New students from Year 1 - 10 begin on Monday 30 January from 9.00am-11.00am
Preschool and Kindergarten children begin on Monday 30 January (full day)
All returning Years 1-10 students begin on Tuesday 31 January. Please come to the senior gym for a whole school welcome assembly

Message from Paul

As we round out the year for 2016 I want to pause to reflect on the achievements of our students, staff and school community. This year saw the arrival of many new faces, in particular Peter Radford as the new Deputy Principal for the secondary students and Jodie McGurgan as the new Disability Education Contact Officer. We moved to a new timetable this year that enabled students across the school to share some of their time on the playground at breaks. This change allowed some very positive interactions including mentoring, shared programs and peer support to occur.

We have had a number of successes on the sporting field in at least part due to our Jets program strengthening the student’s involvement, fitness and skill levels. Thanks to Jenna Matheson and the PE team for their continued work in this area.

Our students also excelled in a number of competitions, not the least of which was in the Mathematics Olympiad, which you can read about later in this newsletter. Congratulations to the students for their efforts in all competitions but in particular to Ms Victoria Stodulka who has put significant time into providing these opportunities in 2016 and will continue to do so again in 2017. We also looked at other ways to extend our students and the Gifted and Talented committee put in place some initiatives throughout the year. These included philosophy sessions across the school, computer coding using Scratch, Maker Maker activities and college preparatory classes in advanced Mathematics for our year 10s. We will continue to expand these opportunities in 2017.

Our music program has continued to grow through the school bands and the expansion of the choirs. We held our first band camp this year and had enough students to run both junior and senior choirs this year. They both performed at several events not entered previously and our students’ performances were show-cased at the Spectacular this term. Thanks again to Bob Crisp,
Tim Sinclair, Leigh Andreatta and former deputy Catherine Le Brun for their work with our students to build their skill and engagement with music.

Our leadership groups also expanded this year with the combination of the SRC, school captains and other leadership groups such as the Earlyact and Interact clubs (affiliated with Rotary) taking on challenges and projects across the school. Thanks again to Tim Sinclair, Amanda Thomas, Margaret Gumma and Nghi Perrim as well as the other teachers who took on these leadership groups. We also held election speeches for our Year 4 students so that we can start 2017 with primary school leaders in Year 5. You can read more details about this later in this newsletter.

These are just a few of the new initiatives this year. Our students have been able to achieve many great things in their lives because of your support of the school and our programs to engage them. Just this week I was informed that Yr 8 student Jasmin Mecham-Crane has been selected as an ACT Under 16’s Oztag representative and will play in the Oztag State Cup in February 2017 in Coffs Harbour.

There are many other achievements of our school community, too many to mention, but I want to close by letting you know how much pleasure I derive from informing our school community of our successes and by wishing you all a safe and happy holiday.

Paul Branson

Message from Senior School Deputy Principal

12 months as Deputy Principal of Kingsford Smith School and I’d like to say how enjoyable it has been. As a senior school we have worked hard to improve our practices to allow quality learning to take place. These practices have been the focus for 2016. We have seen great improvements in uniform, absences and the appropriate use of mobile phones. I would like to thank staff for their work, the parents for their support, but mostly I’d like to thank the students for their adherence to the rules. The vast majority of students have been supportive of what we have been trying to achieve and they have happily complied with the school’s procedures.

2016 has also been a year full of excursions and other extra curricula activities, aimed at providing students a range of educational opportunities in and outside of the classroom. Some recent examples include the Yr 9 Leadership Day, Movin’ on Up Day, and the Gifted and Talented Forum to name a few. Thank you to the staff for organising these events, I know that the students got an enormous amount out of them.

Lastly I’d like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing all students back for the start of Term One rested and ready to learn.

Peter Radford

ICT News

Kingsford Smith School has decided to offer Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) to students in Year 6 to Year 10 for 2017. This is in no way compulsory and we as a school will ensure that no child/ren are disadvantaged if they do not bring a device to school.

The need for ICT devices in classrooms has increased since the introduction of GSuite (formerly GAFE) at the start of 2016.

ASI solutions in conjunction with the P&C community association have setup a BYOD purchase portal for you to purchase recommend devices with ease. This information when available can be found on the schools website with details on how to access the portal.

Students will need to register their device with the school and adhere to all BYOD policies and recommendations for devices. These documents will be available on the school’s website.

Have a Safe and Merry Xmas. See you in 2017

Trevor Kefford

P/K News
The last two weeks have prepared students well for their return in 2017. They visited classes and met teachers as they have transitioned through the school. We have enjoyed watching the children grow over the year developing their skills and knowledge ready for their next learning ventures.

We wish you all a happy and safe holiday season. Keep reading and we look forward to see you all again next year.

Preschool Kindergarten team

1/2 News

The children in 1/2 have completed their sustainability campaigns. The Falcons and Canaries focused on ways in which we can be more environmentally friendly through saving electricity. Classes have been lucky enough to have been visited by some Falcon “Power Rangers” who came into classrooms to ensure lights were switched off and blinds were open. Robins and Eagles focused on how we can decrease playground rubbish and Bluebirds and Eagles focused on reducing food waste by bringing food without wrappers and by bringing reusable containers. Classes have been participating in art and craft projects and enjoying PE activities in the final week of school.

News from Building 2

This week we had 13 very brave year 4 students who presented speeches for a position as school leaders next year. All students presented very well and had great ideas and suggestions on how they would improve the school. Huge congratulations to Jakob Elphick, Mattilda Thacker, Declan Sims and Jasmyn Volmari who will be the school leaders in 2017.

A massive congratulations to Amber Tilley who represented the ACT at the National Championships in Golf in South Australia. She put in a fantastic effort with her team coming fourth overall.

On Tuesday year 5 students celebrated their graduation from primary school. The students attended a special awards ceremony, where every student received a certificate and special cohort and class awards were handed out. Following the ceremony, the students and their families attended a morning tea that was put together by the lovely front office staff. Later that night, the students put on some of their finer clothes and attended their year 5 celebration dinner and disco. Students had a delicious meal, followed by some dancing, with music Djed by the students. The year 5 students and their teachers would like to thanks the parents who helped to set up the hall for the dinner - it looked amazing and all of the students had a fabulous night. The year 5 teachers would like to wish their students the best of luck as they transition into middle school next year.

KSS Middle School News and Highlights

It has been a great year for the middle school. The staff started by moving into a new staffroom that brought teachers from Years 6, 7 and 8 together into one large space. This allowed them to work more closely in year teams to make it easier to communicate, and work collaboratively to improve student outcomes.

The students have embraced the middle school concept and have been a wonderful group. In addition to the teaching and learning programs, numerous excursions and activities...
took place during the year.

The Year 6 students celebrated National Science Week with an excursion to the Action School Day held at Kingston. At the venue, the students constructed electrical circuits, attempted their personal best in all aspects of their learning and had positive social interactions throughout the day.

The Year 6 students experienced their first Years 6-10 carnivals. These included the Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals which were huge successes. Some participated in the school radio in semester one. They all experienced electives for the first time and the feedback from the students indicated that they enjoyed the opportunity to sample the four different electives.

The Year 7 students attended Camp Cooba in term one. This experience allowed them to establish new friendships, involve themselves in team building exercises, demonstrate leadership skills and take on new challenges.

The Year 7s participated in a science excursion at the Canberra Zoo and Aquarium and the Arboretum. This event gave students hands-on experiences and some got to feed the animals.

The Year 8 the students visited the National Mint as part of the SoSE Commerce unit. At the Mint, they learned how markets operate and currency is produced. Questacon’s Science Circus paid the middle school a visit in semester one. They presented a highly engaging science curiosity show.

A first for everyone was the change to the Cross Country Carnival course. The students got to run or walk from school all the way to the Western Foreshore at Lake Ginninderra. A large number of students took part. They also enjoyed an afternoon of team building games.

Learning I Need to Know (LINK) was experienced by all students. This 30 minute class focused on core numeracy and literacy skills. The Year 6 emphasis was on numeracy, while Years 7 and 8 students concentrated on strengthening their literacy skills. A Gifted and Talented group was also formed.

Another innovation in 2016 was the introduction of a Movin’ on up day. This allowed students to ‘move up’ and experience a snap shot of what it will be like in class in 2017. On that day, the Year 5 students moved to Year 6, and Year 6 students moved to Year 7. Students got to meet a number of their 2017 teachers. A huge thank you goes to Ms Sam Way for all of her effort in the organisation of a successful day.

The end of year was marked by our students’ attendance at the awards assembly. Two students from each class were presented with Academic Excellence or HERO Awards. While it is a huge achievement to win an award, Mr Branson reminded everyone about the intrinsic value of working hard to achieve one’s personal best. Students are to be commended for the effort they have put in this year, and we wish them all a happy and safe break, ready for a successful 2017.

The Middle School staff

**Year 9/10 Learning Team News**

Firstly, we would like to congratulate all year 10 students on the successful completion of their year 10 certificate and wish them the best of luck for whatever their futures hold. The formal and graduation went off without a hitch and everyone looked fabulous and had a great time.

Also, well done to all year 9 students for their enthusiastic participation in the Leadership Days held at Hawker college. Hopefully they will have all taken away some valuable skills and affirmations to lead them into year 10,
2017.
Finally, we would like to farewell Ms Yuan Ma and Ms Breah Burke who are moving on to teach in different ACT public schools.
They have both made invaluable contributions in the classrooms and in the wider school community while at KSS, and we wish them every success for the future of their careers.
We hope everyone has a safe and happy break over the holidays, and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

How to Keep your Children Learning Over the Break!

Did you know that young people can lose up to one month of learning over the Christmas break? Here are some tips to keep your child's brain motivated.

• make some time for daily reading
• visit important places of interest like museums, and galleries or Questacon
• Find some good online learning websites that your child/children may enjoy

Library News

The Recognition Awards for those students who completed this year's Chief Minister's Reading Challenge, the most successful year for the Challenge yet, were distributed to students last week. Congratulations to them all!

Please continue to support your children to return ALL their library books. They are required for stocktaking which begins at the start of Week 10. However, books will be accepted at any time after that too. From the library staff - Lyn and Michelle – thank you for a wonderful year, and please have a safe, happy and well-deserved break.

Lyn Andrews | Teacher Librarian

AUSTRALASIAN MATHS OLYMPIAD REPORT

The Maths Olympiad is an international mathematical competition comprising five tests throughout the year. Each test challenges students to solve five, very difficult mathematical problems. Some 33000 YRs 5&6 students and 10000 YRs 7&8 students competed this year from schools across Australia and New Zealand.

This year Kingsford Smith School entered two teams, YRSs 5/6 and YRs 7/8; 33 students in total. Our teams achieved in the top 30%; a most commendable result.

The teams had weekly problem-solving practice, and throughout the year, their arrival at solutions developed with outstanding collaboration, varied approaches and an excellent comprehension of mathematical concepts.

All participating students are to be congratulated on their fine achievements.

Particular mention goes to:

**WITHIN TOP 10%  WITHIN TOP 15%  WITHIN TOP 20%**

- Chevelle  |  YR 6
- Callam  |  YR 6
- Edith  |  YR 5
- Matthew  |  YR 5
- Toby  |  YR 7
- Jayden  |  YR 7
- Cameron  |  YR 7
- Nick  |  YR 7

Once again, CONGRATULATIONS to all our Maths Olympians for their participation, perseverance, problem-solving abilities and their shared passion for the application of maths in so many fields of endeavor.

Victoria Stodulka

100 Starke Street  Web: www.kss.act.edu.au  Telephone: (02) 6142 3399
HOLT ACT 2615  E-Mail: info@kss.act.edu.au  Facsimile: (02) 6142 3428
No Interest Loans
Now available to purchase your school devices

Do you have children at school and live in the ACT/Queanbeyan region and your
income is $60,000 or less per year? If so, you may be eligible to apply for a No Interest
Loan to purchase items for your child's schooling requirements.

What can be purchased with a No Interest Loan?
- BRD Devices
- School/Book packs
- Laptops/computers/tablet
- Mobile phones
- School uniforms
- Sporting uniforms/equipment
- Musical instruments
- Tools of trade for apprenticeships
- Desks/office chairs/printers
- Household furniture/white goods
- Car repairs/tyres

What is NILS?
NILS is Australia's largest microfinance program
offering loans to people on low to middle incomes.
Loans provide access to credit to purchase new
items without any fees, charges or interest
payments or credit checks. Care Inc. has been
providing NILS in the Canberra community since
1997.

Loan amounts are up to $1,500 max and are for new
items only and NOT available for school fees, name fees,
bills, existing debts, or car rego.

For more information on NILS including the eligibility criteria and application process visit:
www.careinc.org or to speak to a NILS officer, call Care’s office during office hours on 6257 1788.

The P&C have a new email: contact@ksspandc.org

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

KINGSFORD SMITH SCHOOL P&C (TRADING AS KINGSFORD SMITH SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION)
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 14 February 2017 at 7:00pm
Front Office – Kingsford Smith School, Starke Street, Holt ACT 2615

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Kingsford Smith School P&C will be held on Tuesday February at 7pm.

Following acceptance of the minutes from the 2016 AGM and the tabling of the Audit Report for the year ended 31 December 2016, all current office bearer roles will be declared vacant and nominations called for the following positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Nominations will also be sought for the following Committee positions.

- Public Officer
- P&C Council Delegate
- Communications Coordinator
- Fundraising and Events Coordinator
- Fete Coordinator
- Thank you Sergeant
- Preschool Delegate
- Primary School Delegate
- Middle School Delegate
- High School Delegate

All current P&C members are encouraged to attend the AGM to vote and/or nominate for vacant positions. For more information concerning any aspects of the P&C including the conduct of the AGM, and the roles of executives and committee positions, please contact the Secretary at contact@ksspandc.org.

The AGM is open to all parents, carers and interested citizens who wish to attend.

At the completion of the AGM the first general meeting of the year will be held.

contact@ksspandc.org
ABN: 98 859 081 206
PO Box 202 Kippax ACT 2615
100 Starke Street Holt ACT 2615
Dear parent,

This summer, we are hosting a very special school holiday program called Code Camp where your child can build their very own iPhone or Android app!

Code Camp have already taught more than 10,000 students in Australia in years K-7, teaching them important skills such as computational thinking, logic, creativity, user experience, app development and game building in a fun and engaging way.

**The Camps Explained**

**Spark (Years 2-6)**
Fun, engaging and challenging… and are our most known Code Camp which more than 10,000 students have completed. Code Camp Spark is where every student in years 2-6 should start their Code Camp journey.

**Ignite (Years 2-10)**
If you have completed Spark (or are in year 7-10) check out Code Camp Ignite! Students will build their skills and create new apps with increasingly complex logic, more code, behaviours and problem solving.

Enrol today and help your child become a coding superstar! Contact Code Camp for details or visit [www.codecamp.com.au](http://www.codecamp.com.au) for FAQs and videos.

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**Members Monday Madness**

**$8 Lunch & Dinner**

250g Tuna Glam Bap Steak
Our Famous Chicken Satay
Herb Buttered Fish
Tender Salt & Pepper Squid
Beef Lasagne, Traditional Style
Homemade Ravioli
Macaroni & Cheese
Cocker Salad
Chef’s Special

1 Meal only per Member Card

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**The Uniform Shop + Party Place**

**10% discount** on all orders and lay-by for the 2017 school year placed during December 2016

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**The Kingsford Smith School Jets are proudly supported by**

**RAIDERS Belconnen**

**SNAP Fitness 24/7 Charnwood**

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