Week 6     Tues 11-14 March
Thurs 13   Jets Introduction meeting 5-6pm Canberra Raiders Club, Kippax
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
Wed 19     NR2SD - National Ride To School Day
Wed 19—Fri 21  Year 7 Camp Cooba
KSSP&C     2.45pm in preschool yard
Wed 19—Fri 21  Year 7 Camp Cooba
KSSP&C     Depart 7.45am
Fri 21    Harmony Day. Everyone Belongs
Week 8     24—28 March
Tues 25    P-5 Assembly in Primary Gym 2.15pm. All welcome
Wed 26     Kindergarten Teddy Bears picnic 3-4pm in Preschool yard
KSSP&C     Thurs 27  Yr 7 & 9 student immunisations

Student Information Check Sheet for years 6-7 will come home this week.
Please confirm and update this vital information for school records.
Did you know that you can insert the student’s mobile phone number? Have you changed your work details?
Is your email address current?
This process will continue for all year levels in the near future. Please return completed forms to home room teacher.

**National Ride 2 School Day**

**Wednesday 19th March 2014**

*RIDE  *WALK  *SKOOT  *SKATE

Be part of the fun!

**School Photos Week 9**

- Monday March 31 is Year 6-9 students
- Tuesday April 1 and Thursday April 3 is Preschool Year 5

**INDIVIDUAL MONEY ORDER FORMS ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL WITH STUDENT ON THE DATE ADVERTISED AND GIVEN DIRECTLY TO PHOTOGRAPHER.**

KSS Recycling is here!

Let’s all help to keep our school & school grounds neat and rubbish free. Linda Kwong from ACT NOWaste and Eliza Hopkins (consultant for ACTSmart Schools) will be coming to our school on Tuesday the 1st of April to talk to our students and staff about recycling. Their presentations will be based around what can be recycled and why (for students) and the ways in which we can implement recycling in our classrooms.

On Wednesday, 12 March Preschool & Koori students celebrated “You Are What You Read” afternoon tea and information sharing gathering with a visit from Larry (Indigenous story teller).
News from Preschool and Kindergarten

Autumn is here and the children are enjoying outside activities more as the temperature is cooling. It is still important to apply sunscreen to your child each day and for them to wear their hat at school. The children are starting to wear jumpers in the morning and then taking them off during the day. Please make sure all their clothing is labelled clearly with their name so that any items found can be returned.

The Kindergarten children have settled into their routine and are focussed on learning to read, write and count. They enjoy activities like hunting for letters in words, being word detectives and counting items in the classroom.

Kingsford Smith School Reading Challenge

500,000 words 7 Weeks!

The Reading Challenge is underway. Many students, staff and community members are busy reading and recording their minutes. The aim is to read for 500,000 minutes by April 28th.

If you’d like to contribute, collect a note and a Reading Log from the Office and get reading.

If we can do it, a celebration will be held.

Ready...set...READ

News from Years 1 and 2

On behalf of all staff we hope you enjoyed your Canberra Day Long Weekend.

Well done to 1-2JF Cockatoos on hosting the primary assembly this week. You did a wonderful job. We loved the surfing cockatoos. Congratulations to all those children who received this week’s merit awards.

It has been great getting to meet parents and carers during the last week. If you still wish to meet your child’s teacher please make an appointment time to meet with them as soon as possible. If your contact details have changed could you please let the school know as it is vital that we are able to communicate with you when necessary.

This week in maths we are looking at addition. In particular, adding one and two digit numbers. In measurement we will be using a hands on approach to measure various lengths.

Magazines Needed: We would greatly appreciate any unwanted magazines or catalogues from home to use in our classrooms.

Parent Helpers: If you haven’t approached your child’s teacher to assist with reading or helping in the classroom, please feel free to come in and see them.

Library News

Students from various grades have been making good use of library lately. It has been a pleasure to watch the students from the primary school making good use of their quiet reading and borrowing time. I can see I am going to have to make a real effort to keep up with the demand.

Many of the secondary classes are currently engaged in research, and in order to support them in this, I have been teaching the students about the Harvard Referencing System. My aim has been to provide them with the basics in the writing of bibliographies and in-text citation. For further support they can always see me or refer to the excellent referencing tool which can be found at http://www.lib.latrobe.edu.au/referencing-tool as explained to the students in class.

I am continuing to improve the physical appearance of the library too by hanging a range of library-related wall decorations and artwork. Improvements to the way the shelves are organised are also planned.
News from Years 3, 4 & 5

The children in year 3/4 have been busy practising their daily 5 activities. They are now making two ‘daily 5’ choices every literacy session. As the writing component of the ‘daily 5’, the children have been writing narrative stories by rolling a dice. The dice tells them what character, setting and funny complication their story must have.

Some funny stories have included:

- a two-headed monster at a farm who ate a poisoned berry.
- a beautiful princess inside a hidden cave found an unlucky penny.
- a handsome knight by a lake was chased by a tornado.

Eg: One day by a lake was a grumpy bear named Grumpy. His name was Grumpy because he was always grumpy. One day he was chased by a tornado, he ran and ran until it sucked him. Then he got spat out, and he was no longer a grumpy bear. He was a happy, happy bear.

-A short story By Aimee 3/4 Cobra’s.

The children have also been busy learning about angles and finding angles around their environments. They are beginning to explore the language of acute, obtuse and right angles.

The Year 5 camp note will be coming out very soon. So watch this space!

Currently the year 5 students are continuing their ‘Awesome Adaptations’ unit and have been looking at what living things require to survive.

The year 5 IMP band program is now underway and instruments will be chosen for our budding musicians in the near future.

Mark the date: National Ride 2 School Day is Wednesday 19th March. KSS students and parents are invited to join schools all over Australia by either riding, walking, skating or scooting to school to improve fitness of our students and help the environment. Don’t forget your helmet if you are on wheels.

News from Middle School

On Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th March, students represented Kingsford Smith School at the Secondary Schools Tennis Singles Competition, held at the National Sports Club in Lyneham. Students enjoyed themselves over the two days and demonstrated high levels of sportsmanship with students from surrounding schools. Ryun Pepper of Year 10 made it through to the third round of the Open Boys competition, winning his first two matches 6-1 and 6-4 and losing in the third 0-6. Deanne Milward of Year 8 was a finalist in the Under 14 Girls B Grade Division, winning her first matches 8-3, 8-2 and losing in the final during a tiebreaker 7-8. Congratulations to all students involved!

I am very pleased to announce that the school has recently made the decision to purchase Mathsonline for every middle and senior student at Kingsford Smith School. Mathsonline is a fantastic resource that I am very excited to start using.

Mathsonline as the name suggests is an online mathematics tutoring system. It allows teachers to set homework and monitor the progress of students. The other benefits of this system are online instructional videos for every topic in the Australian Curriculum.

Every student has been issued with a login and password by their mathematics teacher. This login will allow the students to access any part of the website unless a teacher has set specific work to be completed. The website will not be used as a replacement for working in class. It is simply a way for teachers to set homework or extension work for students. It will also allow students to do follow up work in the areas where they need more assistance.

As parents you are able to sign in to the parents’ area using your child’s login details. Once there you can see how often your child has accessed the site, and how much of the set work they have completed. If you do not have a computer at home the worksheets can be printed at school, or accessed via some mobile devices such as Ipads and Android devices.

Please feel free to contact your child’s mathematics teacher or myself if you have any concerns or questions around the use of Mathsonline.

David McMullin
Mathematics Teacher
david.mcmullin@ed.act.edu.au

Harmony Day is next Friday March 21st.
Students have permission to wear clothing in orange colour to support this event.
News from Senior School

Grip leadership

Last Monday, the KSS SRC (Yr 6-10) attended the Grip Leadership Conference at the AIS. We explored aspects of good student leadership.

There were many workshops to the conference which we broke up into separate groups to attend such as how to be a good school captain; maximise fun for fundraisers; creating unity at school; and creating house spirit. These workshops had use engaging in activities that were fun and relevant as well as networking with other students from other schools. This networking allowed us to share ideas and experiences which was a benefit to us as we came back to school with fresh ideas. We are excited about what we learnt as we believe it will support us in building more school spirit and student voice.

-Sienna Yr 9 SRC

Villagio

This term for my enrichment activity, I’ve chosen Villagio involving volunteering time at the retirement village in Page. I enjoy this as we are engaging with our community members and it makes me feel valued as a person since I’m giving back to others. I like how we are focusing on the culture of giving in our enrichments.

At Villagio, we get to socialise with older people with different life experiences. I’ve been lucky to meet someone who has memories from way back in WW2 where she was a war bride. I learnt how hard it was to maintain a married relationship back in those times.

In pairs we are supporting individual residents look back on their lives and memories by collating and recording life books. This gives the opportunities for the residents to reflect back on many good memories.

-Sheannon, Yr 9

Community News

Mothers and babies group. Meetings, information and support for all pregnant women and mothers with babies are now available through the National Health Co-op at the West Belconnen practice, provided by the Australian Breastfeeding Association.

All are welcome to drop in to these monthly meetings to meet other mums with young babies under 12 months over an informal cuppa. You don’t need to be breastfeeding to come and chat - we’re mums who just like mums and babies! Bring a friend, pregnant women are welcome too. A trained ABA counsellor will be there to discuss any breastfeeding issues. Its free and fun.

Next meeting: Monday, March 17th at 10-12:00pm

West Belconnen Health, 20 Cartwright St, Charnwood.

Breastfeeding information is also available at ABA’s website www.breastfeeding.asn.au.

For more information contact: Libby, Mt Rogers ABA group, phone: 0434-087889 or email mtrogers.aba@gmail.com

KAKADU MAN. Experience history in the making. See an ancient NT Aboriginal Ceremony never performed outside of Kakadu. Lorrkkon Ceremony features 30 dancers, singers and ceremonial elders and is the continuing journey of Big Bill Neidjie, affectionately known as The Kakadu Man.

Join us in the Bunggul Ceremony on Tuesday 25 March at 5.30-7.30pm at Reconciliation Place, Canberra. (Between Questacon & the National Portrait Gallery). Free entry—

Kingsford Smith School Jets Talented Sports & Service to Community Program.

Thursday March 13 is Jets introduction meeting 5-6pm at Raiders Club Kippax.

Sunday March 23 is the annual Verti-COOL Challenge and we wish all participants a safe and successful event. Have fun!

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools.

ICAS notes have now been handed out. If your child did not receive a note and would like one please see Mrs Murray. Notes and money are due back on April 10th.