Week 10 Term 4
Always Our Best

Rule of the week:

Week 10: Responsible: Respect the rights and property of the school and others

Value of the Week:

Week 11: Learner: Learn as much as you can

Respect

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.

Movie Day and Picnic Day:
On Thursday 12 December, all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are invited to attend an end-of-year Movie at Dumaresq Street Cinema to view "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2". After the movie the students will come back to school to have a picnic lunch. All parents are welcome to join their child for the picnic lunch. We are due to arrive back at school around 11:45 - 12:00pm. The screening will be held at 9:45 am. Travel: Will be by bus.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I would like to begin my final newsletter for the year with thanking our hard working 2013 P&C Committee and all the community for your support throughout this year. I have said it many times our great school would not be, without your constant help and support. The P&C AGM will be held early in 2014 and we are looking forward to the continued support and dedication from our community. Yesterday’s raffle and sausage sizzle raised $732.00 for our great school. 😊😊😊

As I have said many times before I am grateful to be working at such a great school with highly qualified and caring staff, but it is with sadness that I thank the next three teachers for their hard work and dedication as I will not be able to offer them permanent work at our school in 2014.

Thank you to Mrs Davenport, Mrs McIntosh and Miss Hagedoorn for being an integral part of our school and community in 2013. These teachers are all excellent classroom practitioners who have the best interests of the students at all times and ensure that all students in their care achieve their personal best. We wish them all the very best for 2014.

Thank you,

Teachers!
Clothing: Movie & picnic day is a “mufti” (non-uniform) day. Please ensure your child dresses appropriately (no singlet tops, no thongs) and wears sensible, closed-in shoes suitable for walking and playing games.

Food: Students should bring their lunch and recess (including a small amount of party food) plus a sufficient quantity of drink in small containers (fruit juices and water). This food will be consumed at school while they are having their picnic with their family and friends.

Cost: $15.00 - this covers bus fare, movie entry, popcorn and a drink

Student Leaders for 2014

School Captains: Matthew Cooper and Tamara Woolley

School Leaders: Damien Ross, Joel Martin, Riley Arnold and Anthony Robinson.

2014 is promising to be a good year for our School Leaders with many leadership opportunities to help them enhance and build on the skills that they already have.

Year 6 2014 T-Shirt Design Winner

Congratulations to Tamara Woolley for being selected as our winner for the Year 6 2014 Polo Shirt Design. This is a great honour. Tamara’s design, will be printed on the back of our Year 6 2014 school Polo Shirts.

A note will be sent home early in the new year for all Year 6 students to place their orders.

Talent Quest

Our Talent Quest will be held on Friday 13 December 2013 from 12:00 - 1:00pm. All parents are invited to attend.

Important Term 4 Dates for your Diary:

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)
The smiles you give come back to you!
Androula Kavallaris
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S DESK

As we bring the year 2013 to a close, we have so much to look back on...
But initially let me start by thanking each and every one of you, students, parents and staff alike, for welcoming me so warmly into this gorgeous little oasis called Kentlyn Public School. Thanks to all of you for making Kentlyn such a wonderful place to work, learn and grow. Without all your collective interests and support it would definitely not be the same. It truly is a blessing to be a part of the Kentlyn community and have the honour to call it my home.

Parents and caregivers, I’d like to congratulate you for selecting such an outstanding school for your children. I say this with utmost earnest and verity. It is my greatest pleasure to work alongside some of the most passionate, dedicated and resourceful group of educators I have known. They consistently give their heart and soul to the well-being of the students here at Kentlyn and I hope they all fully recognise the appreciation I have for their efforts and their passion they display when working with our students. A huge thank you, to each and every one of you!

Something for you to ponder, a challenge that we are faced with each and every day in the classroom...
If my calculations are correct our 2013 kindergarten students will be retiring in the year 2073. As educators, we have no idea of how the world will look in five years, much less 60 years, yet we are charged with preparing our children for life in that world. Our children are facing many emerging issues such as global warming, famine, poverty, health issues, a global population explosion and other environmental and social issues. These issues lead to a need for children to be able to communicate, function and create change personally, socially, economically and politically on not just a local, but also on national and global levels. Some of the careers they will chose, haven’t even been invented yet!

Because of this rapidly changing and evolving world in which we live, today’s 21st century classroom is very different to the classrooms I grew up in. The 21st century teacher has no choice but to continually learn new things to meet the needs of their students. Here, at Kentlyn Public School, we have a wealth of teaching experience but we are committed to continuously taking on new learning to ensure we are keeping up to date and meeting the needs of every student in our care.

This year, our school was fortunate enough to be selected as one of the lucky schools in the country to participate in the National Literacy and Numeracy Partnerships. This project came with some much appreciated external funding. However along with this funding came expectations; an expectation that we would review a teaching practice, make modifications to improve and build upon current teaching practices and increase student learning outcomes. After revision of our data, the area of Reading – particularly comprehension was identified as an area we could focus on to improve student outcomes. As you maybe also be aware as of 2014, it is mandatory that all schools across Australia implement the new English curriculum.

The process we decided to undertake here at Kentlyn, to ensure we were working most effectively and at optimum levels was to tie these two requirements together. Staff here at Kentlyn, were taken through an extremely rigorous year of professional learning around Reading and comprehension and the implementation of the new K-10 English Syllabus. This professional learning consisted of in school workshops after school, online courses, video conferences, collaborative planning for programming and assessment, demonstration lessons, and team teaching where teachers had the opportunity to view and reflect on their own and others teaching practices using the Quality Teaching model.

Students were also a part of this project and new learning. You may have heard your children talking about the Super Six or read about them in the school newsletter. The super six are a set of reading strategies used to interact, understand and connect with texts. Every student in this school has been working on a focussed curriculum around these super six throughout the year.
Parents and community were also invited to information sessions around how the super six is taught within the classroom during Education Week. This whole school focus from students, teachers and the community has had marvellous results for our students and teachers alike.

Our results in both NAPLAN and school based data, have reflected the hard work and dedication of our staff, students and parents. In school data, demonstrates that 100% of teachers at Kentlyn have broadened the skills and strategies they possess to teach the area of comprehension and their knowledge of how to use our new document to plan, implement and assess students.

In school data also reflects significant student growth in the learning outcomes in the area of reading and comprehension.

Our NAPLAN data was also extremely positive and reiterated the growth of our students learning we have seen from our in school data.

NAPLAN, is a nation-wide assessment conducted in both Years 3 and 5 reported that 94% of our year 5 students and 100% of our year 3 students met National Benchmarks in all areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy.

Some other pleasing results our NAPLAN data has reported:
- The number of students achieving the higher bands in NAPLAN has increased.
- The trend data demonstrating overall improvement for our school has improved significantly.
- And most rewardingly, our school topped the list of schools in our School Education Group to demonstrate the greatest growth in the area of Reading and demonstrated the seconded greatest growth of all schools in Spelling.

These wonderful results are indicative of the hard work and dedication of our staff and students as well as the support from our parents and need significant recognition.

Recently, our teachers have spent a great deal of time and effort finalising end of year celebrations and reports where you are provided with a meaningful insight into each and every child, their strengths, their character and their interests. We hope that both you and your child will look back on 2013 here at Kentlyn and feel proud of achievements.

I am so very grateful for all the relationships that have been built here at Kentlyn and that will continue to give you our quality focus, personal approach.

I truly hope that you all have a joyous, heartfelt and happy Christmas with your beautiful families.

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Assistant Principal

Ready for high school
Can you recall what you were most apprehensive about when you started high school? This video of Year 7 students explain why teens shouldn't be worried about starting high school, and how they can get off to a great start in the first few days. Watch the videos:

Kik messenger
Does your child use Kik? Police have described it as ‘’the No.1 social media problem involving teenagers’’, but most parents would barely have heard of messaging app Kik before last week. Find out what it is:
http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/technology-az/-/technology_glossary/7w0F/5353/Kik+messenger

Why cyber safety experts are concerned:

Choosing school shoes
Are expensive school shoes the best option for happy feet? Let’s face it. School shoes have never been at the cutting edge of fashion. In fact if you look at what your parents were wearing, the humble school shoe really hasn’t evolved much at all. Tips for choosing shoes:
Teach your kids to be waterproof
As temperatures rise, the risk of drowning increases too. Review these water-safety tips to help keep your family safe this summer.
Find out more:

CANTEEN NEWS:
This Friday, 13 December 2013, will be our last canteen day for 2013. Thank you very much to all the parents/carers that have volunteered their time throughout this year to allow us to be open 3 days a week.

This Day will also be "Red Friday Day". Thank you also to everyone that bought a raffle ticket as well as a sausage sandwich as this resulted in us raising $732.00 for our school. Thank you to all the parents/carers who have sent in donations for the raffle and congratulations to 4/5S for winning the "Pizza Party".

We would also like to acknowledge and thank the following companies for their support and donations for our Christmas Raffle.

Thank You,
- Ruse IGA
- Ruse Service Station
- Waminda Bakery
- Seasons Variety Store (Ruse)
- Farm Fresh meats & Deli Campbelltown mall
- Campbelltown Fruit market
- Lily Anne Designs
- BG Hair Studio
- City Hair Studio

Principal’s Awards
David Dimitry 3/4N
Hannah Walker 3/4N
Nathanael Robinson 6C
Sam Maxwell 4/5S
Alejandro Nilo Barona 2/3D
Erin Dobinson 4/5S
Leah Senkowski 6C
Chad Humphries 6C

Value of the Week Awards
Participation
K-2
Calam Goodman 2/3D
3-6
Paris Gardiner 6C
Integrity
K-2
Jack Griffiths 1M
3-6
Nathanaeal Robinson 6C

Congratulations!