Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope everyone has had a relaxing break. This term is always busy so please keep reading through the newsletter each fortnight and be on the lookout for any other communication that may be sent home for the various grades or groups in the school.

School Zone Flashing Lights Initiative

Roads and Maritime Services have advised us that our great school has been included as one of the next batch of 100 school zone sites to receive school zone flashing lights. This project aims to alert motorists of the speed restriction around schools to improve safety for school children. It is expected that the work will start in late October.

Kindergarten 2014

If you know of any family who lives locally and has a child ready to start kindergarten please ask them to give us a call or come in for more information. Our Kindergarten transition sessions will take place over 4 consecutive weeks and we will not want any family to miss out. Please save the following dates in your diary for future reference. More information will follow in the next few weeks.

Thursday 7 November 9:30am – 11:10am (Orientation)
Thursday 14 November 9:30 – 10:30am (Literacy Session)
Thursday 21 November 9:30 – 10:30 am (Numeracy Session)

Thursday 28 November 9:30 – 11:10am
(Craft activity and concluding with a sausage sizzle)

Presentation Awards Ceremony - Update

A few parents have spoken to me in regards to us making this year our trial year, for our Presentation Awards Ceremony taking place during the day rather than the evening.

I have discussed this matter with all the staff again, and we have decided to postpone the trial until 2014. So…

Our Presentation Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday 10 December from 5:30pm – 7:00pm.

Please note that in case of wet weather we will need to move the Awards Ceremony to another day that week.

Please ensure that you save this day in your diaries

Selective High Schools application

Entry to Government Selective High Schools for Year 7 in 2015 - Online applications open

Application is required by mid November 2013 for parents or carers of Year 5 students who wish their children to be considered for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2015.

Parents with internet access are requested to apply online. Online applications will be available from 15 October to 18 November 2013.

Application information is available on the
Department’s internet at:  
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

For parents without internet access a limited number of paper application forms are available in our school. Paper applications must be submitted to myself or Mr Saunders by 18 November 2013. All students seeking Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2015 will be required to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of Thursday 13 March 2014.

Applicants may apply for a total of any four selective high schools. A complete list of selective high schools is available at:  

Teacher Professional Development
As mentioned earlier in Term 2, all our staff have been, throughout Terms 2, 3 and will continue in Term 4, professionally developed in the new English Syllabus as well as trained in effectively using and implementing the Super Six Comprehension Strategies. This professional development was guided and financially supported with a National Partnership Grant that we have received and has allowed us to utilise our very own Literacy expert, Mrs Neal, to professionally develop all staff. This of course will directly have a positive benefit for all students K-6.

On Friday 18 October, Mrs Helen Evans, Principal Education Officer, Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership, will be visiting our school to see all the wonderful work that our staff and Mrs Neal have been working on, as she is most impressed with the way we have implemented our Literacy Project. She has asked if she could use this data as a model for other small school situations.

This should be a credit to all the great work that all staff have put in to this very important and worthwhile project. Well done ☺

Major fundraising initiative on behalf of Stage 3!
Stage 3 students are conducting a Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser as a major fundraiser for this term so they are asking for your support in advance.

Students have received a Billy’s Gourmet Cookie Dough order form. An individual prize program will be included for every student/family who sells one or more tubs. The more tubs you sell the better the prize! There is a selection of over 55 prizes to choose from such as Barbie, Nerf, Hot Wheels, Razor and much, much, more.

Funds raised will go towards the Year 6 Farewell at the end of the year as well as the school gift from the graduating class.

Thank you in advance for your support  
Miss Chisholm & Mr Saunders.

NAPLAN Results
The reports to Year 3 and 5 parents will be sent out during Week 2 of Term 4 from the 15-18 October.

P&C Meeting – Term 4, 2013
All parents, caregivers and community members are very welcome at our P&C Meetings. The next meeting is at 6.30pm, Wednesday 16/10/13, in the staffroom.

Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability - 2013
Our school is participating in the first year of the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability. If your child has been selected to be part of this collection of data, a note would have been sent home via your child today.

The definition of ‘disability’ according to the Disability Discrimination Act is as follows:

- a) total or partial loss of the person’s bodily or mental functions; or
- b) total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- c) the presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness; or
- d) the presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
- e) the malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person’s body; or
- f) a disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
- g) a disorder, illness or disease that affects a person’s thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour;
This important data collection will reflect the support that is already being provided to students and will focus on the steps the school is taking to ensure that all students can access education on the same basis. The data will be used to inform future planning by governments and education authorities and will help us to better support the participation of students with disability in our school and all other NSW public schools.

The data collection will focus on the adjustments that are being made by teachers and schools to support individual students to access and participate in education. Schools will collect information already available in the school about:

- The level of adjustment being provided to support students with disability to participate in their schooling like all other students
- The number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- Where known, the student’s type of disability.

The data collection process will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process.

**If you do not want** your child to be counted in the data collection you must complete the form and return it to the school office before 18 October 2013.

**NAIDOC Day 2013**

In the last week of term three, Mrs Grover and eleven of our students attended the NAIDOC celebrations at Leumeah Public School. They participated in a variety of activities including Indigenous Ball Games, looking at Aboriginal Paintings and learning all about Aboriginal Dancing. It was a great opportunity for our students to develop relationships between various members of the community and was celebrated with a lovely sausage sizzle and cake to finalise the day. Thank you Mrs Grover for all your organisation to make this day possible 😊
Student Leaders 2014
With the end of the year approaching, the senior students have been discussing leadership, what it means to them, what they see as the qualities leaders should have and what qualities need to be displayed by our own student leaders. The following is the list of what we believe are the qualities that we as a school want in our leaders.

A good student leader:

- is responsible, reliable, and respectful
- is helpful, caring, encouraging and a good listener
- is organised and on time
- is fair, honest, humble and uses manners
- is adaptable, shows initiative and can communicate efficiently
- participates and is a good role model of appropriate attitude and appearance.

This years selection will be a tough one and all the teachers look forward to the Year 5 students of Kentlyn Public School following the current Year 6 student’s great examples of leadership.

Mr Saunders

WRITING COMPETITIONS ARE FUN TO ENTER!
Enter a 500 word story in an online competition - www.writingclassesforkids.com/products/writing-classes. Entry is free. Open to children 8 years + and adults. The theme is ‘Unreal’ so you need to write a 500 word story on anything you want as long as some aspect of your story is not real. Entries must be in 30 November 2013.

Important Term 4 Dates for your Diary:

**Wednesday 16 October** - P&C meeting 6:30pm in the staffroom.

**Friday 18 October** - GALA Day

**Thursday 24 October** - Year 5 School Leader nominations.

**Thursday 31 October** - Year 6 Mini-Fete

**Friday 1 November** - KG’s Assembly 1:00pm in the hall

**Thursday 7 November** - Kindergarten Orientation 9:30 - 11:10

**Friday 8 November** - GALA Day

**Thursday 14 November** - Kindergarten Orientation - Literacy 9:30 - 10:30

**Friday 15 November** - K-6 Assembly - School Leaders

**Monday 18 November and Tuesday 19 November** - Life Education Van

**Thursday 21 November** - Kindergarten Orientation - Numeracy 9:30 - 10:30

**Wednesday 27 November** - School Leaders speeches and voting

**Thursday 28 November** - Kindergarten Orientation - final session, 9:30 - 11:10

**Friday 29 November** - K-6 Assembly - School Leaders run

**Thursday 5 December** - Principal’s Morning Tea

**Tuesday 10 December** - Presentation Evening - 5:30 - 7:00pm

Special Request from Mrs McIntosh
Mrs McIntosh would love any donations of red and green wool that parents might have sitting around at home 😊

Planning for 2014
The staff and I have started to plan for 2014. Our anticipated numbers for 2014 at the moment are 125 students. We would love to get to the magical number of 130 students, but as you are all aware we are under very strict guidelines in terms of out of area enrolments. In order to ensure that I am on track with our proposed enrolments I am asking parents who are going on an extended holiday in January and parents who are not returning to Kentlyn Public School to complete the notifications below and return to me as soon as possible please.
NOTIFICATION OF EXTENDED SUMMER VACATION
This is to inform you that my child/children:

Name: ___________________ Class: ________
Name: ___________________ Class: ________
Name: ___________________ Class: ________

will not return to school in Term 1 2013 until __________(date) due to an extended holiday.

Signed: __________________ Date: ________
(Parent/Guardian)

NOTIFICATION OF CHILDREN LEAVING THE SCHOOL
This is to inform you that my child/children:

Name: ___________________ Class: ________
Name: ___________________ Class: ________
Name: ___________________ Class: ________

will be leaving Kentlyn Public School on ________________ and will enrol at ________________ Public School.

The last day of attendance will be: __________.

Signed: __________________ Date: ________
(Parent/Guardian)

Notice for parents with a child in Year 4, 5 and 6.

In brief, the government In 2001 introduced the “First Child Tax Offset”. This was one of the first types of baby bonuses introduced, but unlike today’s Baby Bonus Schemes it was not given much media exposure and was confusing. As a result many parents have missed out on claiming this entitlement.

The offset was introduced to compensate parents for reduced income that followed the arrival of a child born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004. There is information on the ATO website, but like many entitlements it is difficult to understand.

Unfortunately, the Australian Tax Office has now placed a deadline on claiming this offset. If you think you are eligible please contact them directly. If you would like any other information please do not hesitate to call 02 9524 2744 or email childoffset@twelve.com.au.

Choosing the right shoes
School shoes may all look the same but the cost can vary from about $30 to $120 and beyond. Does a more expensive shoe mean a better shoe? Find out more:

NSW public school terms and holidays
Here’s a snapshot of NSW public school terms and holidays for 2013 - 2015.
Find out more:

Jargon explained
If your child’s teacher mentions G&T in the COLA, she’s actually talking about gifted and talented classes being held in the covered outdoor learning area.

More school jargon explained:

Home safety
About 50 children fall out of windows or balconies in Australia each year. Spring is a good time to install a window lock to limit how far it opens.
It’s this easy: http://bit.ly/1dRpQw5

Where’s the octopus
Wow it’s videos like this that show kids how cool studying science can be. Watch it with them:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoCzZHcwKxI&feature=youtu.be
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK

ABCs of Student Success

O IS FOR OVERCOMING OBSTACLES
When kids face obstacles that seem insurmountable, it is important that we are there as parents, caregivers and teachers to:

- Encourage children to have high, but achievable expectations
- Help our children divide and conquer their obstacles
- Help them recall past experiences and emphasise their accomplishments and use these memories to build kids confidence.

NO! GO! TELL!
At Kentlyn, we encourage students to use the three step process ‘NO! GO! TELL’. For example, if another child is ‘bugging them’ in the playground, we have encouraged students to progress through the following three steps.

1. ‘NO’ Tell the other child to stop, that you don’t like what they are doing. If this doesn’t work, it is encouraged that students move to step 2...
2. ‘GO’ Simply walk away from the problem. If this doesn’t work, it is encouraged that students move to step 3...
3. ‘TELL’ Find the teacher on duty and tell them that you have followed steps 1 and 2 and the issue has not been resolved.

By implementing these steps, we are encouraging and assisting students to build independence, resilience and problem solving skills when they are faced with an issue that they are not comfortable with. These are skills that they can build upon and assist them throughout life.

We encourage you to talk to your children about the ‘NO! GO! TELL!’ strategy at home to build and consolidate what we are developing here at Kentlyn.

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Assistant Principal

Principal’s Award
Matthew Cooper 4/5S
Alicia Singleton 6C
Joshua Wadick 1M
Tyler Christie 2/3D

Value of the Week Awards

Integrity
K-2
Nooralzahra Alalwan 1M
3-6
Jarrad Backhouse 6C

Excellence
K-2
Ben Ross 1M
3-6
Alicia Singleton 6C

Congratulations!

More volunteers are needed if we are to maintain the current 3 days per week. If you could spare a few hours on either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday please see Catherine Cooke.
P&C Meeting:
Tonight at 6:30pm in the staffroom.

PCYC CAMPBELLTOWN
Fitness Gymnastics Classes

A Class Fitness Gymnastics stimulates the nervous system, improving concentration and increasing strength. Specializing in active children and inclusion of additional needs. A Class Fitness promotes a positive and fun environment, focusing on all children's capabilities.
For more information please call PCYC Campbelltown on: 9603 8229 or email us: Campbelltown@pcycnsw.org.au

Classes start Wednesday 23 October 4:00 - 5:00pm.