Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 6. We are just half way for this term and there are so many things that are happening. Most classes, by now, have begun assessment in line with reporting requirements. Reports will be sent out Friday 13 December 2013.

Congratulations once again to all Stage 3 students for their great mini-fete and raising over $750.00.

It was a wonderful afternoon and the pictures below show what a great time everyone had. Thank you Miss Chisholm and Mr Saunders for your superb organisation on the day.

*****All notes sent home and newsletters are available on our website
http://www.kentlyn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/*****
Planning for 2014
The staff and I have started working on classes for 2014. It is vital that you notify the office if you are not returning next year or going on an extended holiday and returning to school after the allocated day. Please complete the forms at the end of the newsletter and return them to Mrs Thompson as soon as possible. Student numbers affect our teacher allocation and therefore our ability to plan effectively. We need to sustain 130 students until mid February for us to maintain 6 classes for the rest of the year. This will be the most ideal situation for our great school for next year, and we are now very hopeful that we can do this. However, if we do have 5 classes, please be assured that as usual your child will be catered for and a great deal of time and effort will go into organising the classes to maximise all students learning outcomes.

KidsMatter has also produced a "Starting School" set of resources as part of their contribution to Children’s Week. This is an excellent resource and you can access the "Starting School" resources at www.kidsmatter.edu.au/startingschool.

In the last newsletter I wrote about inappropriate behaviour while travelling on the school bus. A letter was sent home to parents as a follow up and asking them once again to review with their child appropriate behaviour while travelling on the bus and the possibility of their child having their bus pass confiscated.

I am once again asking all students to take responsibility for their actions.

It is imperative that students understand there is still a high expectation that students will behave appropriately as the year comes to an end. Whilst it is only a small minority of students at the moment who are not demonstrating the high level of behaviour we expect at Kentlyn Public School, I would ask again that all parents remind their children of the need to act politely, respectfully and make the right choices for their behaviour. There are a number of events coming up which would be a shame for students to miss out on because their behaviour has not been appropriate.

The New Resource Allocation Model (RAM)
In 2012, the NSW Government announced its Local Schools, Local Decisions (LSLD) reform for NSW public schools. This reform places students at the centre of school decision making. It gives principals and school communities a greater say over how they allocate and use the available resources to best meet the needs of their students.

To enable the shift of resources to the school level, a new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) has been developed. The RAM is designed to achieve a simpler, fairer and more transparent distribution of government school funding and change the way resources (Staff and Finances) are managed in our school system.

The RAM provides many benefits to schools by:
- Allocating most funding on a per student basis
- The new RAM will ensure funding is provided to schools based on the characteristics of those schools and the students within them. This will result in additional schools receiving funding to support students with identified needs. In
addition, schools identified as having students with the highest need will be funded at a higher rate.

- Reducing big changes in a school’s resources, e.g. losing a teacher or admin staff member, which can accompany small changes in the reduction in enrolments. Under the current system, a small change in circumstances can mean a school drops out of a program and loses a significant amount, or a whole teacher or school executive position.

- Providing increased funding that goes directly to schools. This will make school planning easier from year to year.

- Shifting from the current funding model where schools manage 10% of the total public school education budget to more than 70% being managed by schools.

- Allowing for more flexibility, innovation and decision-making in schools to meet student needs.


**Oz Tag**

Last Thursday five teams from Kentlyn went to Kayess Park in Minto to compete in a League Tag Gala Day. Thank you to Mr Saunders and Miss Chisholm for organising the day. The two junior teams had a great day of competition, playing 5 games with a mix of wins and losses. The seniors played in two pools with one team winning all their games. At the end of the day Kentlyn had one senior and a junior team place high enough in the competition to head to the final day to play against winners from other zones. Good luck to all the players.

Mr Saunders

**Morning Supervision at School**

Please remember that morning duty at our school begins at 8:40am. Please remember to drop your child after this time. The only exception is if they are going to Marian’s OOSH. Some students are dropped off as early as 8:10am on some days. If you need to go to work early, please register with Marian’s OOSH so that your child can access this service when you need them to. Thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

**No Hat – Play in the Shade**

A kind reminder to everyone that we will be following and monitoring, more than ever our, “No Hat – Play in the Shade” policy in Term 4. Please ensure that your child has their school hat with them every day.

**P&C Disco – Thursday 5 December from 5:00 – 7:30pm**

Our great P&C will be organising a school disco on Thursday 5 December 2013 from 5:00pm – 7:30pm. More details to follow in the next few weeks.

**Presentation Awards Ceremony -**

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

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

On this night we also present students with their medallions for achieving various ‘Principal Awards’ over the years. If your child has collected the correct number of Principal Certificates please send them in so that we can start planning and ordering the medallions. Mrs Neal will be collecting and
collating these names. The certificates need to be in by Monday 18 November 2013.

**Principal’s Awards**
Students are responsible for the maintenance and storage of their Principal’s Awards. When 3 are collected, the student delivers the awards to the Office where a record of receipt will be kept. The student will receive a **Silver Medallion** at the Presentation Day/Evening in Term 4. When a student has collected 5 Principal’s Awards, a **Gold Medallion** will be presented at the Presentation Day/Evening in Term 4. When a student has collected 7 Principal’s Awards, a **Platinum Award** will be presented at the Presentation Day/Evening in Term 4.

5 Mini Awards = 1 Merit Award  
10 Merit Awards = 1 Principal’s Award  
3 Principal’s Awards = 1 Silver Medallion  
5 Principal’s Awards = 1 Gold Medallion  
7 Principal’s Awards = 1 Platinum Award

This year we added in a new category, as we have a Year 5 student, Matthew Cooper, who has achieved all levels.

The new category is achieved when any child receives 9 Principal’s Awards. He/she will receive a “Diamond Award”.

Awards need to be finalised by Monday 18 November 2013.

**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:  

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:  

**Student Leaders 2014**
The following students have been nominated or have nominated themselves as future Student Leaders.

- **Matthew Cooper**
- **Tamara Woolley**
- **Anthony Robinson**
- **Damien Ross**
- **Travis Reardon**
- **Ben Jackson**
- **Tarra Straney**
- **Jo Corbet**
- **Joel Martin**
- **Maamora Tema S**
- **Sam Maxwell**
- **Riley Arnold**
- **Penny Auger**
- **Erin Dobinson**

Speeches will be held on Wednesday 27 November from 12:30 - 1:30pm in our school hall. We wish them all the best and as long as everyone gives their best effort, they should be proud of themselves.

**Administration - End of Financial Year**
The school’s end of financial year is on Friday, 29 November. Please ensure if you are intending on paying any school contributions or excursion fees for 2013 that they are paid before this date.
The school office will be unable to receipt any money on Friday, 29 November or on Monday, 2 December while the end of financial year rollover is underway.
Important Term 4 Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 14 November - Kindergarten Orientation 2 - 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 3 - Numeracy 9:30 - 10:30 and Campbelltown Performing Arts Matinée

Friday 22 November - 2/3D’s excursion to Campbelltown Bicycle and Road Safety Education Centre.

Wednesday 27 November - School Leaders speeches and voting 12:30 - 1:30 in our school hall.

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 and P&C Disco 5:00 - 7:30pm

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

Thursday 12 December - Movie and Picnic Day

Friday 13 December - Talent Quest and Reports go home

Tuesday 17 December - Year 6 Farewell

Wednesday 18 December - Last day of school

Thursday 19 December - Pupil Free Day

Friday 20 December - Pupil Free Day

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)

Annual School Report Surveys

It is that time of the year again when we start preparing for our Annual School Report.

Attached to last week’s newsletter were two parent surveys. We would greatly appreciate your opinion and value any comments you wish to make.

Please return the surveys by Friday 15 November to Mrs Thompson in the office.

The smiles you give come back to you!

Androula Kavallaris
Principal
R IS FOR RESPECT
If children are to show respect for others, they need to understand what it is to be respected. Practices that nurture respect:

• Treating our children as the most important person in the world
• Encouraging our children to have high, but achievable, expectations of themselves
• Giving love and encouragement with no strings attached
• Listening attentively and respectfully
• Enjoying time together
• Telling our children why we love them so and often.

SUPER SIX STRATEGIES
Over the last fortnight, the staff and students have been working solidly on the Super Six comprehension strategy of SUMMARISING.

It has been a wonderful opportunity to visit classrooms across the school and witness the amazing work of both students and teachers alike.

INTEREST GROUPS
Interest groups have commenced and operate daily during first half lunch. All students have had the opportunity to nominate themselves to participate in the program of their choice. The selections are as follows:

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<td>Computer Club</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Crafts</td>
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<td>Dance Group</td>
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It is lovely to see students from all year levels working collaboratively together during these interest groups.

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Assistant Principal

School Holiday Camps
Northcott Children's Recreation are looking for referrals for children in school years 4-6 (Upper Primary) or 7-9 (Junior High) who have a primary intellectual disability with low support needs to participate in a Sport and Recreation Camp. The camp is run and staffed by Northcott. Participants will have the opportunity to experience a range of activities tailored to their level of comfort and ability including climbing, games, sports, bushwalking and canoeing. All with experienced instructors and support staff supervision.

Camp dates: Years 4-6: Wednesday 15th –Friday 17th January 2014
What’s included: Food, accommodation, activities, support staff and transport.
Who: Children with a primary intellectual disability.
Participant age range: School Years 4-6 or 7-9
Level of support: There will be a one staff member to four participant ratio (1:4) Northcott staff are trained and have a current First Aid Certificate. Sport and Recreation staff are also trained and qualified in program areas.
Cost: Approx $250, participants may also like to bring a small amount of spending money for souvenirs.
Requirements: Once a referral has been accepted there will be various information and healthcare forms to be filled out before the participant attends the camp.
Digital citizenship
We’re the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills - how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online.
Here are some tips to get you started:

Sun safety
This spring has seen temperatures soar. A new information pack with the latest advice on sun safety is available for schools and parents.
Find out more:

Reading challenge
The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge Preview app is a great way for students to find new books and track their progress in the challenge. It’s free to download.
To download the app:
http://apps.microsoft.com/windows/en-au/app/nsw-premiers-reading-challenge/7a451df8-214b-4cd7-92a8-f8a4ea6d8e78

Art about Australia
The Aussie Art competition invites primary school children (K-6) to enter an artwork with a brief description of why ‘Australia is the best place in the world’ for a chance to win a P&O family cruise or a 16GB iPad 2. The competition closes on 17 February 2014.
Enter the competition: www.aussievault.com.au

Ready for high school
Just to let you know that the Transition to high school, Ready for High School Checklist is now available in 36 languages.
Search by language:

When was the last time you changed your toothbrush?
You would be surprised how many people wouldn’t be able to answer that question. Let’s face it, changing your toothbrush doesn’t seem like the most important thing to keep track of. But it really should be!

Numerous international studies have shown that a toothbrush will start to lose its effectiveness after only one month of regular usage. These studies have also shown that people who do not replace their toothbrush regularly are found to have significantly more plaque on their teeth than those people changing their toothbrush frequently. There are also health concerns too. Old toothbrushes can attract bacteria leading to many illnesses such as diabetes, respiratory problems and even the common cold.

Most dentists will recommend that you change your toothbrush every 2 months, and even more frequently when you have been sick. So how do you keep track of this?
There are now many online services which can help parents keep track when they last replaced their families toothbrush. www.ToothbrushDirect.com.au

Canteen News:
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.
Principal’s Awards
Liam Coskerie 1M
Cooper Peters 1M
Tarra Straney 4/5s
Chanelle Woolley 4/5S
Thomas Ferro 3/4N
Bronwyn Zapirain 1M

Value of the Week Awards

Fairness
K-2
Jacob Howe 2/3D
3-6
Erin Dobinson 4/5S

Co-Operation
K-2
Liam Coskerie 1M
3-6
Vanessa Redzic 3/4N

Congratulations!