Principal’s Report

The ‘Tell Them From Me’ student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term our school, like many others in the State, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Students in Year 5 and 6 will be participating in the survey.


The survey is a great opportunity for the students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students today. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Sea FM visit

On Tuesday 3 March, Byron and Kristie, from Sea FM radio station will be broadcasting their morning show from Kariong Public School. Their broadcast will start at 6am and finish at 9am and they would like to encourage as many members of the Kariong Public School community as possible to come along and join in the fun. Sea FM will be hosting games and giving away prizes. Our P&C has kindly offered to hold a breakfast sausage sizzle from 7.00am for those early risers who decide to join in the fun and games. Cost for the sausage sizzle is $1.50 per sandwich. This day is also an SRC Mufti Day where children may come dressed as their hero. We ask all children to bring a gold coin donation to support the Sydney Children’s Hospital at Westmead. Please remember while children are at this event they need to follow all school rules, cooperate and participate in activities and behave in a very responsible manner.

Swimming Carnival

The swimming carnival was a great success. Thank you to Mrs Ryan and Mrs Herbert for their exceptional organisational skills to ensure the day went smoothly. Thank you to all parents who helped on the day. It was wonderful to see so many children participating in the competitive and non-competitive races. We had approximately 120 children who entered the non-competitive races. Well done.

The 2015 Communication Survey is on the website for those parents who were unable to attend the parent teacher information evening. Please complete this by next Friday 27 February.

Vicki Redrup
Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) at Kariong Public School

The SRC (Student Representative Council) met this week to discuss rewards for reaching BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD and DIAMOND levels. Next week SRC members will be asking their class for input into this decision.

This week all classes focused on our school value RESPONSIBILITY. Students have been participating in daily lessons on how this value can be consistently demonstrated at Kariong Public School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUES</th>
<th>EXPECTATIONS</th>
<th>WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESPONSIBILITY</td>
<td>Work and play safely</td>
<td>Make good choices: Stop – Think - Do Right Place, Right Time</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Take ownership of your own actions</td>
<td>Be honest and tell the truth</td>
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<td>Be accountable for your actions and accept consequences</td>
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<td>Apologise</td>
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<td>Look after your belongings and the school environment</td>
<td>Care for personal and school property</td>
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<td>Keep the school clean; put rubbish in the bin</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Return equipment to where it belongs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Be prepared and punctual for all school activities</td>
<td>Be on time</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Have all your materials and equipment with you</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Be organised and ready to learn</td>
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Congratulations
Well done to Isabella who won her game 6-0 at the Zone Tennis Carnival and has progressed to the Sydney North Representative carnival. Good luck!

SRC (Student Representative Council)
Congratulations to all the elected SRC students for Term 1, 2015. The students seemed extremely excited and keen for a productive term.

Last week we had our first meeting. At this meeting we decided on this term’s fundraising event. The SRC were extremely eager to raise money for ‘The Children’s Hospital at Westmead’. We decided for the dress up theme to be ‘My Hero’ in the hope that everyone will join together to ‘be a hero’ for Children in need. Students could come dressed as a famous sport star, movie star, community member or even a friend or relative. This day will be on Tuesday 3rd of March, which is also the day Star 104.5 FM are visiting the school. More information will be provided closer to the date, however, students can start planning what they are going to wear!

Victoria Priest
SRC Leading Teacher

2015 International Competitions & Assessments or Schools (ICAS)
All students in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 are invited to participate in the 2015 Digital Technologies, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and/or Mathematics Competitions. The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools provide an opportunity for all students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. Please do not feel that you have to enter your child. The tests are completed at school during school hours. The tests are usually between 45 and 75 minutes duration. If interested please complete the form below. Entry closing date is Tuesday 24th March.

Thanks,
Mrs Harmer-Watkins

ICAS ENTRY APPLICATION
CLOSING DATE 24th March 2015

I give permission for my child ____________________________ of Class _________

to participate in the following tests:

Child’s Date of Birth: ___/___/_____

Does anyone in your home usually speak a language other than English: YES / NO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>TESTING DATE</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Amount Enclosed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday, 19 May</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday, 3 June</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday, 15 June</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16 June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday, 28 July</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday, 11 August</td>
<td>$ 8.00</td>
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TOTAL ENCLOSED

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ___________________

Parent/Guardian

Please return the note to Mrs Harmer-Watkins.
Kindergarten News

Welcome to all our new Kindergarten children and their families! The students in Kindergarten have had a fantastic start to school.

All students have completed the Best Start assessment and parents have received these reports. These reports give parents some ideas of how they can help their child at home with Literacy and Numeracy skills. If you have any questions about your child’s report please speak to the class teacher.

The Kindergarten teachers are extremely pleased at how settled the children are and how well they are adjusting to school routines. Students have started the L3 program and are enjoying the Literacy based activities.

The Kindergarten P & C welcome BBQ is tonight, Friday 20th February from 6pm to 7pm on the school oval. Kindergarten parents and their families are welcome to come along and meet the teachers and other Kindergarten families.

The Kindergarten teachers and I are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Kerry Rayner
Assistant Principal Early Stage One

Kariong Public School P & C Association
Meets every 3rd Monday of the Month
Parents & Community members are welcome to attend.

52 Langford Drive Kariong, NSW 2250 Phone: (02) 4340 1885 Fax: (02) 4340 2523
Email: kariong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School Security: toll free call 24 hours: 1300 880 021
For copies of school notes and newsletter issues past and present, go online to: www.kariong-schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal’s Gold Book

| 4CB | Amity S | Annalise A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week + Assembly Award Winners</th>
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<tr>
<td>KC</td>
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<td>KH</td>
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School Banking School Banking winners for Week 4 are Eloise B. from 2K & Jessica R. from 3TB.

Well done!
KPS P&C Association - Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Kariong Public School Parents and Citizens’ Association will be held on Monday 16 March commencing at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

Following acceptance of the minutes from the 2014 AGM and the tabling of the Audit Report for the year ended 31 December 2014, all current Office Bearer roles will be declared vacant and nominations called for the following positions:

President, 2x Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, Minute Secretary (if required) Fundraising Convenor/s, CC Council of P&C Delegates, Publicity Officer

All current P&C members are encouraged to attend the AGM to vote and/or nominate for vacant positions. The AGM is open to all parents and carers who wish to attend, however only financial members are eligible to vote and/or nominate for vacant positions.

At the completion of the AGM the March general meeting will be held.

Dear Parents and Caregivers.

Change and loss are issues all of us face at some stage in our lives. At Kariong Public School we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore offering a very successful education program called Seasons for Growth. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practice new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

Seasons for Growth runs for eight weeks and each weekly session is 40-50 minutes. The program concludes with a ‘celebration’ session. Later in the year each group will have the opportunity to meet for two further sessions to build on their earlier learning.

Seasons for Growth will commence in Term 2. If you think your son or daughter would benefit from Seasons for Growth, we would encourage you to talk to him/her about this. Should he/she decide to participate, please fill in the form attached and return it to the office. Please also include a brief reason for participation e.g. divorce, separation, death etc.

For more information on Seasons for Growth, please go to the Kariong Public School website and click on the link.

Kariong Public School is pleased to be able to offer this important program and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those who request to be involved.

Sue Gasper - Seasons for Growth Site Coordinator

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

I ____________________ give consent for my son/daughter __________________________ to attend the Seasons for Growth program. I have discussed this with him/her.

Parent/Guardian Signature: ________________________ Child’s Signature: ________________________

Reason for participation: __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Interrelate forms have been given to the students; if another copy is required please see the office. The sessions will be held at Kariong Public School on Tuesday 24th of March.
6:00pm – Where did I come from?
7:00pm – Preparing for puberty

Thank you.