Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope that we all had a great break and a well-deserved rest.

The Monday of Week 11 last term was a very memorable day as we not only had our ANZAC Day Service with our very own special guest, Mr John Lees, but we also had another special visitor, a young male koala.

**ANZAC Day Service.**

Thank you to all Kentlyn Public School students for being so respectful and courteous at the assembly. ANZAC Day is about remembering all the soldiers who died for all of us so we can live in this beautiful free country. Thank you also to our School Leaders who ran the assembly, their first official role, and didn’t they do it splendidly! Thank you also to Miss Chisholm, Mrs McIntosh and Mr Saunders for organising the special assembly.

The other exciting thing that happened on that day was a young koala visited our school and really stole the show. Students watched as he climbed from one branch to another and was most adventurous when he tried to jump from one tree to another, and nearly fell off. This used to be a very common occurrence many years ago, but unfortunately due to many reasons there are fewer visiting our school.
Important Term 2 Dates for your Diary:

**Thursday 9 May** - School Cross Country and school canteen re-opens.

**Friday 10 May** - 6C's item at K-6 Assembly School canteen operating as normal.

**Tuesday 14 May** - **Thursday 16 May** - NAPLAN testing

**Wednesday 15 May** - P&C Meeting 6:30pm

**Tuesday 21 May** - ICAS Computer Skills Test

**Friday 24 May** - GALA Day

**Monday 3 June** - Constable Louise Michell visiting our school and talking to 3-6 students about bullying and cyber bullying.

**National Partnership Literacy Project**
I am pleased to announce that we have been selected as one of 56 schools in the South Western Sydney Region to participate in this project. The school has been given a significant amount of money to improve the student learning outcomes of all students in Literacy, especially in the area of comprehension.

The Improving Literacy Partnership is underpinned by a whole-school approach to improving school outcomes in literacy as well as focusing on quality teaching and professional learning.

The bonus for Kentlyn Public School is of course that we have our very own ex Literacy Consultant right at our door step. Mrs Neal will be professionally developing all our staff in all aspects of Literacy and the new English Syllabus one day a week. This will involve team meetings and collaborative planning, professional learning sessions as well as a team teaching approach throughout the next three terms. To ensure continuation of all classroom programs and routines we will ensure, to the best of our ability, that 3/4N have the same teacher throughout the terms.

**School Cross Country**
The Annual School Cross Country Carnival will be held on Thursday 9 May, 2013. The carnival will be held on our school grounds and the oval, beginning at 9.30am. All students will participate in the carnival. After the carnival, students who competed in the Junior (8 year olds to 10 year olds), 11 year olds or Senior (12 and 13 year olds) and finished in the first seven positions will be invited to represent Kentlyn PS at Zone Cross Country Carnival.

Parents are invited to the school cross country carnival in the morning to support their child / children and where possible assist with the running of the carnival.

At present we require a number of parent volunteers to act as course officials. Parents and families are invited to have a picnic lunch with their child / children on the oval after the carnival.

The P and C will be opening the canteen for the first time this year for you to purchase food and drinks.

**New Toilets**
We had our pre-handover meeting on Friday and there are some minor things that still need to be completed, however, the toilets were opened today and all students were most impressed 😊😊😊
Dance Program K-6
This term all students will be participating in a dance program delivered by our very own Miss Chisholm. We are very lucky to have our very own trained Zumba Dance instructor and all students certainly enjoyed their first lesson last week 😊

What makes Zumba so attractive to so many different people is that it is not directed at a specific skill or fitness level. People of all ages can benefit from aerobics. It is a great way to improve muscle tone and balance and increase overall energy levels. It is an excellent cardio routine, but it does require a certain amount of letting go of inhibitions. Some people may feel silly at first, but ultimately, Zumba is all about having a good time while getting fit.

NAPLAN 2013
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests. NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. More information is available at:

www.nap.edu.au and
http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are already learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process, and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

The NAPLAN 2013 Information for Parents brochure is now available http://www.nap.edu.au/verve/_resources/

West Tigers Sports Grant
A very big thank you to Mr Saunders for registering our school to be in the draw for winning a West Tigers Sports Grant. Last week our school was selected and as a result West Tigers Leagues Club will be donating $1,000 to Kentlyn PS to purchase sport equipment K-6.

2/3D’s Classroom – Foundations have been laid 😊
I have been informed today that the new classroom will be delivered on Thursday 9 May…. of course on the same day as our cross-country!!!!! 😊

Hopefully by the beginning of Week 3, 2/3D will have a lovely new classroom to move into. I would like to thank Mrs Davenport, 2/3D students and of course Mrs Muller and all the staff for their flexibility and willingness to share our library as a classroom for all these weeks.

Evacuation and Lockdown Drills
Our school will be practicing our WHS (Work Health and Safety) drills throughout the school terms. These drills are compulsory for all schools and it will be to the benefit of all students and staff.

It is imperative that if you are visiting our school as a parent helper, volunteer, tradesman etc you sign
on in the front office and receive your visitor’s badge. It is also important to read over our evacuation and lockdown procedures and if further information is required you can take an evacuation and lockdown drills pamphlet with you. All are available near our ‘visitor sign on book’.

It is also imperative to remember that if we did have to go to lockdown or evacuate our school our first two priorities are

- securing everyone that is on school premises, students, staff and visitors, by ringing the appropriate bell and
- contacting 000.

Once the police/fire brigade etc arrives at the school they take control of the site and remain in control until the ‘threat’ is over and responsibility is handed back to the principal. Police and/or fire brigade then work with the principal to continue to manage the incident.

Please note, in the event that we do have to go to lockdown or evacuation, it is highly recommended that you listen to the media reports for updates on the school rather than driving to the school.

Peer Support Training
On Wednesday 10 April Year 5 and 6 actively participated in the Peer Support Training Program. Students undertook activities that helped develop skills to prepare them to assist our younger school members in their peer support program. This program builds on leadership, problem solving, empathy and understanding. Our aim is to ensure Year 5 and 6 students become responsible, organised, trustworthy leaders and role models for all students at Kentlyn Public School. The students are well under way to achieving this goal. They had a fantastic day at school and I would like to thank Mr Saunders and Miss Chisholm for supporting our students in this program. I would also like to thank all the Year 5 and 6 students for actively participating in all activities, demonstrating respect and responsibility during the day.

Annual School Report
The school’s Annual School Report for 2012 is now available to view on our website. If you would prefer a printed copy, please request one at the school office. Many thanks to the committee, including parent representatives who assisted with compiling last year’s report.

Congratulations to the following students:
Nathanael Robinson for making it into the Zone Squad for Rugby Union. Nathanael will be finding out later this week if he was successful in making the Zone Rugby Union team. We will keep our fingers crossed for him 😃

Leah Senkowski for been selected to represent the Zone Girls Touch Football at the SSW Carnival on Monday 20 May 2013 AND.....
Leah once again for making the Zone Netball Team. Leah will be representing Kentlyn PS on Wednesday 22 May 2013.

Staff Car Park – Kind Reminder
A kind reminder that parents and visitors to the school are not allowed to drive into the car park. The only exception is of course parents requiring to use the disable parking area and any P&C members who need to use the area to unload and load things for the canteen.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter. 😊

Headlice
We have been advised that some students at our school have head lice. Please remember to check your child’s hair regularly and if head lice are found you must treat them as soon as possible.

You may find the following website from NSW Department of Health useful: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/headlice/index.asp
Monday 8 April to Sunday 9 June 2013

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths. From Monday 8 April to Sunday 9 June, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and when it’s complete, the Points Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school. At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students—including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

We have collected around 100 stickers so far. Please remember to ask for the stickers at the checkout when you shop at Woolies.

A big thank you in advance to Mrs Grover and Mrs Thompson for organising this fundraising event.

The smiles you give come back to you!

Androula Kavallaris
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S DESK

F is for FAILURE

Did you know that Albert Einstein experienced many failures? When a child experiences failure; in an assessment; on the sporting field; or anywhere else, it is imperative that as care givers we:

- Acknowledge the child’s feelings of frustration and disappointment, these are natural feelings.
- Don’t try to minimise the situation because it DOES matter to your child.
- Help your child evaluate the cause for the failure and use what he or she has learned to create a new strategy and try, try, try again.

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Assistant Principal

Fire station open day

Kids could have their dreams come true and get to climb up on the big red truck. There will be activities, show bags and a chance for kids and their parents to meet their local fire fighting heroes on your local station’s open day.

Find out more: www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Get the maths on risk-taking

Kids can’t cram maths, especially concepts half understood; the foundations must first be in place. Listen to broadcaster and maths fan Adam Spencer on loving maths for our kids’ sake and what to do when it’s all too hard.


P&C Meeting – Wednesday 15 May 2013 at 6:30pm in the staffroom.
Canteen Helpers:
We are still looking for a few more parent helpers to help out in the canteen. If you can help please contact Catherine Cooke or Tammy O’Brien.

Catherine Cooke
P&C President

You are Invited
To attend a meeting with our New Scout Group

for Children with Special Needs
Catering for children between 6 and 18

At Scouts you will have lots of exciting experiences, you will work and play in teams, make friends, and have loads of fun. Scouts get outdoors doing things like hiking, camping, canoeing and geocaching. Scouts learn to care for the environment, be good leaders and great ambassadors in our communities. Anyone can be a Scout.

Meeting
Every Wednesdays 5:00pm – 6:30pm
Every Thursdays 5:00pm – 6:00pm (may change to suit needs of interested parties)
Scout Hall Canberra Crescent, Campbelltown

Please invite anyone you think may be interested…

For more information please contact
Sharon on 0414 666204 or Tracie on 0415 449787

Principal’s Awards

Bryce Pearson 1M
Olivia Martin 1M

Value of the Week Awards

Integrity
K-2
Alejandro Nilo Barona
2/3D

3-6

Teghan Shelton 6C

Care
K-2
Calais Christie KG

3-6

Amelia Grimes 6C

Congratulations!