Dear Families,

In 2013 the KSS Board established a working party to review the homework policy. The aims are to:
- establish consistency across the school and year levels
- provide opportunity for extra practice
- assist students to establish a habit of homework so that this is well entrenched by their high school years.

We currently have representation from the primary but are looking for two high school parents to join the group. If you are interested, please contact the school on 62074455.

Earlier this week I was able to spend time at the KSS swimming carnival. The day was very well organised with a number of participants in most events. The house spirit was evident and I particularly enjoyed seeing some of our Year Ten students dressed as house mascots. It is of concern though, that each year we seem to have fewer students who can comfortably swim a length of the pool.

I know our government has as a priority developing programs to make lessons more accessible to all.

Each year schools develop an Annual Operating Plan. The key priorities of the KSS plan are:
- Improved Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for KSS students;
- Strengthened community partnerships and communication; and
- Further development of our preschool environment and programs.

The Plan is monitored by the Board at its monthly meetings.

Over the past week I have noticed an increased number of parents parking in the drop off zone and then leaving to attend to business in the school or to collect children. The marked area is for drop off and pick up only and drivers need to remain in their cars. Longer term parking is available near the Preschool if the other bays are full.

Regards,

Jan

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| Week 5 | Mon 3 –7 March |
| Wed 5 | KSSP&C Fundraising Meeting 7pm. All welcome. Raiders Club |
| Fri 7 | KSSP&C Morning Tea. 9.30am Community Room. All welcome |
| Week 6 | 10-14 March |
| Mon 10 | Canberra Day Public Holiday |
| Tues 11 | P-5 Assembly in Primary Gym 2.15pm. All welcome |
| KSSP&C AGM | 7-7.30pm |
| KSSP&C meeting | 7.30-9pm All welcome |
| Week 7 | 17-21 March |
| Tues 18 | Grand friends Afternoon Tea 2.05pm Primary Hall |
| KSSP&C Preschool Teddy Bears picnic. 2.45pm in preschool yard |
| KSSP&C Preschool Teddy Bears picnic. 2.45pm in preschool yard |
| Wed 19—Fri 21 | Year 7 Camp Cooba |

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**Yr 7 & 9 Immunisations is Week 8 Thurs 27th of March NOT FEB!!**

**Grandfriends Afternoon Tea—**

**A celebration of music**

One of the main philosophies behind music this year is the development of a shared repertoire of songs across the school to encourage community singing.

**Tuesday 18th of March at 2.05pm in the Primary Hall**

Notes available from front office.
News from Preschool/Kinder

Pre-schoolers are now settled in and most children are enjoying school. The Red, Green and Blue Preschool rooms have invited their families to an afternoon tea on March 12th. Check with your child’s educator if your invitation has gone missing. A gentle reminder that our preschool is a nut and fish aware area. For the safety of our students please don’t send nut or fish products to school.

The Kindergarten children have been given their take-home reader folders this week. Remember to ask your child to share it with you. If you weren’t able to attend the Kindergarten getting-to-know you meetings please contact your child’s educator to arrange a time to meet.

Regards, P-K team

You Are What You Read— Afternoon tea & information session to be held in the preschool yard.

Wednesday 12th March 2014  2:00pm- 2:45pm

Come along for: Afternoon tea, Indigenous story teller, a library bag filled with community programs and a story book to share with your child.

ALL PRESCHOOL, KOORI PRE AND 3 YEAR OLD PRE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Please RSVP to your child’s teacher by Thursday 6th March

News from Years 1 & 2

The children in the Nest have been working hard practising their reading strategies such as predicting and re-reading. They are continuing to practise ‘reading to self, ‘reading to someone’ and asking ‘thick’ and ‘thin’ questions about the text. Ask your child what EEEKK stands for and what it looks like when reading with someone. In Mathematics we have been working on numeral identification and number strategies including skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s.

Our inquiry unit ‘Where are we in time and space?’ has commenced this week and students are beginning to investigate distant relatives and their peers’ relatives. How far can you trace your family back? Please begin bringing in photos of past ancestors or objects linked to family traditions.

A big thank you to the parents and carers who bravely ventured out into the rain to attend our parent information afternoon. We look forward to a positive partnership with you this year. If you would like to help with ‘drop in and read’ or support us in any other ways please fill out the parent helper slip in the Nest flyer or let your classroom teacher know.

Thank you to the families who have sent in the ‘Student Information Survey’ via the envelope provided last week. It is important that we receive this information to help us create the best possible learning environment for your child. Also please return all medical forms ASAP so our information and contact details can be updated.

Thanks, 1-2 Teachers
News from Years 3, 4 & 5

A friendly reminder regarding the Year 5 shirts ($32). Last day for ordering/paying is Friday 28 February.

Year 5 and Kindergarten have commenced their buddy program. The Year 5 students are demonstrating the KSS HERO values with their buddies. There is plenty of harmony, excellence, respect and optimism occurring in the sessions! The kindergarten students are having plenty of fun and learning opportunities with their buddies.

We are glad to hear that competitive primary swimmers had a wonderful day at the KSS Swimming Carnival. Thanks to Mr Heffernan for taking the students.

Years 3, 4 and 5 are in the process of nominating their SRC representatives. We will inform our school community as soon we know the representatives!

'Getting to know you'. If you have not had the chance to touch base with your child’s teacher, you are invited to phone the front office 62074455 or email your child’s teacher direct to emails:

kim.dorsett@ed.act.edu.au
brooke.sinclair@ed.act.edu.au
gabriel.kearins@ed.act.edu.au
amanda.thomas@ed.act.edu.au
andrew.heffernan@ed.act.edu.au
margaret.hughes@ed.act.edu.au
karen.murray@ed.act.edu.au
ian.bottomley@ed.act.edu.au
sharon.clewer@ed.act.edu.au
lachlan.ellis@ed.act.edu.au

Middle School News

On Thursday, the Year 7 Food Technology class focused on what makes a healthy breakfast for active minds. This is a photo of the Year 7 class eating their toasted sandwiches and fruit salad bowls.

On Tuesday 18th February students from SLSUA went to Bunnings for a DIY (do it yourself) experience.

For this experience we used an action bus. When we got there we met Jenifer, the lady who organised the activity for us.

First Jennifer taught us about the safety instructions of the warehouse. Then we took the sticky tape off the shelves because they had a stocktake a few days ago. After having a break we made a handy box out of wood. We all liked making our own handy box.

By: Tyler Smith and Ashley Keynes - SLSUA

In SOSE this Semester, we have started the year with year 7 and 9 studying Geography and year 8 and 10 studying History. At the beginning of Semester 2, this will switch, enabling all students an equal amount of time to study History and Geography.

Year 7’s have started their unit looking at Water and how valuable it is in our society. They have been looking at how water occurs naturally and how humans access and store water for human use.

Year 8 are looking at Medieval History. They have been looking at the feudal system and how/why castles were built.

Enrichment Activities:

Gardening club for the middle and senior students has started for enrichment every 2nd Thursday and we would welcome any donations of seeds, seedlings and serviceable tools to help get Kingsford Smith’s fresh veggie patch going. Anything donated can be delivered to the front office, Thankyou!
Year 9’s have been looking at biomes and ecosystems

Year 10 have been looking at the interwar years including the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression. This is in the lead up to understanding WWII.

Within SOSE this year we are seeing the start of the new Portfolio system. This system sees students completing 5 in class task based around specific skills used in SOSE. These smaller skills help prepare students for their major assignments.

Library News

I am pleased to say that the library has had an abundance of visitors this year. Students take advantage of the library for all sorts of reasons. Reading is popular, but students also catch up on homework, conduct research for assignments, and attend the homework club and the lunchtime Mathematics coaching. They also love to play computer games. A number of students are also keen to help out at the front desk. For those particular students, some formal training will be timetabled shortly.

The new ‘Library Smarts’ area is being developed and attracting attention. It is envisaged that the materials on offer will help improve the students’ note-taking skills and guide them in their writing of bibliographies in the Harvard style. However, if a student desires some extra assistance in this area, or indeed, in any other area of information literacy, they have only to ask me.

With a Reading Challenge soon to be announced, I have been busy re-arranging books, particularly those in a series, so that they are more visible and accessible. I also plan to update these collections and fill in any gaps as far as possible in due course.

All in all, the library is a busy place, but neither Ms Wright nor I mind one bit...we love having students in the library and we especially love to see them enjoying a good read!

Ms Lyn Andrews  I Teacher Librarian

Years 6-10 Vocal Group

For those students in Years 6-10 a vocal group will be learning and singing a range of songs on Friday lunchtimes in the music room. This group will have the opportunity to perform their songs throughout the year at various school and community events. See Mrs Le Brun for more details.
KINGSFORD SMITH SCHOOL—VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions for 1 child $65
Contributions for 2 or more children $110

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Year 6/7 subject contributions $100  Elective units cost for materials
Year 8 subject contributions $120  Elective units cost for materials
Year 9/10 subject contributions $150  Elective units cost for materials

Please make cheques payable to: Kingsford Smith School. EFTPOS is available at the school Front Office. Receipts will be issued to student via class/home room teacher. You may contribute by instalments or full payment at any time throughout the year. All contributions are voluntary.

Voluntary contributions have been set by the School Board under section 27 of the Education Act 2004, as is stated below. In requesting your financial contribution we acknowledge;

- The voluntary and confidential nature of your support,
- The need for children to receive a full educational service (not dependant upon financial contributions),
- The child’s right not to be approached regarding voluntary contributions.
- A student is not refused benefits or services if child’s parent does not make a contribution
- A child is not approached or harassed for contributions
- Any record of contributions is confidential & each contribution is voluntary

Voluntary contributions are used for:

- Voluntary contributions are allocated across the 8 Key Learning Areas to renew and increase our present resources,
- For consumable items such as books, science materials, computer programs and site licences, art/craft supplies, sports equipment, cooperative games and construction kits
- For the Resource Centres, Library and Information Technology areas

________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent Financial Voluntary Contributions

Name of Student (s)……………………………………………………………………………………………
Year level: ………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..
Year level: ………………………………

For Payment of: …………………………………………………………………………………………………

Method of payment: (please circle) Cheque / Cash / Visa / Mastercard

Card Number: 

Card Holder Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………
Expiry Date: ____/ ____/ ____

(as shown on card)

100 Starke Street  Web: www.kss.act.edu.au  Telephone: (02) 6207 4455
HOLT ACT 2615  E-Mail: info@kss.act.edu.au  Facsimile: (02) 6207 4456
ICAS TESTING

Students were informed this week about the upcoming ICAS testing. The tests include Science, Mathematics, English, Spelling, Computer Skills and Writing. Testing incur a payment fee and commence in April. The note has been distributed to students and if you have not received a copy please visit (Yrs 2-5): Mrs Murray or Mrs Thomas and (Yrs 6-10): Mrs Smith.

Enriching Our School Community

Last week students participated in their first enrichment session for 2014. This year the focus is on community service, as part of our school H.E.R.O. values, promoting Harmony through working cooperatively and supporting other people. Each student selected an activity to join that covers a large range of interests and needs.

Some students are sports leaders, organising and supporting the year 3 / 4 students in games and sport. Others are working on classroom and canteen murals. Many students have volunteered to support our community at Villagio and the Masonic Home. Other students will be working internally with younger students in the “Let’s Ride” program and as Kindergarten assistants. Some will be enjoying the outdoors in gardening projects around the school. The sustainability group will focus on improving our environment through such projects as recycling. The Jets students will be training for participation in a variety of community fund raising activities such as the Verticool Challenge and Ben Donehue Fun Run.

Book club members will be writing reviews and recommendations for other students to be displayed in the library and the newsletter. The news group will be writing and submitting articles to the school newsletter on happenings around the school. The drama group will be preparing performances. Peer tutoring and the Year 8 Hawker Mentoring Program will also provide students with opportunities to work with others.

Kingsford Smith School

HALF A MILLION MINUTES READING CHALLENGE!

Students, teachers, parents or guardians are invited to participate in the KSS HALF A MILLION MINUTES Reading Challenge.

The importance of reading is well known.

- Reading enhances vocabulary,
- Stimulates the imagination,
- Improves brain function,
- Informs and entertains.

How to get involved:

Read age appropriate texts such as novels, graphic novels, short stories, plays, poetry, joke books, comics, information books, e-books, newspaper and magazine articles. Count the number of minutes spent reading and record this on your Log Book.

Parents and guardians are invited to participate

Students who are participating:

Make sure your parent or guardian signs your Log Book Return your completed Log Books to your Home Room teacher for middle and senior school students & class teacher for junior school students or place it in the box provided in the school library.

Extra Log Books are available from the library.

Parents, guardians and community members wishing to participate:

- Collect Log Books from the Front Office
- Return completed Log Books to the Front Office
- The challenge begins on Monday Week 5, 3rd March 2014.
- It will end on Monday Week 1, Term 2, 28th April 2014.

Get caught reading ... and you will go into the weekly draw to win prizes!

Ready...set...READ
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Week 8 term 1

Our school has received requests by parents for their children to receive Christian Education (CE) as part of our school curriculum, based on provisions in the Education Act 2004. The Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) project of the ACT Churches’ Council provides a coordinated service to fulfill such requests. This service includes four modern and interactive CE sessions, varied each year, prepared professionally and delivered by trained and endorsed volunteers.

Parent permission is essential for children to attend CEIS. If you wish for your child/ren to participate, notes are available from front office. Permission to participate will remain in effect whilst your child is attending KSS, but can be changed simply by contacting the front office. Each CEIS session will be advertised in our school newsletter.

For further information please contact Mrs Deeker or visit www.ceis.org.au.

Homework Club

The Homework Club is an after school, free program available to assist students with completing homework, assignments and preparing for tests. Ambassadors from the Australian National University join the group to provide tutoring, as well as guidance in researching/writing their assignments. There are teachers in attendance to supervise and further support students. Afternoon tea is also provided. Students from year 6 to 10 are able to attend. It runs from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. in the School Library on Wednesday afternoons.

DENDY CINEMAS

DENDY cinemas would like to invite the KSS community to their Family Films campaign.

The special price is $9 tickets for kids & accompanying adults on the following films:
- Mr Peabody and Sherman – March 27
- The Lego Movie – April 3
- The Muppets Most Wanted – April 10

Success for KSS

Congratulations to Shannon Weatherstone (Year 10 2013). Shannon was awarded the Patricia Kelson Encouragement Award presented by the CAT Canberra Area Theatre in recognition of her efforts in the KSS musical “Oliver” performed last year.

Received Saturday 22nd of February.

Congratulations to Hannah in 3/4 AH who went on a ten day national dance comp on the gold coast.

There where dancers from Australia and New Zealand, Hannah did 4 solo’s. Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary and a Student choreography.

Hannah came away with 3rd in Contemporary and 2nd in Student choreography.

Well done Hannah.

Hi, My name is Kelly Jobson, I am the vice president of the Belconnen United Sharks, (BUJRLFC), we are a family orientated, non for profit sporting organisation run solely by volunteers. Due to unprecedented requests, the Belconnen United Sharks will be holding another registration day on Sunday the 2nd of March, from 11.00am till 2.00pm at Melba District Playing Fields on Verbrugghen Street, affectionately known as ‘Shark Park’.

The Sharks have teams from under U6—16, and for those looking further into their Rugby League future, we are affiliated with the Senior Scholars Sharks with teams in under 18’s, reserves and first grades.

Boys and girls are encouraged to come along, grab a snag sandwich and a drink, meet up with old team mates and first timers need not be shy, as Shark and Sharkette’s will be there to answer all your questions.

Shorts and socks are provided as part of the registration.
School Uniforms

Our school has a uniform policy statement that has been developed by Kingsford Smith School Community Association (KSSCA) and was ratified by the KSS School Board at a meeting on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 and at a meeting on Tuesday 14th May 2013. The KSS School Board has determined that school uniform is mandatory at Kingsford Smith School. The KSS uniform meets the guidelines of SunSmart policies and is designed to be attractive and comfortable. The school colours are navy, sky blue & white. The specific items for the Primary School, Middle & Senior School are listed below. All students are required to purchase a pair of the school shorts or appropriate item of navy clothing which will be necessary for PE. It is an expectation that all students will wear the school uniform with pride and as an acknowledgement that they belong to the student community of Kingsford Smith School.

Parents are able to purchase non logo items of the same colours if they prefer an option to the school’s logo uniforms.

**Junior School Boys (P - Yr 5)**
- Navy shorts, trousers, or trackpants
- Sky blue short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt
- Navy zip-front jacket (fleece lined) OR Navy polar fleece sweatshirt or vest
- Navy broad brim hat OR navy with light blue trim bucket hat - except June & July

Enclosed black leather school shoes

**Junior School Girls (P – Yr 5)**
- School A-line dress (summer)
- Navy check school pinafore (winter) OR
- Navy shorts, culottes, skort, trousers, or trackpants
- Sky blue with navy trim short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt
- Navy zip-front jacket (fleece lined) OR Navy polar fleece sweatshirt or vest
- Navy broad brim hat OR navy with light blue trim bucket hat - except June & July

Enclosed black leather school shoes

**Middle School Boys (Yrs 6-8)**
- Navy shorts, trousers or trackpants
- Navy with white trim short sleeve mesh polo shirt OR Navy with white trim short or long sleeve polo shirt Grey PE shirt flash polo
- Navy polar fleece or fleece-lined jacket (with or without zip) OR navy hoodie

Enclosed black leather school shoes

Sunsmart hat for all months except June and July

**Middle School Girls (Yrs 6-8)**
- Navy KSS check school skirt with white logo dress shirt OR Navy shorts, culottes, skorts, trousers or trackpants
- Navy with white trim short sleeve mesh or poly/cotton polo shirt OR
- Navy with white trim poly/cotton or cotton shirt
- Grey PE shirt flash polo
- Navy polar fleece or fleece-lined jacket (with or without zip) OR navy hoodie

Enclosed black leather school shoes

Sunsmart hat for all months except June and July
Senior School Boys (Yr 9 & 10)  
Navy shorts, trousers  
or trackpants  
White short or long sleeve polo shirt  
Grey PE shirt flash polo  
Navy polar fleece or fleece-lined jacket (with or without zip) OR navy hoodie  
Enclosed black leather school shoes  
Sunsmart hat for all months except June and July

Senior School Girls (Yr 9 & 10)  
Navy KSS check school skirt with white logo dress shirt OR Navy shorts,  
culottes, skort, trousers or trackpants  
White poly/cotton or cotton polo shirt  
Grey PE shirt flash polo  
Navy polar fleece or fleece-lined jacket (with or without zip) OR navy hoodie  
Enclosed black leather school shoes  
Sunsmart hat for all months except June and July

Middle and senior school students are required to have a separate PE t-shirt

DENIM/JEANS/JEGGINGS/LEGGINGS ARE NOT PART OF THE KSS UNIFORM

SKIRTS AND SHORTS SHOULD BE BELOW FINGER TIPS WHEN ARMS ARE ALONG THE BODY

UNIFORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM:

THE UNIFORM SHOP  
LUKE STREET  
KIPPAK FAIR HOLT  
P 62553876

MACDONALD'S CHILDRENS WEAR & SCHOOL WEAR SHOP 33,  
JAMISON CENTRE  
BOWMAN STREET  
MACQUARIE P 62512660

LOWES  
SHOP 58, BELCONNEN MALL BENJAMIN WAY  
BELCONNEN  
P 62517147  
(A Kingsford Smith branded school bag is available)