Week 4 Term 4  

Always Our Best

<table>
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<th>Rule of the week</th>
<th>Value of the Week</th>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong> Safe: Be in the right place at the right time doing the right thing.</td>
<td><strong>Care</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong> Responsible: Always be polite</td>
<td><strong>Fairness</strong></td>
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*****All notes sent home and newsletters are available on our website http://www.kentlyn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/ ****

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of my school community I would like to thank Mr Greg Turnbull, Principal of Blairmount Public School, for assisting us with extra staff last week in order for my staff and I to attend Travis’ funeral. It’s this type of networking and assisting in time of crisis that makes us a great community.

Staff changes for 2015.
Miss Helliwell has been successful in gaining a transfer to Wollongong Public School in 2015. Miss Helliwell has been an integral part of Kentlyn Public School for many years and she will be greatly missed. We wish her all the very best at her new school in 2015.

We’re sorry to see you go...

I am also happy to welcome Miss Alex Heriot to our great school in 2015. Miss Heriot was successful in gaining her permanent position, through a merit selection process, via the targeted graduate pool of applicants.

Parent Forums Tomorrow – Thursday 30 October.
I am pleased to announce that we do have approximately 35 parents who have RSVP for this event either for the breakfast or the afternoon BBQ. This is great news 😊😊 However, it is not too late, if you still wish to attend. Please call the school and let us know for catering purposes. 😊

The breakfast will be held from 8:00am - 9:00am in K/1R and BBQ from 5:30 - 6:30 also in K/1R room.

We are very excited about the changes we are hoping to implement at our great school next year and we would like you all to be involved in this decision making process. I’m sure that by now you would have heard from your children our intention to purchase a laptop for each child at Kentlyn K-6 and the fact that we are installing wifi all across the school by the end of Term 4.
By purchasing the laptops this year we will be saving $200 per unit purchased, which will be at the low cost of $100 per laptop.

In order to do this we will need the community’s support with any extra donations that can be made to the school. One way of doing this is by reminding parents who have not contributed to our school fees this year, that this is a very worthwhile cause and all money given to the school will go towards the purchasing of these laptops.

Tomorrow the forum will involve Mrs Neal and myself briefly talking to you about 21st Century learning and then unveiling some of our suggestions and plans for 2015. This will give you the opportunity to share with us any other ideas or suggestions you might have on how to improve our school.

The way we see it is that you know your child/ren and we know education, so together we can achieve the best outcome for them.

goldilocks

Effort and Learning- What could Goldilocks teach us?
"I put soooo much effort into this and I still didn’t do as well as I wanted!" “I am really upset because I wanted a ribbon!” We have all heard statements like this reflecting the disappointment that comes from children trying, perhaps really hard, but still not achieving what they had hoped for. As adults we realise there are many factors that influence success, but this is a complex idea to understand.

So how can we help children understand the role of effort in successful learning, and not to be discouraged if they don’t win or achieve their desired goal?
For some children the claim of putting ‘so much effort’ into things, sometimes means with an implied hopefulness that this burst will achieve remarkable and instantaneous results. Often our children put a lot of pressure on themselves to achieve an ‘outcome’. As our children grow, it is important to teach them that some things take time. None of us learned to walk overnight; it took time and perseverance and yes, a few bruises along the way.

Remember the story about Goldilocks who didn’t find the right porridge or the right bed the first time, but she kept trying until she did!
Ensure you praise your child for effort, as well as success. Encourage your child to enjoy what they are doing and do their best rather than worrying about an outcome. Do your children hear you praising them just for trying hard, even before the results are in, or before the race has started?
Children learn from your experiences, so tell them about not only your success or achievements at work, but the times you are putting in a lot of effort and not always reaching your goals. Does your child know that there are some aspects of your work that really require a lot of effort or do they only hear about your achievements or success? Do you tell them about the times you took on a challenge, didn’t succeed and went on to try again?

Research by Carol Dweck and many others has demonstrated the importance of developing a growth mindset in children. It is important that all our children learn to embrace challenges wholeheartedly, knowing they probably won’t achieve success instantly, but with time, effort and perseverance they will build resilience and improve their skills.

Effort is a key ingredient for success, within part of a long term plan. It is important that children hear your stories as you tackle challenges yourself, so they learn to develop realistic expectations that life includes setbacks and that they know how to work through them. In the moments of disappointment there are always important lessons to be learned about themselves, their abilities, their goals and their expectations.

Allergies Reminder
We have some students in our school who are allergic to some foods e.g. peanuts, milk products, eggs, animal fur, grass etc.

We are kindly requesting that sandwiches with peanut butter, nutella or other peanut products NOT be brought to school to ensure that the safety of these students is maintained.

Our canteen is "Nut Free" and we wish our school to be as "Nut Free" as possible.
Thank you in advance.
Kinder
garten Orientation
Kindergarten Orientation for our incoming 2015 children will be held on Thursday 6 November 2014 at 9:30am. While the children participate in a variety of class activities, a parent education session will occur in K/1R room.

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](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/startingschool).

Morning Supervision at School
Please remember that morning duty at our school begins at 8:40am. Please make sure you do not drop your child at school before that time unless 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.

Student Leaders 2015
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 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 year’s selection will be a tough one and all the teachers look forward to the Year 5 students following the current Year 6 student’s great examples of leadership.
Mr Saunders and Miss Chisholm

Medallion Awards for Presentation Day
All students who are eligible to receive medallion awards need to present their certificates to Mrs Neal by Friday 21 November 2014.

Important Term 4 Dates for your Diary
Thursday 30 October - parent forums – breakfast and BBQ
Monday 3 November - Heartbeat program for grades 3 & 4.
Thursday 6 November - Year 5 Nominations for School Leaders and Kindergarten Orientation 9:30 - 11:10
Friday 7 November - K-6 Assembly - Leaders to run and P&C Meeting in the library 1:00pm
Wednesday 12 November - High school transition day for 4/5S and 5/6C
Thursday 13 November - Kindergarten Orientation 9:30 -10:30 - Literacy Session
Thursday 20 November - Kindergarten Orientation - Numeracy Session
Friday 21 November - K-6 Assembly - Leaders to run and Medallion Awards - final date to bring in your Principal Awards to receive a medallion at our Presentation Day Assembly.
Wednesday 26 November - School Leaders’ speeches and voting
Thursday 27 November - Kindergarten Orientation 9:30 –10:30 then a BBQ in the hall.
Tuesday 2 December - Principal’s morning tea
Wednesday 3 December - P&C Meeting 6:30pm in the staffroom
Wednesday 3 December - Leumeah High School Open Day
Friday 5 December - K-6 Assembly School Leaders to run and P&C School disco
Thursday 11 December - Movie Day
Friday 12 December - Formal Presentation Assembly 10:30 – 12:00 and P&C Fair 12:30 - 3:00
Tuesday 16 December - Year 6 farewell
Wednesday 17 December - Last school day for the students
Thursday 18 December and Friday 19 December - Staff Development Days.

Bushfire Lockdown Drill
Early this term I met with three senior fire fighters who work at the fire station behind our school to revise our ‘bushfire evacuation’ plan.

We have been advised that in case of a bushfire we will need to follow similar procedures to our
playground lockdown routine, which is for all students to go to the current K/1R and KG room.

We are in the process of preparing 2 "bushfire emergency kits’ to have in the rooms if ever we do need to go into bushfire lockdown.

In case of catastrophic or very dangerous conditions, it is my understanding that the school will be contacted by 4:30pm the day before to inform the principal of any school closures that might be required to take place. Our school website also has been updated to have a Bushfire Alert section where in case of emergency I will be updating it to ensure that update information is disseminating to the community quickly and accurately.

It is imperative that I emphasise once again that all parents who enter school grounds and canteen volunteers sign on in the 'sign on book' at the front office and wear one of our visitor's lanyards. This will ensure that we can cater for everyone’s safety at all times.

SCHOOLS A TO Z
At the moment the Schools A to Z website has some excellent resources in it that you might like to access.
There are monthly planners which show school dates, there is also information on how to motivate "laid back" children and even some great lunch box ideas for healthy lunches. Well worth a look.

Selective High Schools application
Entry to Government Selective High Schools for Year 7 in 2016 - Online applications open

Applications close by 18 November 2014 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 2016.

Parents with internet access are requested to apply online. Online applications will be available from 14 October to 17 November 2014.

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 by Friday 14 November 2014. All students seeking Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2016 will be required to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of Thursday 12 March 2015.

Applicants may apply for a total of any four selective high schools.
A complete list of selective high schools is available at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolfind/types/shs_ahs_details.php

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.

For lost pets Xena, a 6 year old black & tan Rottweiler x...

Lost
Huge Reward
offered for the safe return of
“XENA” – Black & tan Rottweiler x

Missing from Leumeah
On Monday 13th October 2014

Xena is 6 years old, she is microchipped & desexed & is wearing a collar. It is urgent she is found as she suffers from bloat. She needs a special diet and a lot of care. If she is panting or overly excited she needs help fast. If you find her, please call us or take her to any vet hospital. We will take care of the vet bills.

Call: Pet Search on 1300 309 004 or Xena’s family on 0421 495 890 with any information
Planning for 2015
The staff and I have started to plan for 2015.

Our anticipated numbers for 2015 at the moment are 147 students. We would love to get to the magical number of 159 students, but as you are all aware we are under very strict guidelines in terms of out of area enrolments. If we were to reach 159 students, this would give us another class.

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 2015 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)

Principal’s Awards
Bianca Christie K/1R

Value of the Week Awards
Respect
K-2
Maddison Sciberras K/1R
3-6
Angelina Swift 4/5S

Care
K-2
Kaylee Love 1/2H
3-6
Zac Maxwell 4/5S

Congratulations!

Mrs Grover would like:-
Old magazines
Clean meat trays
Old towels to be used for painting
Egg cartons
Could you please send these to KG classroom.

Thank you
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S DESK

No Hat Play in the Shade

Does your child remember to bring their hat to school every day? As the weather is becoming warmer, the school will focus on implementation of this policy for the well-being and health of our children. Families are reminded that children need to have a hat to play in the playground with their friends. Children who do not have a hat are required to play in the shade.

Crunch and Sip

Children are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to school each day to keep on their desk throughout the day. This is particularly important as the weather is becoming warmer.

The Fruit Break program is a highly successful initiative to encourage the children to improve their daily intake of fresh fruit and vegetables. You can support this initiative by making sure that your child has their Fruit Break snack every day.

Lost Property

We have a large number of lost property items, in particular jumpers. As a reminder, please ensure that all your children’s items are labelled so if they are lost, they can be returned to their rightful owner. Any items without names left at the end of the term will be donated to the clothing pool.

Chicken Pox

Parents please be aware we have been notified of several cases of chicken pox over the last few days. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s health, please seek advice from a medical practitioner.

Here are some simple tips to encourage your child to become a strong reader and a book lover for the rest of their lives.

Share a book at home

Children love to hear a story read aloud. Try reading with different voices, lots of emotion, invented sound effects and funny faces. Change the tone in your voice and vary its loudness or softness. Have fun and enjoy it.

It’s a good idea to practice reading before sharing a book. Listen to your child talk about the story and the pictures. Try asking your child which parts of the books they found exciting, funny or different.

Research the internet

When kids use the internet they need skills and knowledge that are different from those found in books and other printed materials. These skills include such things as links, images, icons and searching.

The internet is a wonderful resource for finding things to support your child’s literacy development. If you are searching for a good book to read to your child, try entering a publisher or an author’s name into a reliable search engine.

Nurturing the artist in your child

Your child may not go on to become a famous musician, actor, dancer, filmmaker or artist. But by nurturing the artist in your child, you can help them grow up able to think for themselves, problem solve and work out different ways to do things. They’ll also be better able to see different points of view, communicate and express their feelings in different ways.

Here are some top tips:

Stimulate your child’s senses - Provide opportunities for your child to experience different sights, smells, sensations and sounds. These sensory activities are food for the brain.

Don’t overschedule your child - Resist the temptation to overcrowd your child with organised activities in an attempt to nurture their creativity. Allow them time to be alone, to daydream and to think.

Encourage experimentation and exploration - A cardboard box has limitless potential. Provide materials and objects that encourage your child to explore ideas, experiment, imagine, play and perform.

Encourage difference - Artists and performers respond to the world in many different ways. Move outside your own comfort zone and introduce your child to different kinds and styles of art, music, drama and dance.
Encourage hard work and perseverance - Show appreciation for your child’s efforts and suppress the impulse to complete tasks for your child.
Learn from mistakes and learn to take risks - Whether things go well or not, try asking your child these questions: “What worked?”, “What didn’t work?”, “What did you do well or what are you pleased with?”, “What would you like to work on?” and “How can I help?”

What parents need to know about Kik
It seems that every few months a new social media platform or mobile app emerges and becomes popular with young people in our school community.
Suddenly “everyone” is on it, according to our children. It’s hard for most adults to keep up.
Many parents will have recently heard about Kik Messenger and are wondering if it’s safe for children. Here are some facts from the School A to Z website’s technology guide:
What is Kik Messenger?
Kik Messenger is a free texting app available on iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, Android, Windows, Samsung Galaxy and Blackberry phones.
How does it work?
Account holders use Kik to text photos, videos and "Kik cards" - which can include YouTube videos, GIFs and drawings - to other users for free.
Why is Kik useful?
Kik is particularly popular with younger teens who generally have a limited texting plan or use an iPod touch because the application gives them access to free messaging.
What do you need to keep in mind about your children and Kik?
The new version of Kik is rated +17 in iTunes because it allows users to send content from other sites like YouTube and Reddit.
The biggest problem is that users often share their private Kik username on other public social networks like Twitter, Instagram or Tumblr.
Any user who knows your child’s username can then send them a Kik message. Instagram and Twitter are full of #kikme requests, with teens posting their usernames. There have been many reported cases of inappropriate adult contact because of this.

Voluntary School Contributions for 2014
As a community we are always very generous and industrious in fundraising, but your voluntary school contribution will assist the school in providing resources beyond what government funding allows.

If you feel you would like to pay more, it would be very much appreciated if you would contribute to the ‘A Laptop for Every Child Program’. This will help us to keep our technology as current as possible for student learning.

Tanya Neal
Yours in Education