them to manage their time spent online and maintain a healthy balance:

- Consider establishing rules about when your child can play games or use the internet and how long they can play each day. This could include establishing a family digital contract or pledge.
- Help to develop a schedule that allows them online time but ensures that they also undertake other offline activities.
- Try to locate the device they use in a shared or visible place in the home so you are aware of how much time your child spends online.

The information provided is sourced from the Australian Government eSafety website listed below. We strongly encourage you to gain further information by visiting this site, in addition to visiting the NSW DEC School A-Z site.


Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any questions or queries.

**ICT Committee**

**Ku-ring-gai Amateur Swimming Club**

The PSSA has requested that we advise all families that Ku-ring-gai Fitness and Aquatic Centre (West Pymble Pool) have an amateur swimming club, so if you are looking for something for the whole family to enjoy the season starts on Saturday 10 October. For enquiries please phone 9498 3574 or www.kuringgaiswim.org.au

*Luke Thompson*

*Sports Teacher*
**Killara High School – Intensive Creative Writing Workshop**

Students from Killara Public School and Lindfield Public School attended Killara High School for an intensive creative writing workshop with Ms Loveday Recny on Monday 17 August.

During the session, students learnt the essential elements of all good stories and then applied them to their own stories. All students came up with fun and innovative ideas for their stories and excitedly shared these ideas with the group.

Students then incorporated these elements to start writing their own narratives demonstrating their high levels of creativity and motivation to be good writers.

Their mime performances of well-known fairy tales were outstanding. A fun and engaging session was had by all.

**What’s Happening In English as an Additional Language**

With the recent renovations and a new entrance for our EAL room we were able to expand our Home Reading program by using the new foyer to accommodate our increasing number of books. The children bring their reading books at the beginning of each lesson and swap them for new ones. They have a log to keep track of how many books they have read. Some children have already completed four log sheets, which is an awesome achievement.

This year Miss Somerville got a pet budgie called Bertie who comes to school each week. The children are enjoying talking to him when they arrive for their lessons. He can’t speak English as well as they can yet but they are enjoying seeing what new tricks he has learnt.

*Maree Somerville*

*EAL Teacher*
**Merit Awards**

Term 3 Week 5

2/1S  Hannah, Sophia
2M   Daniel, Juho, Jaeda
2J   Jack, Maddy, Jessica
3B   Hui-Lynn, Aviva, Aaron
3L   Jerry, Brendan, Jenny
4/3C  Joe, Alice, Eloise

4B   Joseph, Jibreel, Isabella
5C   James, Avril, Chanel
6/5F  Josie, Aryan, Bardia
6/5M  Samantha, Lily, Julia
Music  Caleb, Zach, Ashleigh and Lily
Sport  Aryan, Nicole, Hannah

**Term 3 Week 6**

KA  Hamish, Thomas, Alicia
KC  Samuel, Noah, Jason
KD  Kester, Akshaj, Mary
1B  Julian, Ariel, Bridget
1H  No recipients

2/1S  No recipients
2J   Daniel, Max, Sophie
2M   Ewan, May, Nicole
Music  Charlotte, Melissa, Chloe
Sport  Sebastian, Emma, Joshua

**Term 3 Week 7**

3B   No recipients
3L   Thomas, Grace, Gerrard
4/3C  Desiree, Georgia, Zac
4B   Arun, Deen, Jack
5C   Jessica, Genevaeve, Archie

6/5F  Alyesha, Ian, Caleb
6/5M  Theodore, Elliot, Nathanial
Sport  Amber, Maxim, Thomas
Choir  Isabella, Adam, Kian
Music  Laney, Kai, Hannah

**Up And Coming Events**

**Term 3**

- 4 Sept – Father’s Day Breakfast
- 7-18 Sept – Year 2 Swim Scheme
- 9 Sept - Kindy 2016 Playgroup
- 16 Sept – Cinderella Incursion – K-6
- 18 Sept – Last Day Term 3
- 6 Oct – Students resume for Term 4