

KARIONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

View to the Future

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No 38

Friday, 10 December 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday	13 December	Yr 5 & 6 Presentation Day at 9.15am
Monday	13 December	K-Yr 2 Fun Activities at School
Tuesday	14 December	Yr 3-Yr 5 Movie Day
Tuesday	14 December 7.30pm	Kariong School Choir Carols by Candlelight Kariong Oval
Wednesday	15 December	Yr 6 Assembly & Walk of Fame
Wednesday	15 December	End of Term Level 1 Sausage Sizzle
Wednesday	15 December	STUDENTS LAST DAY
Jan/Feb 2011	Best Start Assessments	Mon 31 Jan, Tues 1 Feb, Wed 2 Feb,
MONDAY	31 JANUARY 2011	STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL
Monday	21 February 2011	School Swimming Carnival

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parent/Caregivers

As the year winds down I'd like to share with you some terrific data that we have from our Literacy program in Stage 1. In 2009 we began a program of shifting our emphasis (and extra resources) in Literacy improvement from Years 3 and 4 to Years 1 and 2. This began to really pay dividends in our Naplan results earlier in the year but the end of year results are even more promising. For example, for Year 1 students the Hunter-Central Coast Region has a target of 75% of students attaining reading level 16. At Kariong we had, at the time the data had to be returned 97% of our children above the target, even better, the remaining 3% were just one or two levels below the target and by the actual year end we are confident that they will be there at level 16 or higher. This means that in Year 2 we will need a different focus for improvement because those children are no longer behind the standard, in fact most are ahead of it.

I guess some of this data is pretty eye-glazing for you. But for us it is the absolute core business of our school and we must always focus on it. Reading is the key to everything in Primary school. Once they can read competently the other areas, including Maths will follow. Equally importantly I have found in all of the schools where I have worked that when the reading performance goes up the behaviour problems go down *at almost exactly the same rate*. It's remarkable. Children, especially boys, no longer have to misbehave to distract attention from the fact that they can't do the work. The most important thing that you can do to help your child with reading is to read yourself, read with them, provide them with access to interesting things to read. To those of you whose children are still having trouble, and there are a few, do not despair. We are not going to give up on them.

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, we are now using "Zoomerang" to do some online surveys to find out how parents and children think that our school is performing. There are currently two online surveys that you can access from home, the local library or even in many cases from your phone. The first survey is meant for children and is at the following URL

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BKGAR8PB2/>

Parents might like to help their younger children with the survey. Please note, the survey is locked so that you can only do it once, if you have more than one child it will need to be a family entry.

There is also a parent survey at the following URL ;

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BKNHYCGXE/>

I hope that many of you will take the few minutes to complete these surveys, I am going to leave them open until the beginning of January.

Ivan Pagett. Principal



PRINCIPAL'S GOLD BOOK

Jordyn, Corey, Katie –Jayne,
Amber, Bailey, Ben, Amber-Jay,
Dennis and Craig

RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

ANNUAL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES

Our Annual Presentation Ceremonies are nearly completed with only the Stage Three Presentation Ceremony on Monday to be held. It has been wonderful to see the children proudly standing on the stage in front of their classmates and family. The musical items have been of a high standard and very entertaining for all guests. Parents of students receiving awards at the presentation on Monday have been sent an invitation.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs Maree Sulter will be retiring at the end of this year and we wish her a restful retirement. I would like to thank Mrs Sulter for her wonderful dedication to the children of Kariong Public School during her time here. On Wednesday we will say farewell to our one of our great Year 6 teachers, Mr Neil Matthew. I would like to thank Mr Matthew for his fantastic contribution to Kariong Public School. I know that the school community wishes you every success in your new role. I know both of these teachers will be missed by students, staff and parents.

Congratulations to Mrs Rachel McCredie who graduated last week from the first year of her training as a Reading recovery teacher. Congratulations also to Mrs June Mullarky who graduated last week from the second year of her training as a Reading recovery teacher. Well done to both of these teachers, it is a very intense and valuable program.

YEAR 5 STUDENT ELECTIONS

Our successful candidates in the Year Five elections were Taylah, Tiarna, Tiana, Brittni, Sienna, Carley, Max, Jasper, Evan, Joel, Bradley and Harry. The student leadership team for 2011 will be inducted at our Stage 3 Presentation day Ceremony on Monday morning, starting at 9.15am.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL

I was lucky enough to attend our Year Six Farewell held on Wednesday evening. A wonderful evening was had on 'The Red Carpet' with a fine meal, a beautiful farewell cake and lots of dancing. The occasion certainly was the best in staff and parents working together to give our Year 6 students a farewell to remember. Congratulations and a huge thank you to the Farewell committee, Mrs Taylor and the Year 6 teachers for their excellent work.

K-6 REPORTS

All students will receive their student report for Semester Two today. If after reading this document you have any queries, please contact your child's teacher.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

The government has gazetted that the last two days of Term 4 will be for school development. Staff will engage in valuable activities over Thursday and Friday which include learning more about the mental health issues and ways to help students and voice therapy workshops. **NO STUDENTS WILL ATTEND ON THURSDAY 16TH AND FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER.**

HOLIDAYS

Students will have their final school day for 2010 on Wednesday 15th December. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Staff and students have worked very hard this year and I hope everyone is able to have a well deserved rest. Staff will return to work on Friday 28th January 2011 and we will be joined by students in Years 1 – 6 on Monday 31st January 2011.

Paula Harmer-Watkins
Relieving Deputy Principal

YEAR 6 FAREWELL

Everyone had a wonderful night. The children were so well behaved, polite and looked fantastic. It really was a red carpet night. Thank you for all the hard work performed by the Committee, Mrs Alcock, Mrs Davies, Mrs Foote, Mrs Houghton, Mrs Hoyer, Mrs Lamb, Mrs Mortell, Mrs Wells, Mrs Williams, Mrs Vilensky, Mrs Zuvella. Thankyou to Mr Vilensky, for your never ending support and the wonderful DVD, it was incredible to see the children throughout their time at Kariong. The Farewell Committee is most appreciative of the generous donations received from the local community. They would like to acknowledge the support of Guy at Kariong Foodworks for his contributions for both the spider day and the night of nights. Thank you Guy. Thank you to Roy Lamb, the sand man, for his kind donation of the DJ for the night. I would like to thank all who attending, especially the teaching staff who gave up their time to assist on the night. And each class for the posters they were brilliant! It was a treat to have Mr Schultz return to school for the night.

WALK OF FAME

If you are available from 2:20 pm on Wednesday 15th December you can come and watch your Year 6 child participate in the Walk of Fame. This is the last activity for year 6 2010.

Amanda Taylor

BAGS OF HOPE FOR CAMBODIAN CHILDREN

'Thousands of Cambodian children go to school every day without a bag in which to carry their most basic necessities (books, stationery, food and – vitally important – bottled drinking water to help them avoid contracting dysentery from unsafe drinking water).'

'Many NSW public school children acquire new backpacks or school bags for the new school year. This campaign is an opportunity for those children to leave their old bags (or new ones if they are that way inclined) at their schools in the last week of term, thereby making a huge difference to the lives and education of children in Cambodia. The bags will be packed with books and stationery and shipped to Cambodia, to be distributed around the country to needy school children, in time for the commencement of their school year in March 2011.'

The SRC and Ms Boland will be co-ordinating this project in the last week of term. So please think about it and if you are able to help send your old school bags to school to be collected in Week 10.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Monday 13 December is the last day for the uniform shop this year.

The Uniform Shop will be open Friday January 28, 2011 from 10am – 12pm.

The Uniform Shop will also be open every morning from Monday 31 January 2011 until Thursday 3 February from 8.30am – 9.30am



FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Locked Bag 40, GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Telephone: 1300 885 982 Fax: 1800 655 866

Website: www.pandc.org.au

16 October 2010

Kate Evans
President
Kariong Public School P&C Association

Dear Kate

P&C Federation, through its representatives have been working with your Association over the last three years to assist in the resolution of numerous issues.

Kariong Public School P&C Association, as an Incorporated Association, must operate under the prescribed Constitution. It has come to Federation attention that motions have been put to the members that are outside of correct operating procedures and Officers are unable to effectively manage these issues.

Officers have also displayed a reluctance to follow the advice offered from P&C Federation's representatives and the stipulation by the School Education Director that DET guidelines are to be followed regarding the operation of the school canteen. The Kariong PS P&C Association members have been unable to demonstrate the capacity or willingness to ensure that staff follow DET guidelines and implement necessary financial and operational procedures in the school canteen. The management of public funds needs to be transparent and it is imperative to adhere to relevant P&C and DET guidelines.

With regret, P&C Federation is required to place the Kariong Public School P&C Association into recess. The function of placing your Association into recess allows for key stakeholders to work together to identify actions to achieve the removal of the recess requirement.

During the recess, the P&C Federation will work with the current P&C Association Officers, Principal, School Education Director and the Department of Education's Auditor to address the issues. This is to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the Association's business and the ongoing viability of the Kariong Public School P&C Association.

We require your acknowledgement of this letter and assurance that no future P&C Association activities will be carried out by the Kariong Public School P&C Association while in recess. This will require that the meeting scheduled for Monday 18 October 2010 and any other events be cancelled until further notice.

I am arranging for the P&C Federation's Senior Vice President to represent me and attend a meeting with yourself, the elected 2010 Kariong Public School P&C Association Officers, Principal, School Education Director and the Department of Education's Auditor at Kariong Public School to commence the necessary actions to ensure that critical business items can be addressed.

The meeting is confirmed as being on Monday 18 October at 7pm.

Yours sincerely

H. Walton

Helen Walton
President
Federation of P&C Associations NSW

ANNUAL JUNIOR HOLIDAY CHESS TOURNAMENT - Monday, January 17

Mingara Junior Chess Group will again welcome young players from across the Central Coast at its annual summer holiday tournament.

The tournament, in its third year, attracts many beginners as well as experienced players. All that is needed is a very basic knowledge of the rules and how the pieces move.

Regardless of ability or results, each junior will play seven games and will have the chance to win prizes for solving chess puzzles between rounds.

Tournament prizes are given in several age divisions.

The event is non-profit, with all entry fees to be returned as prizes. The field will be limited to the first 50 entries received. To enter, parents should contact Gary Losh on 4390 8176 or at glosh51@dodo.com.au The entry fee is \$10, payable on the day.

Those who enter early enough will be e-mailed some examples of the type of puzzles they will be asked to solve.

The tournament, open to all players under 18 on the day, will run from 11am to about 4.30pm on Monday, January 17, at Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi.

It will be rated by the NSW Junior Chess League

**WANT TO BE AN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE LEADER IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?**

Volunteer for NSW Energymark and reduce your carbon footprint and power bills.

CSIRO and the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW are looking for 500 volunteers to lead small group discussions on energy, climate change, water and waste in their communities.

You don't need to know a lot about energy and climate change to participate – simply gather a small group of people (family, friends, neighbours or workmates) for discussions using support and discussion material provided by CSIRO and NSW Government.

Energymark works by volunteer convenors getting small groups of people together to meet regularly to learn and discuss what they can do to make a difference. Convenors and participants receive easy-to-read fact sheets that the discussions are based on. There is a lot of talking, activities and sharing ideas to help at home! Anyone can get involved!

The NSW Energymark program is a CSIRO initiative in partnership with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW helping households lower power bills and reduce our impact on the environment.

To register or for more information visit www.energymark.com.au or call 1300 119 003

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED THIS CHRISTMAS

The need for blood never takes a holiday! That's why more blood donors are greatly needed this festive season.

December is a difficult month for our blood supply with less collection days and greater demand for blood to help cancer patients, people with heart and kidney disease, pregnant women and accident victims.

One in three Australians will need blood at some stage but only one in 30 actually donate. If you've ever thought of donating blood, or if it's been a while since your last donation, now is the time to make an appointment to help save three lives!

One hour of your time could mean a life-time to the person who receives your donation this Christmas.

Give the gift of life. Please call 13 14 95 or go to donateblood.com.au for your nearest donor centre and to make an appointment.

The Christian Churches of Kariong
WELCOME YOU!

KARIONG CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT



ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

Sausage Sizzle provided by Rotary!

come and celebrate Christmas with us
Kariong Playing Fields (off Mitchell Drive)

Tuesday 14th December
7.30pm

Kariong School Choirs,
great band and guest artists!

Bring Chair/Rugs, Candles & Your Friends!
If raining, meet at Public School Hall



GOSFORD CITY
Library

In co-operation with
Gosford City Library,
Kariong Library Action Group
presents...



UP

Join us for a special screening of this
delightful family movie on:

Friday 17 December
6.30pm (movie will start at 7pm)
Kariong Library
cnr Curringa Rd & Arunta Ave

To book please call
Kariong Library on 4325 8155

All children must be accompanied by an adult

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