**Week 2 Term 1**

**Always Our Best**

**Rule of the week:**

**Week 2**
Safe - Work Safely, Play Safely

**Week 3**
Responsible - respect the rights and property of others and the school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value of the Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellence</td>
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**** All notes sent home and newsletters are now available on our website ****

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**Dear Parents and Caregivers,**

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to all our new children, their families and members of staff. Welcome back also to all our children and parents – I hope you all enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer break. We are looking forward to another wonderful year at Kentlyn Public School. The dedicated staff have spent lots of time during the holidays preparing for the 2015 school year to ensure that your child is settled and catered for from day 1 😊

Miss Heriot and Miss Hagedoorn have joined our great school this year. Miss Heriot will be teaching 6A, replacing Miss Helliwell and Miss Hagedoorn will be teaching 2/3H all of 2015. Mrs Davenport will also be our Learning and Support teacher until the end of Term 2.

**Fantastic Start to the year**

I would like to congratulate all the students for an absolutely fantastic start to the year. It is great to see so many of them looking recharged and ready to learn. It is also a beautiful sight to see the majority of them in FULL school uniform including the black shoes and socks as well as the school hats.

Our school uniform shop will be open every day for the next week or so to continue selling any aspects of our school uniform that you will need. The price list can be found on our website under: Whole School Notes - P&C

Many administrative notes were sent home in the first week to ensure that we are catering for your child and his/her needs. **Thank you to all the parents that have completed them** and returned them back to their child’s teacher. **Please ensure that all forms are to be returned by Friday 6 February 2015.** (All notes can be found on our website)

**Kindergarten Students**

Our Kindergarten students have started ‘big school’ this week and I am extremely impressed on how well they have settled into our school routine.

**Kind Donations**

A very big thank you to Wests for their very kind $1,000 donation to assist with the “*A Laptop for every student*” initiative. For further information and events happening at Wests please have a look at their website: [http://www.westslic.com.au/index.html](http://www.westslic.com.au/index.html)

A very big thank you as well to Ingleburn Village Mowers And Power Tools c/o- Mrs Heather
Campbell, whose son is starting Kindergarten this year for their $350.00 donation. They are just more than a mower shop so please visit their website to see some of their great specials that they have on offer at the moment.


Family Contribution Fee 2015 - Helping us to achieve our goal for a laptop for each child

A very big Thank you! ALSO to all the families that have donated their “family contribution fee” already (last year and this year). Your very kind donation will make that final payment so much easier 😊. Some families have also contributed more than their $70.00 contribution which was extremely kind of them and greatly appreciated.

Once again I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of one fantastic family, The ‘Gerrards’, (Jayden Gerrard) that have worked so hard on getting our great name out there and asking for community support. Due to this great effort, as well as our community support (contribution fees), we have nearly raised close to $8,000 which is an exceptional effort 😊😊😊 Thank you😊

The Family Contribution Fee, although voluntary, will make a difference to our school finances. Some parents paid this fee late last year which was fantastic. If you did pay last year, you do not need to pay your contribution this year 😊.

The total cost of the Family Contribution Fee in 2015, as agreed by the majority of the parents in our 2014 surveys, will be $70.00 per family. However, if you do wish to contribute more towards this very worthwhile cause, you are more than welcome 😊.

P&C Kind Donations 2015
Acknowledgement must also go to our great P&C who last week handed me a cheque for $7 500 which will go towards:
- $5,000 XO’s
- $2,200 - the Mathletics program licence for all students for all of 2015. (they have paid for this for the last 3 years 😊)
- $300 for the swimming carnival bus

You are always welcome at Kentlyn Public School

Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued.

Ways you might get involved:
▪ help in the classroom
▪ listen to children read
▪ help children on computers
▪ help with school excursions
▪ help in our school canteen
▪ help with fundraising events

As a parent helper, if you have not done so already, you will also be asked to complete a “Working with Children” check that will be valid for the whole year. This is a DEC requirement. Please see Mrs Thompson in the office for an application form.

Please also remember that the class teacher is always responsible for discipline in the classroom. If you are visiting or assisting in a small group or in an individual situation and a student is behaving inappropriately it is best to advise the class teacher.

The Monday morning assemblies will continue to take place once again this year. Students assemble under the COLA when school starts and parents are invited to stay and hear announcements and news for the week ahead. The dismissal assemblies will also continue every afternoon as per last year. Please remember that parents are asked to meet their child/ren under the COLA at dismissal time and walk them out of the school grounds. Any children that have not been picked up are sent to the office to wait, to ensure that they are safe.

Classes for 2015 – 6 classes
KG - Mrs Grover
1R - Miss Hackett
1/2C - Miss Chisholm
2/3H - Miss Hagedoorn
4/5S - Mr Saunders
6A - Miss Heriot
Ms Kavallaris - (Principal) - Release from Face to Face (RFF teacher) - Tuesdays
Mrs Neal - (Assistant Principal) - Learning and Support Teacher, job sharing with 1/2C when Miss Chisholm is implementing the Reading Recovery Program.
Mrs Muller - Library teacher - Tuesdays & alternate Wednesdays - Job sharing on 1R and 2/3H
Mrs Davenport - Learning and Support Teacher - Monday - Thursday Terms 1 and 2.

School Banking 2015
School banking will recommence this Friday 6 February 2015. A very big thank you to Mrs Cosgrove who has once again volunteered to continue to do our banking in 2015.

Special Promotion for 2015
If you make 25 deposits during the year your child will have a chance to win a trip to Disneyland. This years rewards are 'Outer Space' theme.

No Hat – Play in the Shade
A kind reminder to everyone that we are following and monitoring, more than ever our, "No Hat – Play in the Shade" policy. Please ensure that your child has their school hat with them every day. Students will be asked to play in the shade or undercover if they are not wearing a hat.

I would like to congratulate all school leaders for a great start to the year with their responsibilities as well as being excellent role models for everyone to follow 😊😊😊

Swimming Carnival
On Monday 9 February Kentlyn Public School will be having its swimming carnival at Macquarie Fields Leisure Centre. Please complete the parent helper section of the note and return back to the school if you are able to assist on the day. Once again our hard working P&C have paid for the bus fee so that the only cost the students have to pay is $4.00 which includes pool entry and the hiring of the equipment.

The Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 10 March at Bradbury pool.

Interrelate Program - See flyer at the end of the newsletter
A session has been booked for Tuesday 24th of February 2015 beginning at 6pm at Leumeah Public School. There will be 2 sessions on offer. Please see the flyer attached at the end of the newsletter for more information.

If you wish to attend please complete the form with the exact money and clearly label the envelope with your name and that it is for the Interrelate Program. Please hand the envelope in to the ladies in the office. I will forward it to Leumeah Public School.

General information for new parents and friendly reminders

Absences
All absences must be explained in writing. Please send a written explanation with the specific day/s your child was absent to your child’s teacher as soon as possible after the absence. By law, an absentee note is required within 7 days of your child’s sickness. Students are expected to attend every day unless sick.

Appointments
If children are to be collected during school time they must be signed out at the office prior to collecting them from class. They must also be signed back in if they are returned during the day.
Students arriving to school late
There are times when your child might arrive at school late. Please remember that it is a legal requirement that YOU SIGN your child in before they are allowed to go to their classrooms.

Emergency Action Plans
If your child has a medical condition requiring urgent emergency action, please notify the school as soon as possible. It is extremely important that we maintain up to date records and are informed of any changes. If your child has a medical action plan from 2014 it is imperative that it is updated by your child’s doctor and a copy sent to us at school. Please see Mrs Thompson in the office if you have any questions or queries.

Medication
If your child needs to take medication, it is essential that you discuss this with the class teacher. A form is available for parents to complete if medication is to be taken during the day. Under no circumstances are children to keep medication in their school bag. If your child self-medicates for asthma, please discuss this with your child’s teacher. Puffers may be kept in bags, if this is discussed with the class teacher.
If you have provided a Ventolin puffer or Epi-pen for your child’s medical action plan, please call in to check that it has not expired.

Contact Details
Please ensure the school has current information regarding address, phone contact numbers, medical conditions, custody advices, etc. at all times. It is particularly important that emergency contact numbers are current. If unsure please contact the office to check admission details.

Fruit & Vegetable Breaks
Fruit breaks will continue this year at approximately 10am every day when the students have a few minutes to eat a small portion of fruit to keep them going until lunch time. We are also encouraging the use of a water bottle filled with chilled water not only to sip on at this time, but to keep on their desks throughout the day if the students become thirsty.

Assemblies
Our K-6 assemblies will be conducted each fortnight, unless otherwise stated, commencing Friday 6 February with Student Leaders running the first assembly for the year. Each class will be rostered to conduct the assembly and at some stage in the year, present an item. I look forward to seeing many parents at our first assembly.

School Newsletter - Look out for our Schoolbag App - coming soon - an app where you can download the newsletter within seconds on your phone
The school newsletter is an important source of information between the school and home. Our school newsletter is published every fortnight; that is weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 and is usually distributed on a Wednesday. Until our “Schoolbag App” is available, hard copies of notes will be sent home with the youngest child of each family. Additional copies are always available on our website at http://www.kentlyn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

If you require extra copies of notes sent home you can also find them on our website, under ‘School Notes’ and then ‘whole school notes’.

Early Arrivals at School
It is recommended that children arrive at school from 8.40am onwards. There is no rostered teacher supervision before this time.
Our school has Before and After School Care, which is held in our school hall. The operating times are from 7:00am to 8.40am and from 3:10 – 6:00pm. Enquiries and bookings can be made through the coordinator, Mrs Marian Price. She can be contacted on 0468921240.

Presentation Day
Due to its success in 2014, Presentation Day in 2015 will be held once again in the morning.
I spoke to many parents on that Friday about this topic and the majority of them were very happy with the new structure and program and wanted to see it repeated in 2015.
One of the major points that was positively commented on was the 10:30 – 12:00 program outline and how P&C did their community fundraising afterwards. This was a great community day that raised nearly $2,000 for our school.
A constructive comment was that students should have been wearing their school hats as it got too hot, and we totally agree. This will be rectified for this year 😊

Please save this day and time in your diaries.

DATE: FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2015
TIME: 10:30AM – 12:00PM

2015 P&C AGM – Wednesday 11 February 2015 5:30pm in the staffroom

Important Term 1 Dates for your Diary:

Friday 6 February – K-6 Assembly – School leaders to run
Monday 9 February – Swimming Carnival – Macquarie Fields Pool
Wednesday 11 February – P&C AGM 5:30pm in the staffroom.
Thursday 19 February – Parent Information Evening TBC
Friday 20 February – K-6 Assembly – School leaders to run
Tuesday 24 February – Interrelate Program – Leumeah Public School hosting it. Our parents are welcome to attend. More details early Term 1.
Friday 27 February – Clean up Our School Day
Tuesday 10 March – Zone Swimming Carnival – Bradbury Pool
Thursday 12 March – Selective High School Placement Test
Monday 16 March – Responsible Pet Program K-2
Tuesday 24 March – P&C McDonalds Fundraiser 6:00 – 8:00pm
Thursday 2 April – Last school day in Term 1

Allergies
Anaphylaxis is a severe and sometimes sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen. Anaphylaxis is potentially life threatening and always requires an emergency response. All DEC schools are required to follow the Anaphylaxis Procedures for Schools in order to meet the health care needs of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis. These procedures have recently been updated.

Under these procedures ALL parents have a responsibility to:
- promptly notify the principal if they are aware that their child has been diagnosed as being at risk of a severe allergic reaction.
- promptly notify the principal if the health needs of their child change.
- promptly notify the principal if their child has a severe allergic reaction outside of school hours, at home or at another location.
- inform the principal of any other known learning and support needs, including health care needs, disability or learning or behaviour difficulties which may impact on the management of anaphylaxis.
- provide an ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis completed and signed by the doctor. A new plan is completed by the doctor each time an adrenaline auto injector is prescribed. It is important that parents provide the school with a copy of the updated plan, or a photocopy of that plan.
- reinforce relevant aspects of the individual health care plan with their child, where practicable, for example if their child comes into contact with an allergen at school they must immediately inform a teacher and, if age appropriate, remind the child of the importance of taking their adrenaline auto injector to school with them.
- provide the equipment and consumables for carrying out health care support as specified in the student’s individual health care plan, including where relevant, the appropriate adrenaline auto injector.
- replace the adrenaline auto injector in a timely manner before it expires or after it has been used.
- provide written requests for the school to administer prescribed medications where necessary. For example some children are prescribed antihistamine or have other health conditions that require administration of prescribed medications.
- talk to their child about the most likely times and places they may be exposed to the allergen and how to avoid it.
- reinforce risk minimisation strategies agreed upon for the school environment with their child, as appropriate.

The smiles you give come back to you!
Androula Kavallaris
Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Welcome to 2015 😊
What a delightful start to the year we have had here at Kentlyn! It has been extremely pleasing to see everyone settle so quickly into their new classes and the wonderful behaviour of all students out in the playground.

Friendly Reminders
We have already had many hats, drink bottles and lunch boxes handed into lost property. To ensure all items are returned quickly to their rightful owner, please ensure that all items of your child’s clothing and belongings are clearly labelled.

Multi-Age (Composite) Classes
The information below is taken from the DEC Report on Multi-Age Classes.
Our school has for a number of years formed Multi-Age Classes and is aware that a wide range of community opinion exists.
This excerpt seeks to clarify some of the issues.

Report Conclusions
Multi-age classes are a necessary pattern of organisation in many government and non-government schools across NSW and Australia. They will continue to be a significant proportion of classes formed in NSW schools.
While in larger schools, forming classes by years is the more common practice, multi-age classes are usually formed because of the uneven pattern of enrolments at the school.
Sometimes, however, these classes are formed for educational reasons in schools where it is considered that mixing children of different ages is educationally and socially advantageous.
There is an increase in the number of schools choosing to introduce multi-age class groupings on the basis of the belief that they provide a better match structurally with a curriculum grounded in developmental learning principles.
More schools are forming multi-age classes, not because they have to, but because they want to.

Research continues to confirm that multi-age classes do not disadvantage students academically and may benefit them socially and emotionally.
Moreover a growing number of teachers and principals believe that forming multi-age classes on sound educational principles results in academic benefits to students.
The range of academic abilities in a “straight” Year class could be wider than that in a multi-age class, depending on the criteria for placing students in the multi-age class. The selection of students, individual teaching styles and experience are important influences.

Successful Practices - Excerpt
The key finding of this report is that the type for class organised will not determine either educational advantage or disadvantage. Important success factors for multi-age classes will include the degree of commitment of teachers, the acceptance and support of parents and, above all, the quality of classroom teaching.
Multi-age classes can encourage student-centred learning, widen choices for placing students in classes and facilitate the flexible progression of students through a curriculum organised in stages and associated learning outcomes.

Yours in Education
Tanya Neal
Principal’s Awards
David Dimitry 6A

Value of the Week Awards
Participation
K-2
Natalya Hicks 1R
3-6
Brandon Harris 6A

Integrity
K-2
Eleanor Peters 1/2C
3-6
Noah Dadd 4/5S

Congratulations!

Community Announcements

Macarthur CDC’s Social Skills Group

Understanding and managing emotions
Managing and sustaining attention
Sustaining focus
Managing behavior
Learning about the world
Understanding others
Communicating effectively
Managing conflict
Adapting and sustaining persistence
Seeing change

Our programs are designed for children of all ages and learning levels. Our programs combine structured, fun, and engaging activities to develop and enhance social skills and abilities.

Advice and support are provided to families to foster ongoing learning at home and school.

Interventions are individualized to meet the specific needs of each child.

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When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate’s high-quality Sexuality and Relationship Education program is coming to your school! With over 85 years’ experience in this field, Interrelate has a reputation for providing excellence in sexuality and relationship education. Today, over 41,000 students and family members participate in Interrelate School and Family programs each year.

Many parents find it hard to discuss questions relating to sexuality education. We know how to help break the ice. Interrelate programs are interactive and family focused, and are conducted by highly trained and experienced educators, who adhere to a strict code of ethics.

Session 1: Where did I come from? (1-hour session, years 3-6)
This session educates children more about how their bodies work and the differences between males and females, including their understanding of conception, fertilisation, foetal development and the birth process.

Session 2: Preparing for puberty (1-hour session, years 5-6; years 3-4 at parent’s discretion)
This session prepares children and parents/caregivers for the physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty, and addresses changing emotions and relationships with families and peers.

Interrelate School Services Presents a Special Evening Program

Family cost*: 1 session $25 per family | 2 sessions $30 per family
*GST exclusive – GST is payable / claimable by the school or organising body

Where:

When:

Time: Where did I come from? – 6:00pm sharp | Preparing for puberty – 7:15pm sharp
Specially books are available for purchase on the night

------------------ Please complete and return to the school office, with payment in an envelope labelled with child’s name and class ------------------

A Special Evening Program

Name of family: ________________________________________________________________

No. attending:  □ Session 1: Where did I come from?  □ Session 2: Preparing for puberty

Amount enclosed: $ _______  □ Cash  □ Cheque (payable to school)

Tel: (02) 8882 7875 | Fax: (02) 8882 7890

schoolservices@interrelate.org.au
www.interrelate.org.au