



# KINGSWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Quality Teaching in a Caring Environment

Term 2 Week 4, 18 May 2011

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term 2 Week 5

24/05/11 ICAS – Computer Test  
25/05/11 Red and White Mufti Fundraising Day for Japan  
26/05/11 9:30am P&C Meeting (staffroom), Sports in Schools Program, Penrith Valley Music Festival Choir Rehearsal

### Term 2 Week 6

31/05/11 S3D UWS Lecturer Visit  
02/06/11 Sports in Schools Program  
03/06/11 Assembly to launch Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

### Term 2 Week 7

08/06/11 ICAS – Science  
09/06/11 Sports in Schools Program

## Fundraising Mufti Day for Japan

On **Wednesday 25 May** the school will be holding a fundraising Mufti Day for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Students are encouraged to wear white and red which are the colours of the Japanese flag and bring a gold coin donation on the day. The monies collected will go to the Australian Red Cross for distribution in Japan.

The following information was provided by the Australian Red Cross:

You can make a secure online donation at:

[http://www.redcrossfundraising.org.au/penrith\\_japanese](http://www.redcrossfundraising.org.au/penrith_japanese) or make a donation via credit card by phoning 1800 811 700. You can also donate over the counter at any Commonwealth, Westpac and ANZ Bank as well as at any Australia Post.

How your gift will be used:

Australian Red Cross has launched the Japan and Pacific Disaster Appeal 2011.

The funds raised through this appeal will be used to support communities affected by the earthquake in Japan and the resultant tsunami that reached numerous countries around the Pacific Rim and within the Pacific Ocean.

The funds will be used to:

- Provide earthquake and tsunami affected communities, displaced families and their host families with emergency relief, recovery and longer term disaster management
- Send specialist aid workers to assist in the relief, recovery and longer term disaster management operations
- Support the work of the Japanese Red Cross Society and other Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies from affected countries in assisting people devastated by disaster.

Australian Red Cross will not deduct more than 10% of any donation for an international appeal to cover appeal and administration costs. Should the funds raised exceed the amount required to meet the immediate and longer term needs of the people in the affected areas, Australian Red Cross will direct the excess funds to other emergency preparedness and response initiatives in the Asia Pacific region. Any interest earned on donations will be invested back into the appeals.

### **P&C Meeting**

The next P&C Meeting will be held on **Thursday 26 May** at **9:30am** in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend. Thank you to the P&C Executive for all their hard work with the Mother's Day Stall and pre-orders. It was a great success.

### **P&C Red Mailbox**

A red mailbox has been installed in the office for any correspondence with the P&C and the collection of monies for P&C events. Please use this mailbox when you are paying for any P&C related activities or events.

### **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 to all families.

### **Are Your Contact Details Current?**

Please let the office know in person or in writing if your contact details have changed. If your child is sick or we need to contact you for any reason, it can be really difficult if your contact numbers or the emergency contact numbers are not current. It can be very distressing for children if we are unable to contact you. Thank you to all those parents who have informed us of any changes.

### **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.

### **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 *Which Parenting Style Are You?* The website address is [www.parentingideas.com.au](http://www.parentingideas.com.au)

Norma Petrocco  
Principal

### **Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition**

The Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition was introduced in 1996. It aims to heighten the awareness of multicultural issues among NSW primary school students while developing their interest in public speaking and improving their confidence and speech writing skills. Congratulations to the following children who have been selected to represent this school at District level.

Year 3 - Annisha Y    Year 4 - Naomi S    Year 5 - Georgia H    Year 6 - David D

The venue for this year's District Competition will be at St Clair Public School on Monday 20 June 2011. We extend our support to these students and wish them success at the District Competition. There will be further correspondence regarding the outcomes attained by these students on this day.

Jennifer Dunstan  
Public Speaking Co-ordinator

### **Positive Behaviour for Learning - PBL**

PBL at Kingswood Public School will be launched on Friday 3 June 2011 in the new hall. What is PBL? It is an initiative called Positive Behaviour for Learning and it involves staff, students and the community developing a positive, encouraging school environment. PBL is already underway with the development of our core expectations of students:-

Be a Responsible Learner  
Be a Respectful Learner  
Be a Safe Learner

Look out for the posters (developed by the S.R.C. and Student Leaders) when you next visit the school. Better still come to the launch on Friday 3 June 2011. Attend the assembly and learn Kingswood Public School's PBL Song. Afterwards enjoy lunchtime with your child. Bring a picnic lunch and admire the students dressed in mufti (black and gold like a bee). A note will be coming home closer to the event outlining our big day.

Thankyou from the PBL Committee.

### **P & C Report**

Hi Everyone

The last two weeks of last term were busy organising the Mother's Day Stall and the Mother's Day Raffle. The committee and I would like to thank everyone who supported both. The Mother's

Day Stall was a big success! The children were excited and overwhelmed by the quantity and quality of gifts available. They liked it so much they wanted to buy for themselves!

The committee and I would like to thank the following people who helped on the day, before and after school on the two following days. They are:

Christine Brown	Amanda Cooper
Marilyn (Aiden's Grandmother)	Geoff Lawson
Teresa Lawson	Vicky Magnisalis
Karen Marshall	Joanna Roser

- The two prefects Josh and Zoe who were the runners for the day.

We had some late donations and would like to thank Rose Kaniszewski and all who dropped off donations at the office.

The Mother's Day "Time Out for Mum" Raffle was a huge success and we congratulate the winner, Aarav from S1F. We hope your mum enjoyed the prize.



The next P & C Meeting will be held on Thursday 26 May 2011 at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to get email reminders on upcoming events we will be sending out group email reminders, so please send us an email at [kpspandc@ymail.com](mailto:kpspandc@ymail.com) and mention you would like to be added to this list.

If you would like to add an agenda item, offer feedback on the mother's day fundraising, have any fundraising idea's or have anything else you would like to contact P & C about, please send us an email at [kpspandc@ymail.com](mailto:kpspandc@ymail.com).

Also the Uniform Shop will be open on Monday 23 May 2011, from 2.30pm - 3.00pm and the uniforms will be laid out on a table for you to see.

Warm regards,  
Joanna Roser  
P&C President  
[kpspandc@ymail.com](mailto:kpspandc@ymail.com)

**Would you like to join our  
art workshops  
with your kids**

TAFE are running free workshops

here at Kingswood School

on THURSDAY afternoon's

from 3pm - 4.30pm

on the 19th, 26th of May

and 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd of June

***Equipment is provided for all age groups.***

If you would like to join us

call to book in on

**9623 9199**

*Kingswood Public School*

*46 - 54 Second Ave, Kingswood*



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## Multi-Cultural Supported Playgroup

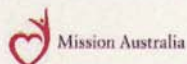
Enjoy exciting adventures and time with your children

Monday Mornings 9:30—11:00  
Kingswood Public School  
in the Hall  
46 - 54 Second Ave, Kingswood

For more information  
contact Julie on  
9623 9199

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# INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose – No. 1 parenting educator

parentingideas.com.au

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## Which parenting style are you?

Which parenting style gives kids the best start in life? There is a controversial new parenting style that according to the author of a new book is best able to prepare kids for the future. But the evidence doesn't stack up.

There's been a lot of media and online blog focus given to parenting styles in the last few months. Much of this attention is due to the release of a controversial new book *The Battle hymn of the Tiger Mother* by American author Amy Chua earlier this year.

Yale law professor Amy Chua described how she raised her kids using a ruthless parenting style that flies in the face of current Western practice. For example, she told how she forced her 7-year-old daughter Lulu to practise a tune on the piano for hours on end – "right through dinner into the night," with no breaks for water or even the bathroom, until at last Lulu learned to play the piece.

Chua in interviews has been scathing of the current western parenting approach that allows kids to waste hours of time on Facebook and computer games, rather than spending valuable time preparing them for the future. "It's a tough world out there!" she announced on the American Today Show earlier this year.

Her stories of never accepting a mark lower than an A, of insisting on hours of math and spelling drills and daily piano practice (weekends and vacations included), of not allowing sleepovers or television or computer games have left many readers bewildered, but also defensive.

"Where's the love and the acceptance?" seems to sum up the response by many outraged readers on blogs and newspapers. At a time when many parents are labeled as 'helicopter', 'pushy' or even 'pushovers' Chua's Tiger parenting mantra has certainly hit a nerve. The implications are that the tiger mother's cubs will be better prepared to hit the world running than those who experience an indulgent, permissive parenting style. You could say it's a book whose time has come!

The fact that Chua has presented an alternate parenting view is to be applauded, although some of her methods don't sit well with most professionals and educators. Her views are also highly subjective.

### What does the evidence say?

There's plenty of empirical evidence to suggest a more balanced parenting approach produces the best outcomes for kids. The recent Millennium Study mapped the parenting styles of 9,000 English households and found that children who experience authoritative (Thriving) parenting are best prepared to do well in life.

An analysis of the results is revealing. One quarter of kids with authoritative parents (Thriving parenting) were in the top 20 per cent at school. Next came permissive parenting with 18 per cent, 15 per cent for authoritarian (Tiger parenting) and 11 per cent of this cohort going to kids of disengaged parents. The authoritative approach offers a mix of discipline and warmth that is deemed necessary for kids to thrive, thus it's been dubbed the *Thriving* approach.

Here are five characteristics of the *Thriving* (authoritative) style:

1. Parents set limits and boundaries that expand as kids get older and become more capable.

2. Parents use consequences and other tools to teach kids to behave well and develop a sense of personal responsibility.

3. Children receive a great deal of encouragement (comments directed at improvement, effort and contribution rather than directed at their ability) and quality feedback about their efforts and behaviour that helps them improve.

4. Parents encourage empathy in children by recognising their emotions and giving them permission and assistance to express their feelings and help them resolve relationship problems.

5. Parents put a range of measures in place to develop a sense of generosity of spirit and give and take so kids think 'we' rather than 'what's in it for me?' This sense of community that authoritative parenting promotes is the real strength of the style.

Parenting style is not necessarily fixed. It changes over time according to children's needs, our wellbeing and even their ages. Common sense suggests parents need to be stricter with some children than with others and there will be times when parents need to release the pressure on kids, and adopt a more permissive approach for a time. However most of us default to a particular style and it would seem that most kids do better when their parents are more *thrivers* than *tigers*.

### Recognise these parenting styles?

**Helicopter parenting:** Parents who are always hovering. Not giving kids sufficient space to solve their own problems.

**Curling parenting:** Named after a strange winter sport, where two people equipped with brooms sweep the obstacles off the ice for the curl (bowling ball on ice).

**Lawnmower parenting:** Similar to curling parenting where parents smooth the way by mowing down life's bumps.

**High investment parenting:** When parents live out their goals through their kids.

**Submarine parenting:** Neglectful style where parents disengage from most tasks.

**Free range parenting:** Giving kids a great deal of space and freedom.

**Hippo parenting:** When parents squash their kids like a hippo to prove a point!

**Tiger parenting:** Draconian parenting style that promotes excellence and perfection in kids.

**Pussy cat parenting:** The name says it all. When parents are a soft touch!

**Shoulder-to-shoulder parenting:** More a communication method than a style. Doing something side-by-side with kids encourages conversations.

### Want to know if you're a tiger or thriver parent?

Take my FREE *Which Parenting Style Are You?* Parenting quiz at [Parentingideas.com.au](http://Parentingideas.com.au) and discover your parenting style. There are also some practical implementation ideas to help you adopt a parenting style suitable for your kids today.

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