



KINGSWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality Teaching in a Caring Environment

Term 1 Week 4 16 February 2011

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Dates for Your Dairy

Term 1 Week 4

- 15/02/11 School Swimming Carnival at Ripples 5:00 – 8:00pm
17/02/11 Maroon Day (Mufti Day & Gold Coin Donation for Queensland public schools affected by the floods)

Term 1 Week 5

- 23/02/11 Parent Information Night Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 6:00pm – 7:00pm,
Stage 2 & Stage 3 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Term 1 Week 6

- 28/02/11 Stage 3 Graffiti Education Program, 7:00pm P&C Meeting & AGM
02/03/11 District Swimming Carnival
04/03/11 Scripture commences, School Clean Up Day

Last Friday afternoon we had an incident where a student went missing after school had finished. The police had to be called and it was a very distressing situation for both the parents of the student and those of us at school who were dealing with the situation. The student was eventually found.

The situation was made even more difficult as we were unable to contact parents of students who are their friends to ascertain whether they had gone home with them. Unfortunately many of the contact numbers we tried had been disconnected. Can I please stress the importance to parents of informing the office immediately when your contact details have changed. **It is vitally important that we have the correct information in regards to parental and emergency contacts at the school at all times.**

Could I also ask parents that if a student comes home with your child to play and there have been no prior arrangements please contact the child's parents to let them know they are in your care. Keeping our students safe is everyone's responsibility. Please help us to do that.

School Swimming Carnival

Our School Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 15 February. Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the carnival. You all gave your very best and were well behaved. Thank you to the parents who came along to support their child and the school. Thank you to Mrs Fox for coordinating the carnival and to all the teachers who came along and assisted. Best wishes to our students who are now going onto the District Swimming Carnival. I am sure you will do our school proud.

Parent Information Night

The Parent Information Night will be held on Wednesday 23 February. A note has been sent with details to all students. Please come along and meet your child's teacher and find out about your child's learning this year. This is not an individual interview time to discuss your child with their teacher. Parent/Teacher interviews will take place later in the year.

Keeping All Our Students Safe - Anaphylaxis

An increasing number of our students are being diagnosed with Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention.

Anaphylaxis is a generalised allergic reaction, which often involves more than one body system (eg. skin, respiratory, gastro-intestinal, cardio vascular). A severe allergic reaction usually occurs within 20 minutes of exposure to the trigger and can rapidly become life threatening.

Common triggers include food such as peanuts, tree nuts, sesame, milk, eggs, fish, crustaceans and soy are the most common food triggers, which cause 90% of allergic reactions. It is important to understand that even trace amounts of foods can cause a life-threatening reaction. Other triggers include insect stings, medication or such things as latex.

We ask for your support and request that all students do not bring to school any nut products or foods that contain traces of nuts.

If you would like more information about Anaphylaxis or have a child who has this condition and you have not notified the school, please contact the office immediately.

School Merit System

Below is an explanation of how our School Merit System works for our new students and parents:

The small merit cards (Green in 2011), the small yellow merit cards given out at assembly and sport awards are equal to 1 point.

Students need to accumulate 5 points to receive a Supervisor's Award which is a large yellow merit card.

Students need to accumulate another 5 points to receive a Principal's Bronze Award.

This process is repeated to receive both Silver and Gold Principal's Awards.

At the end of the year all students who have received a Gold Principal's Award will attend a special morning tea hosted by the Principal.

5 points = Supervisor's Award
Another 5 points = Bronze Principal's Award

5 points = Supervisor's Award
Another 5 points = Principal's Silver Award

5 points = Supervisor's Award
Another 5 points = Principal's Gold Award

This merit system starts and finishes with each school year. Merit cards cannot be carried over to the new school year.

All merit cards for Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 are to be handed to Early Stage 1/Stage 1 supervisor, Ms Napper.

All merit cards for Stage 2 and Stage 3 are to be handed to the Stage 2/Stage 3 supervisor, Mr McDaid.

Voluntary Contribution

Each year families are asked to pay a voluntary contribution. All monies raised will go towards air conditioning our school. The voluntary contribution is \$30 per child or \$50 for 2 or more children. A note has been sent out with the newsletter.

Publication of Photos of Students and Student Work Permission Note

A note has also been included with the newsletter in regards to publication of photos of students and student work. Please read the note and return it completed and signed to your class teacher if you are happy for this to occur by **Friday 25 February**.

School Car Park

Our school car park is out of bounds to all students. It is used solely for staff parking and deliveries. **Please do not walk your child/children through the car park or drop off or pick up your child/children in the car park at any time.** Two public car parks are available for your use opposite the school for this purpose. Please help us to keep our students safe.

Dogs in the School Grounds

Since the start of the year, a small number of parents have brought dogs onto the school grounds. The *Companion Animals Act 1998 – Sect 14* states that **dogs are prohibited from school grounds**. Please do not bring your dogs into the school grounds as many students are frightened of dogs and we are trying to keep all students safe.

Running Late?

Please pick up your children promptly at 3pm if you collect them from school. If you are running late or have been delayed, please notify the school as soon as possible. Many children become distressed when parents are not there to pick them up at the end of the day. The children have been instructed to come to the office if parent/s are running late. Please do not encourage your child/children to wait in the public park across from the school.

If your child/children attend the After Care Service please contact the Centre directly if they are not attending on a particular day as we are still having to try to find students whose parents have changed their child's after school arrangements and not notified the centre.

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>

Norma Petrocco
Principal

Gardening Arrangements

This year the school will be using buddy classes to beautify our gardens. Each set of classes will be assisting in weeding and watering the school gardens for approximately one hour twice a term. On these days it would be appreciated if the students could bring in a pair of labelled gardening gloves. A note will be sent home prior to the classes' gardening day. This will be part of our environmental education program.

Schools Clean Up Day

Our school will be participating in Schools Clean Up Day on Friday 4 March. It would be appreciated if students could bring in gloves and tongs to assist with the clean up of our school.

This national event enables our schools to take action for their local environment and school community. It also provides an exciting opportunity for students and teachers to participate in a nation-wide environmental movement that contributes to a cleaner, safer, more attractive Australian environment.

Mrs Taylor
Gardening Coordinator

P&C News

School Banking for Students every Tuesday

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program is here! Banking Starts 22/2/11. The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver Dollarmites reward item. There are five to collect. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

If you are interested in your child taking part in the School Banking program Kelly Adams (Commonwealth Bank School Banking Specialist) will be at the School on the 21/2/11 between 2:30pm – 3:30pm to open accounts for parents or carers to participate in the program.

If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have access to Netbank you can apply for a Youthsaver Account online by clicking on Netbank and selecting “Offers and apply” tab then select “Accounts” and “Youthsaver”. Please have your child’s birth certificate handy.

School Banking Day will be Tuesdays.

Easter Raffle tickets will be sent home with students soon.

Our next P&C and Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Monday 28 February at 7pm in the staffroom. Please consider coming to this meeting as we would really appreciate help from more parents and caregivers and it will be a great opportunity for any families new to our school to meet our Principal, Norma Petrocco and other P&C members.

If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to make a suggestion or comment, you are welcome to write a note and put it into the Money Slot at the front office in an envelope marked “Attention P&C”. This way your thoughts and ideas can be considered by those attending the meeting.

Suzanne Cooper

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