At Kingsford Smith our Culture of Giving has become a strong focus. This was very much in evidence during our house colour day yesterday where our students worked together from Kinder to Year Ten to make items to sell. All finds raised from these sales will go to charities. Research is showing that students who give their time and effort to help others show higher levels of social and emotional growth and that this translates into improved learning outcomes. We continue to be very proud of our students.

Sometimes, the end of term brings with it some staffing changes. This has an element of sadness but also a sense of optimism. We are farewelling our American pre-service teachers who have been with us for the past four weeks working in many classrooms across the school. We know that on their return home they will be an asset to their new schools. We wish them well in their chosen profession.

We are also farewelling Karol Reardon, Kylie Neylan and Ian Thomson. Kylie is taking leave to await the birth of her second child and will then take a period of parenting leave. We all share in her excitement. We have had many KSS babies in the last few years, most recently, Lauren Marando who gave birth to a son Noah.

Karol Reardon has been successful in winning an executive position at Isabella Plains Early Childhood School. At KSS she was instrumental in the establishment of a strong Preschool/Kinder team and we will miss her very much. Ian Thomson, who has won a position in Central Office, established our very successful Kingo project and is part of our JETS team and he will also be missed. I am sure you join with me wishing them both every success in their new positions.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will sit the national assessment program (NAPLAN) early in term Two. As well as giving parents information about their children’s learning, schools can also draw out valuable information about programs and any changes that might need to be made to our curriculum. Parents can make a decision to withdraw their children from the testing. If this is something you want to do, please contact me at school so that arrangements can be put in place.

I hope you all have a wonderful break and look forward to seeing many of our KSS students running the neighbourhood in preparation for our Cross Country early next term.
Enrolment procedures for ACT public schools are changing and will be online only.

Effective Monday 28th of April 2014.

All enrolments from this date onwards will need to be completed online and comply to Education & Training Directorate policies.

Kingsford Smith School have incorporated a hyperlink on the KSS website – kss.act.edu.au
- select the “Our School” tab then select “Enrolment” in the dropdown menu.

Or go directly to the Education & Training Directorate website.
- select: 2014 enrolments/transfers or 2015 enrolment/ transfers

Once you have submitted your enrolment form – you are required to supply copies of the following documents to the school and sign your enrolment application.

1. Birth Certificate
2. Proof of Address (utility bill)
3. Student Immunisation records
4. Student Medical Information

HOUSE POINTS BOARD

| Waters  | 846 |
| Walton  | 843 |
| Middleton | 803 |
| Hinkler | 538 |

Thankyou for the fantastic efforts of all students and staff for making a great house day.

We have made loom bands, pet rocks, Jedi’s and photo frames that will be for sale next term for different charities.

Thankyou to all the students who raised about $600 towards The Worlds Greatest Shave charity and our school principal Jan was so brave to shave both her eye-brows!
News from Years 1 & 2

The Nest has been full of activity as we are coming to the end of our first term for the year.

House Day was a fantastic end of term event. We hope each child learnt some valuable team building skills during the day and supported their house and chosen charity.

In our learning we have been revising all the topics learnt throughout the term. This week we are revising our addition, subtraction and number skills in Numeracy. In Literacy each class has been implementing the Daily 5 literacy program. Ask your child what they learn during their Daily 5 rotations.

We are very appreciative of all the wonderful parent helpers and are currently in the process of spreading the parent help evenly amongst all classes. For those interested, please place the following date into your calendar. A workshop about 1 to 1 reading and how you can help your child will be scheduled for Term 2, Wednesday 30th April 8:20am—9:00am in the 1/2 area. Please add to your diary.

Your child will be taking their pencil case home. Please make sure that this is refreshed with necessary items (lead pencils, ruler, scissors, glue, sharpener) to ensure optimal learning for Term 2.

We hope that over the holidays you continue to read each night with your child and continue to provide opportunities for them to write. Have a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed for a new term after the break.

News from Years 3, 4 & 5

War Memorial Excursion - year 5 had a fantastic time on Tuesday 8 April at the Australian War Memorial. Students looked at soldier uniforms, the eternal flame, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and made crosses to be placed on the Australian graves overseas. Students looked at the Sculpture Garden and drew images that reflect Australian war symbols, placed poppies on the Wall of Remembrance and were highly engaged in the G for George Bomber video.

Reminders: Year 5 Camp note and deposit due TOMORROW (Friday 11 April).
ICAS - all students wanting to participate in any of the ICAS testing should have now returned all forms and money to the front office or Mrs Murray.

The picture is of small wooden crosses the students were able to write a message (of remembrance) on. The crosses will be flown over to the fields in France where battles took place. They will be there in time for ANZAC day.

News from Preschool & Kindergarten

Kindergarten would like to thank our wonderful American Prac students who have done a fabulous job in our class rooms. Thank you Kristen, Gina and Whitney! We will miss you.

Kindergarten participated in House Day on Thursday and had a wonderful time making loom bands, pet rocks, paper plains and Jedis. It was great to see all of the children in their house colours supporting each other with their activities.

Preschool have been exploring the post office and have shown an interest in writing letters. They have been exploring writing during inside and outside learning time and have been role playing posting letters.

We would like to wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you all next term.

GOOD BYE KAROL REARDON….. WE WILL MISS YOU SO MUCH. Good luck with your new journey. Buckets of best wishes from your Preschool, Koori, 3 year old Preschool and Kindergarten teachers and students.
News from Middle School

**Oz Tag.** The Year 7/8 boys and girls went out for Oz tag on Thursday last week with two girl teams and one boys team participating.

The boys faced some fierce opposition each game coming from behind after losing 3-0 to tie at 3 all. They had a great game against a very positive Harrison side, winning 11-0. They had two games against a very strong St. Francis team. They lost 3-2 in the first game but then went on to beat SFX 3-2 with a late try to Harry Alder. The boy’s team came in second in their pool, narrowly missing the finals by 2 points. -It was a great day out.

The Year 7 girls team played well and developed throughout the day. They beat Calwell High 4-3 and drew a close game with Merici. Unfortunately they went down to a strong Mackillop team. The girls played well and showed great skill and determination.

The year 8 girls team started well drawing 2-2 with Campbell High after an excellent diving try from Cahrin. They beat Lanyon High and Orana in some great games but unfortunately went down to St. Clare’s. The girls came second in a strong poll and played very well on the day.

We would also like to thank Miss Langridge and Mr Harper for training and taking the students to the Oz Tag competition.

**Year 6 news.** Year 6 has been busily working on a mini unit on Natural Disasters. This hit close to home this morning when the oval became just a “little” soggy due to the rain! Students have chosen a natural disaster and spent 2 lessons researching in preparation for a presentation in Week 10. Their job is to create a presentation to a local television station manager proving that they are an expert in their field or natural disaster. We look forward to seeing their presentations later in the week.

We would also like to congratulate all Year 6 students for settling so well this Term. They have coped amazingly well with the changes in middle school and the expectations we have set them from the start. We look forward to watching them continue to grow over the rest of the year!

Have a safe and wonderful holiday period.

Library News

The library has some new additions. Our efficient and capable BSO Tony has transformed the library foyer with a lick of paint and by hanging a couple of eye-catching library-related wall hangings. A stunning aboriginal painting has also been hung, and soon to be adjacent to it, four framed posters that explain the meanings of the symbols included in the painting.

New books are also finding their way into many a young reader’s eager hands. And it is rewarding to see how the ‘coffee table’ books and magazines are also being read.

The Reading Challenge is still in full swing with a number of students having been picked to receive prizes for being caught reading. Let’s hope we reach our target. Completed record cards will be collected by a small group of senior students during the week – so students - make sure you have them with you. Otherwise, you can post them in the box provided at the library.

Overdue books are always a concern at this time of year; please help us by supporting your child in returning any they may have inadvertently forgotten or misplaced.

Thank you for your support this term and wishing you all a safe and happy mid-semester break.

News from Senior School

**Yr 9/10 boys basketball.** KSS won 2 out of 4 games last Monday. Acknowledgement go to Enes and James for great sportsmanship.

**Yr 7/8 boys Oz tag.** Played at Kaleen Thursday 3rd April. The team played exceptionally well. The team won 2 games, 1 draw and 1 loss in the dying seconds of the fourth quarter. Behaviour was fantastic and each individual contributed to the team. Acknowledgements to Lachie, Luke, Max, Artie, Trent, Harry and Aidan.

The following KSS students represented the school in North Side Swimming at the AIS Tuesday 25th March and performed exceptionally well with a number of these students breaking personal best times in all the events they participated in. James, Dale, Bridget, Adam, Chanvadee, Ryun, and Tiana.
Yr 10 Reminders. Year 10 School Leaders Camp deposit of $100 was due Term 1. Second round payments of $100 are due Friday 19th of May 2014.

Yr 10 Formal Expressions of Interest Notes should have been returned with $10 deposit.

News from KSSP&C

Mothers Day Gift Bags for 50c each. Week 1 Term 2 order forms will be given to students to bring home. The Gift Bags will be delivered to students on Friday (week 2) May 9th.

Strollerobics will continue next term. Thursdays 9.30—10.30am in the Primary Gym.

Parent Morning Tea, Friday May 2nd 9-11am in the Community Room. Come along for a chat and help us to make the Mothers Day gift bags :-) Future morning tea’s will take place Friday June 6th and July 4th. Same time, same place.

Community News

Swimming ACT provides individual swimming lessons at various public pools and some school pools for children and adults with special needs during the school terms. Enrolments for Term 2 are now being accepted.

Please phone 62584520 or 62574837 for available times and the cost.