



KINGSWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality Teaching in a Caring Environment

Term 4 Week 6, 2 November 2011

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Dates for Your Diary

Term 4 Week 4 Newsletter Week

01/11/11	Musical – Full Dress Rehearsal and Matinee Performance, Basketball
02/11/11	Musical – Matinee and Evening Performance, NSW Teachers Federation Stopwork Meeting
04/11/11	P&C Wacky Hair Day, Scripture, Stage Assemblies

Term 4 Week 5

08/11/11	Starting School Group, Basketball, P&C Meeting
09/11/11	Book Fair
11/11/11	Remembrance Day, Scripture, Whole School Assembly

Term 4 Week 6 Newsletter Week

15/11/11	Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) Orientation, Starting School Group
16/11/11	Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) Orientation, Grandfriends S3D
18/11/11	Scripture, Stage Assemblies

Air Conditioning – Early Stage 1 Rooms

In the school holidays a new air conditioner was installed in each of the Early Stage 1 rooms. Thank you to Ol Group, a local glass company, which donated \$5000 towards our air conditioning program and for their ongoing support of the school. Thank you to the P&C Executive Committee and parent community who raise funds for this program. Thank you also to a member of the school community who donated and installed the air conditioner in the front office.

There is one more classroom to air condition and then we need to start to look at other parts of the school that are not air conditioned and replace existing air conditioners that are not working to their full capacity.

School Musical – Kids in Paradise

The school musical is being staged this week. Tickets are still on sale for the matinee and evening performance on Wednesday 2 November. Thank you to Mrs James, the organising committee, the students and all the staff that have been involved in the musical. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to perform and I am sure it will be a great success.

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) 2012

Parents can enrol their children for Early Stage 1 throughout the year. If you have not already done so please complete an enrolment form as soon as possible. This will assist the school with our planning next year. Children who reach the age of 5 years before the 31 July 2011 are eligible to enrol at the beginning of the 2012 school year and all children must be enrolled before the age of 6. Orientation Meetings will be held in Term 4 for these students and their parents.

Keeping Our Students Safe

Unfortunately a small number of parents are using the school car park to drop off or pick up children in the mornings and afternoons. **The car park is out of bounds to all students at all times.** We ask that all parents do not park in the staff car park at any time. The car park is for staff parking and deliveries only. Thank you to those parents who do not park in the school car park.

Excursion Notes

In 2009 the Department of Education and Training introduced a new Excursion Policy. Parents now need to indicate if their child/children have a medical condition that the school needs to be aware of. **Please be aware that the school is no longer able to accept hand written notes or verbal permission. A school permission note must be completed for each excursion or incursion.**

It is really important that the original permission notes and money is handed to the office by the due date specified on the permission note. This avoids students missing out on excursions or incursions as the office staff need to complete the administrative requirements for each excursion or incursion by a certain date. Late payments significantly impacts on this being able to be done effectively.

2010 Annual School Report

The 2010 Annual School Report is now available on the school website.

School Website

The school has a fabulous website that parents can access for further information about the school. Thank you to Mrs Fox who maintains the website. The website address is <http://www.kingswood-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Parentingideas Website

The school has joined the Parentingideas website by Michael Grose. Michael Grose is a parenting expert, currently the Body & Soul parenting columnist and has written seven parenting books.

Insights a parenting newsletter sheet with practical ideas on various topics for parents will be included in each newsletter. This week is titled *How to talk more with your kids*. The website address is www.parentingideas.com.au

Norma Petrocco
Principal

Amazing Book Fair
Wednesday 9 November 2011
8:00am – 3:30pm
School Library

The ***Amazing Book Fair*** is an exciting way to involve children in the wonderful world of books and to promote their interest in reading. On Wednesday 9 November, good quality, low priced books will be on sale in the Library, with prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$15.00.

To purchase books:

- Adults may visit the Library at any time from 8:00am to 3:30pm.
- Children may accompany an adult to the Library between 8:00 – 9:00am and after school until 3:30pm.
- Children may meet an adult outside the Library at recess or lunchtime. **Please note that there are to be no interruptions to class lesson time.**
- Send your child to school with money to purchase a book/s on Book Fair day (Wednesday 9 November). Children wishing to purchase will visit the Library with their class group at an arranged time.

Only the books displayed on the day are available. Children will not have the opportunity to preview the books for sale and **no orders** can be taken. The children will be able to take their purchased books home on the day. Parents may also like to donate a book to the Library and any donations are gratefully accepted.

Please Note: Payment may only be made by cash or cheque. Unfortunately, there will be no credit card facilities available. Please make cheques payable to Kingswood Public School.

Our school will benefit from sales, allowing us to provide more resources for your children. Please come along and support our school. Why not invite your friends and relatives along as well. The Book Fair will provide a great opportunity to purchase gifts for Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you at our *Amazing Book Fair*.

School Photographs

On Photo Day, photos of our School Leaders and the SRC were taken and these are on display at the school. If your child is a School Leader or is in the SRC and you wish to purchase a photograph, the cost is \$14 per photo or 2 photos for \$26.

Envelopes for ordering are available from the front office.

Mrs Di Giglio
School Photograph Coordinator

Baha'i Scripture

A recent survey showed that the majority of parents whose children attend non-Scripture did not know anything about the Baha'i Scripture Classes held during the scripture hours on Friday mornings.

The aim of these classes is to teach children about the Founders of the nine Major Religions of the world (Krishna, Buddha, Zoroaster, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, the Bab and Baha'u'llah) and the teachings that they brought. The children are also encouraged to put virtues into practice every week such as kindness, compassion and obedience to parents. Through prayers, stories, songs, role-plays and class activities, students are nurtured to have noble and upright characters.

If you would like your child to attend these classes, please send a note to the school office, or come and meet us in the small room inside the library on Friday at 9.10 am. We will be happy to answer any questions that you may have. You can also call us on 4751 3089.

With kind regards
The Baha'i Scripture Teachers

P&C

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 November at 6:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We hope everyone will support our Wacky Hair Day on Friday 4 November which has been organised to support our two students who unexpectedly lost their mother in the holidays.

Notes inviting all students to come to school with wacky hair and a gold coin donation were distributed with the last newsletter. All monies raised will be passed on to this family to help during this very difficult time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards.

Joanna Roser
President



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Friday Morning
9.30am - 12.00 midday

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(in school terms)

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Kingswood Public School Starting School Group

Starts July 26th 2011
Every Tuesday Morning
School Terms 3 and 4
9.00am—11.00am

Stories & Games

Do you have a child starting kindergarten next year?

Come along to a **free** playgroup that provides children and their families with a gradual introduction to school life.

Art & music

Bring some fruit and a drink for morning tea.

Parents stay with their child during the playgroup, and younger brothers and sisters are welcome too.

We look forward to meeting you and your child.

Group Activities

Visits to a classroom

Children not attending Preschool or Child Care have **priority of access**

The playgroup is funded by Families NSW and run by an early childhood educator, in collaboration with the Department of Education and Training
Call Lisa Jackson on 0423 720 492 for more information

INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose - Australia's leading parenting educator



How to talk more with your kids

The links between school achievement and parents' ability and propensity to talk with kids from a young age is indisputable.

If you were to focus on one thing to give your child an advantage then do what should come naturally – talk with them.

The links between school achievement and parents' ability and propensity to engage in conversation with kids from a young age is indisputable.

The language stimulation they receive when they talk with parents is one factor. The language of first borns is generally more extensive and richer than their siblings who spend less time in one-on-one situations with a parent.

But engagement in conversation with parents benefits kids in a far broader sense. It is trite to say that kids learn a great deal from their parents but, in fact they do when we talk with them.

In many ways it is through conversations that kids get a real sense of us and who we are. It is by talking with kids that we impart some of our knowledge, ideas, wisdom and thoughts as well as how we get a window into their worlds and how they think.

Getting conversations going with kids can be a massive challenge. Busy schedules, homes designed for individual enjoyment rather than group living, and kids that clam up are some of the blockers to conversation that parents meet.

So you may need to be a little cunning, a little proactive and a little inventive to get some chat going at home.

Here are five ideas to help you get more conversation going in your family:

1. **Turn off the TV (and other screens).** Most homes have a range of electronic screens that you compete with to get their attention. Don't be afraid to take control of those screens and create a little conversational space. Start with a screen-free day each week or screen-free hour each day if you are a home full of screen junkies.

2. **Turn on the TV (and other screens).** If you can't beat them, join them. Some television programs provide great conversational fodder particularly for older children and teens. This can range from "who's going to win Australian Idol?", "what happens to the winners of Australian Idol?" to "what is the point of Australian Idol?"

3. **Have more mealtimes (with the TV off).** The family that eats together talks together...or they should. I have a theory that families with a strong food culture (i.e. they love food and value the whole eating experience) have strong bonds. So make mealtimes special and insist that kids sit until everyone finishes rather than they eat all their peas. Avoid turning mealtimes into food fights that you can't win.

4. **Move more.** If sitting and chatting is not your child's thing then try getting them up and moving. Boys will often talk when they walk or play so consider getting some action happening. When their hands are busy the tongues will often loosen up.

5. **Try shoulder-to-shoulder parenting.** Sitting together in a car, washing dishes and playing a game can provide opportunities for talk. Take the eye contact out of the equation and you may find the talk just flows with some kids.

Every family has their own way of getting the talk happening. Figure out what works for you and make sure it happens. It seems to me that the best communication in families happens when no one is working at it BUT in busy modern families you do need to work at communication. That is the way of it. You have to work hard at family.

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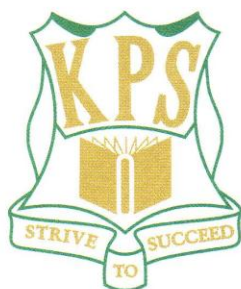
For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au



PO Box 167 Balnarring VIC 3926 P. 03 5983 1798 F. 03 5983 1722 E. office@parentingideas.com.au

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