



HARMONY EXCELLENCE RESPECT OPTIMISM



@kingsfordsmithschool



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NEWSLETTER

Date: Friday 10th March 2023

Principal's Address

Principal's Word of the Week: Legislative

Hello once again.

As we leave the summer months behind our school ramps up with opportunities and experiences for students across the school.

Next week is the start of National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. All Australian schools will be sitting these series of online tests during the week. This is much early than previous years which has traditionally been in Term 2. We have ensured staff and students are in safe and supportive environments to complete these tests and we ask that you encourage your child to complete the tests and do their best. This way you and your child will get accurate feedback about their progress compared to the school, state and nationally. The school will also get data about student academic progress from the completion of these tests and it helps us identify trends in groups of students that we can then plan to support in accelerating strengths or address concerns about their learning. As usual if you have any concerns please contact the school on 6142 3399.

NAPLAN
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy

You will see there is an attachment to the email with the newsletter link about voluntary contributions. We have not increased our amounts in the last 5 years in line with the increased pressure on families from cost of living rises. However we do rely on some of this money to support our school programs so that students at the school can engage fully with their learning. So if you have the financial ability to make voluntary contributions, please consider doing so for everyone's benefit.

Talking of money matters if you are struggling financially, applications are now open for the 2023 Future of Education Equity Fund. The fund provides financial support to eligible families with students in preschool to year 12. The one-off annual payment helps cover costs of everyday basics to assist with educational and wellbeing needs. Students from preschool to year 12 attending ACT schools or other approved forms of education that meet the eligibility criteria can apply. Payments of \$400 for preschool students, \$500 for primary school students and \$750 for high-school and college students are available.

We are also available to help families with completing the online form.

<https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-and-resource-assistance-for-families>

It was great to see all the staff and students that got involved in wearing a jersey day last week. This day culminated in the staff versus students touch football which was won by the students. A big thank you to the SRC for this initiative and I know they also appreciated the support to make these events very successful.

Congratulations to Rozen N in year 6 for successfully making it into the ACT Primary Concert Choir and to Abella A in year 7 for making the Senior Concert Choir and Junior Concert Band. Well done to both these students.

Last week a large number of our Year 8 students attended the Civics and Citizenship excursion. The students represented the school and themselves with distinction. I want to thank the organisers and staff participants for providing this opportunity to our Year 8s.

I hope to bring you more great stories next time, till then stay safe and keep learning.

Paul

Deputy Principal

Welcome to week 6! It has been lovely to see so many students engaging in our new sports equipment. Keep reading for a more details report on all things sports!

Teachers have also been very busy with the re-commencement of our cluster walks with Latham and Macgregor. Our KSS preschool to year 2 teachers hosted here and showcased some of our wonderful learning experiences in Literacy. Our year 3, 4 and specialist teachers visited Macgregor and held insightful discussion around improving students writing and our year 5 teachers visited Latham and discussed the use of space to engage students in literacy. These sessions are a fantastic way for teachers to share and gain new ideas to further improve student outcomes.

We also have a few excursions that have been held or are coming up in the remainder of the term. Koori students have begun their regular bus outings, visiting Telstra Tower and Mt Ainslie this week. Our year 2 students will walk down to Kippax and visit the post office before sending postcards written in class. Ms Clewer took our year 5 school leaders and house captains to a leadership day this week. Over the day students participated in a range of leadership activities, building their skills in this area. Keep an eye out for the more on this in the next newsletter



Year 5 band is almost ready to begin, with offers sent out to students and instruments going home soon – very exciting! Our year 6 band continues this year, once again lead by Mr Crisp and Ms Honey. Band is a great opportunity for students to improve their musical ability, as well as showcasing their skills with combined band practices and performances at community events.

Our first school disco will be held on the 23 March, term 1. A permission note for students in year 3 – 10 will be ready next week and will need to be returned for students to attend. Preschool to year 2 disco will be held during the school day so no note is required).

Next week we will be holding NAPLAN testing for students in years 3, 5, 7, & 9. Over the week students will be undergoing testing in writing, reading, conventions of language and numeracy. Catchup sessions will be held the following week for any students that require this. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jim Philips (high school) or myself (primary) on 61423399.

Primary Sports Report Week 6

Our KSS Primary Sports community has been active with daily opportunities to improve fitness with fundamental movement skills. We have had several weeks of specialist rugby clinics and students have been able to improve their techniques. Students have demonstrated their Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) when working with others in teams and displayed our KSS HERO values with visiting coaches. New sports equipment has been purchased and this has meant an increase in student engagement with tennis, soccer, basketball skills. We have a range of different sized skipping ropes and all these have featured in PE and Health teaching and learning throughout term 1. Students who participated in the KSS swimming carnival will meet with the sports coordinators to receive feedback about next stages for Regional Carnivals and the relevant qualifying times required to progress through. Students who placed in the top three for school events were awarded their ribbons at assembly. The introduction of our new sports trolley has been successful with many students borrowing equipment and playing cooperative games before school and during breaktime. Students have come up with many ideas and suggestions for sports clubs and school competitions – this included some trials last week with the KSS Two Minute Timed Tennis Tournament. Multi age groups of four were given two minutes to play before the next group commenced play. As always – students are encouraged to be active – please support this by making sure your child has appropriate footwear, sunsmart hat, drinkbottle and plenty of food to sustain their energy each day.

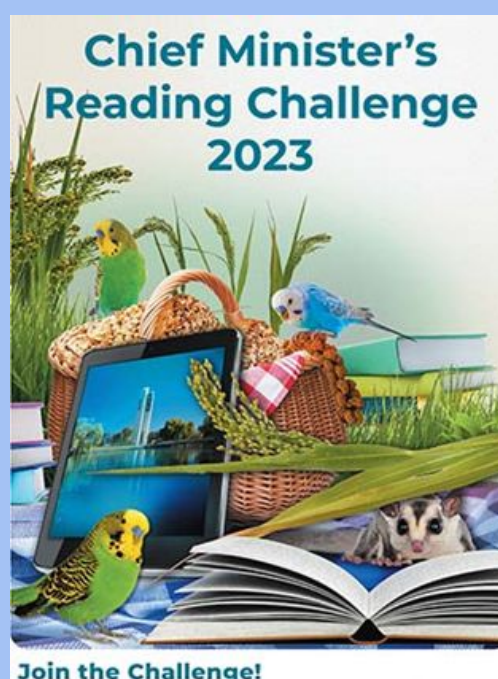


Our school is participating in the *Chief Minister's Reading Challenge* for all students in Preschool to Year 10.

In the primary school all students will have their reading challenge recording sheet in their classroom. The reading target is 30 books for students preschool to Year 5. The students will complete their free choice list. The students can add any books read individually and also listened to as a group during lessons. If a student would *also* like to complete their challenge at home the library *has extra sheets*. They could select a sheet which as specific categories, "Challenge Yourself to Read Something Different" or complete their own free choice list. Our reading challenge ends in early August.

The school can earn book vouchers from Paperchain in Manuka. We may even be a lucky school to have a reading ambassador visit KSS. Happy Reading to Everyone.

Mrs Murray



Calendar

Date

Event

Monday 13th March

Public Holiday - Canberra Day

Wednesday 14th March

Year 2 Kippax Excursion

Wednesday 15th - Friday 17th
March

NAPLAN

Tuesday 21st March

Harmony Day

Thursday 23rd March

School Disco

- Preschool - Year 2: 2pm - 3pm
- Years 3 - 5: 3:30pm - 5pm
- Years 6 - 10: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Friday 24th March

House Day

Monday 27th March

Year 10 Information Night



Year 6 English

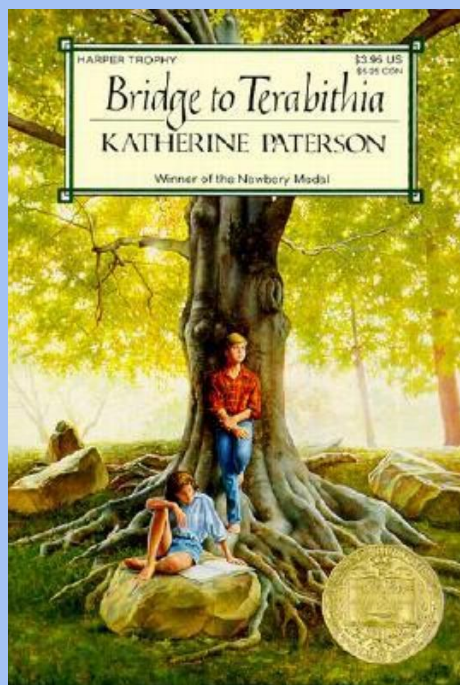
This term, our year 6 students have been working on narrative structure and writing short stories. Students are learning a variety of literary devices such as hyperbole, metaphor and personification to enhance the quality of their writing and develop their creative writing.

We have been focussing on key features of narrative texts such as characters, settings, plot, themes and genre. Students have also revisited the structure of a narrative and what makes an effective and entertaining orientation, complication and resolution.

One of our primary goals this term is to enhance our students' grammar and vocabulary. We are working on various activities to improve language skills, including vocabulary extension, grammar sessions and editing tasks.

Students have been provided with regular opportunities to read stimulating and challenging texts on a variety of platforms such as audio books, read to me texts, novels and digital texts.

Many students in year 6 have been reading *Bridge to Terabithia* which has led to some rich discussions in class. We look forward to seeing the progress of our wonderful students in the coming weeks.



Year 8 Civics and Citizenship Excursion

We arrived at Parliament House first. A tour guide took us to see the House of Representatives and the Senate. The most interesting part for me was seeing the portraits of previous Prime Ministers.

We then arrived at Old Parliament House, which was a museum. We touched old artefacts from Australia's political history. I got to play the role of clerk in the debate to build a dam in Tasmania, in the House of Representatives.

Finally, we went to the ACT Legislative Assembly. I got to sit in a Senators seat as we argued about free transport in ACT.

I had a very fun excursion. I got to meet a couple of people and I really liked the portraits.

By Henry Clifton



On the 2nd of March, the year 8 cohort had the opportunity to visit places that work with democracy. Students were able to do a hands on tour at the Museum of Democracy where we went around and learnt about past democracy. Then we went to the Legislative Assembly and did roleplay about passing bills. We also went to the Parliament House and toured the Senate and the House of Representatives. It was a wonderful experience where we reinforced the things we were learning in class. It was a lot of fun.

By Tina Duong Nguyen

On Thursday, 2nd March, the Year 8 Cohort went on an excursion to The Old Parliament House, New Parliament House, and the Legislative Assembly. During this excursion, we learnt about how the different rooms and chambers work, and how different roles in parliament worked. At the Museum of Democracy, we got split into two groups, and my group had to do a role play. We each got given a role, and a place to sit, depending on what role you got given. I was given the role of Speaker, so I had to sit at the top of the Chamber. We learnt about the debates that occurred during the session, and why people are trying to present a bill to the parliament. When we walked around the MoAD, we had a go at looking around a room where we had to find clues, or different parts of a room to uncover different information. In New Parliament House, we went and looked at The Senate, and The House of Commons, and what happens during each session in the rooms.

By June Steele



Homeroom Yellow

Welcome to Homeroom Yellow!

What a start we have had! We've welcomed some new students and a new look to the Yellow classroom. We have multiple working spaces where students can work on independent projects or work as a group. Our quiet room is full of comfy cushions, books and a wide range of magazines to suit (almost) every interest.



We started our year off by getting to know each other better through group challenges and other get to know you activities. We've had a Connect Four Championship Playoff. Congratulations to Campbell who is our current champion! We've had to work together to build 3D puzzles and are always up for a good game of Uno. Students are also teaching each other skills such as, how to play Chess, and how to use coordinates in Battleship. We've had a fun time getting to know our new students and welcoming them into our classroom.

We've also done a lot of learning in the first half of the term. In English, we've been working on turning simple sentences into more descriptive sentences using adjectives and adverbs. We've then used our descriptive skills to create detailed setting descriptions to accompany the work we are doing on script writing.



In Maths, we have been busy building our mental computation skills and using the knowledge we already have to help us understand new concepts and skills. Another big thing we are working on is developing our problem solving skills. This helps us with all of our learning and prepares us for life outside of school.

Our year 10 HaSS class is learning about *Human Wellbeing Across the World*. We are investigating liveability, poverty, human rights and other topics that impact our wellbeing. We have also started playing our geography game that will increase our knowledge of countries, states and landmarks across the world. This will continue for the entire year with students trying to visit as many countries as possible and working towards the end of year celebration.



So as you can see, there is lots of learning and growth happening in Yellow! We look forward to giving you another update later in the year.

Cooking

The school kitchens have gotten off to a flying start this year. The Year 6 students are showing great promise for their first time in cooking class. They have been cooking some tasty recipes and learning how to calculate their calorie intake.

Year 8 Food Technology have been working hard preparing their recipes such as buttermilk pancakes, hamburgers and chocolate brownies. They are also in the process of organising a cafe where they hope to cook for their friends and other students

Around the world in 80 days has already visited France with Apple Tart tatin and crepes. This week they have moved on to Thailand with the classic dish Pad Thai. Students are learning about cultural food influences and how they affect people's choices. The class also has the choice of countries to examine food, culture and religion.

Top Gun students have really started to show their skills with a chocolate mousse cake, coffee mascarpone and chocolate sorbet all made from scratch. From here we will be investigating some advanced pastry techniques including a lemon tart, culminating with a triple chocolate tart.

Finally, Good Looking Cooking have made some excellent burgers and choc milk, thai beef salad, and scones. Next we'll be looking at making a slice on student recipes.



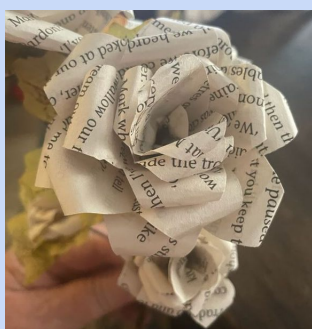
White Card and Asbestos

This week Kingsford Smith students have had the opportunity to undertake the white card and asbestos training. This training allows our students to be job ready by giving them the required training to go onto a job site. Students were even given their very own Personal protective equipment and were taught how to wear it correctly. Some students even got the chance to use their training in the workshops demonstrating how to work safely on site.



Library News

Last month was 'Love your Library' month which was a lot of fun. Many students participated in the library craft sessions repurposing damaged books into bunches of roses. Some of the results are below.



Borrowing rates are high at the moment with students across the Primary and High School participating in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. Book displays have been created by The Library staff and Mr Branson to promote the challenge.



To encourage and reward student's everytime they borrow and return books, they can collect another free bookmark and badge of their choice, which has also been popular amongst both the primary and high school student's.



NAPLAN



NAPLAN testing will occur in our school between 15 and 27 March 2023.

Education ministers agreed that NAPLAN would move to Term One from 2023. This will mean results will be available to education authorities earlier in the year to inform school and system teaching and learning programs and will assist teachers to better determine support students need for the coming year.

NAPLAN Online is a more engaging assessment that adjusts questions to each student's achievement level.

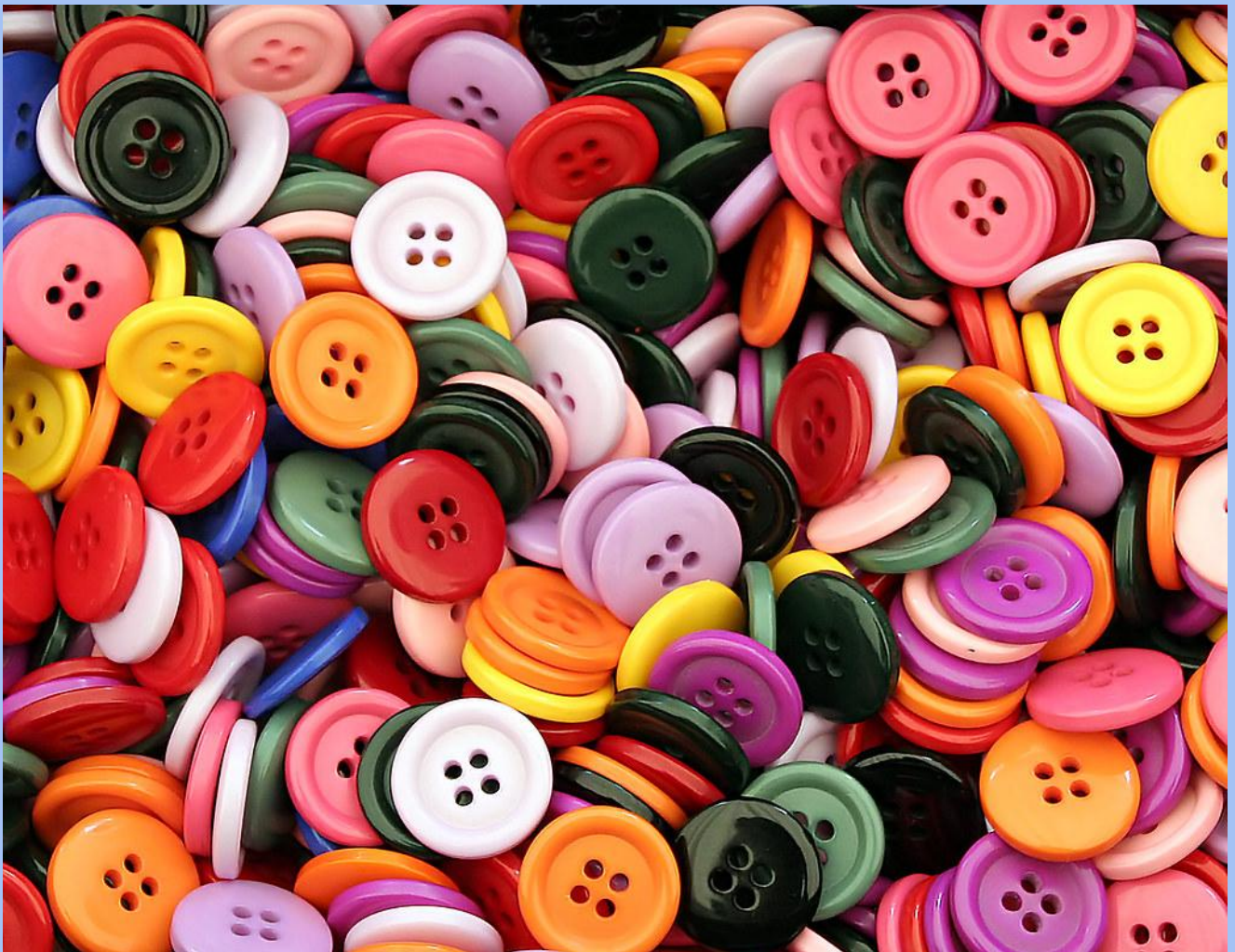
NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

Buttons

The preschool will be collecting buttons for a fun project. The buttons can be of any shape, size or colour.

If you have any that you would like to bring in, that would be great.



Future of Education Equity Fund



Apply now for the Future of Education Equity Fund for the 2023 school year. Eligible low-income ACT families can receive one-off payments for financial aid to help cover the costs of their children's educational costs, such as sport equipment and activities, music lessons, school uniforms and excursions.

The Fund is open to eligible students enrolled in preschools that are attached to an ACT government school, through to Year 12 in the ACT. Further information and the online application form is available at <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/financial-and-resource-assistance-for-families>

KSS Voluntary Contributions

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

INFORMATION

Voluntary contributions have been set by the Kingsford Smith School Board for the 2022/23 financial year.

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 dependent upon financial contributions),
- The child's right not to be approached regarding voluntary contributions.
- The contribution families make in other ways to the school community.

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 to name a few.
- for the Resource Centre (Library) and computing area.

The school already receives government funding for building maintenance and services such as electricity, heating, water cleaning.

KINGSFORD SMITH SCHOOL -



KINGSFORD SMITH

SCHOOL

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Under section 27 of the *Education Act 2004*, the following principles apply in relation to financial contributions:

- Each contribution is voluntary
- A child at the school is not refused benefits or services because the child's parent does not make a contribution
- A child is not approached or harassed for contributions
- Any record of contributions is confidential

Principal: Paul Branson | Kingsford Smith School |
100 Starke Street Holt 2615
ABN 14 768 297 805 | Telephone 02 6142 3399 |
Facsimile 02 6142 3428 | Web www.kss.act.edu.au

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Contributions for 1 Child \$ 65.00
- Contributions for 2 or more children \$110.00
- **ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**
- Year 6/7 subject /elective contributions \$100.00
- Year 8 subject/elective contributions \$120.00
- Year 9/10 subject/elective contributions \$150.00
- Westpac's Quickweb payment system. www.kss.act.edu.au
- EFTPOS is available at the Front Office.
- Please make cheques payable to: Kingsford Smith School.
- Receipts will be issued via your child.
- Please remember you can contribute in full or by instalments throughout the year.
- All contributions are voluntary.

✂ -----
Parental Financial Voluntary Contributions

Date ____/____/____

Name of Student(s)----- Year Level

For Payment of: -----

NEW PAYMENT METHOD: www.kss.act.edu.au - Transfer to Westpac's Quickweb payment system

Other Methods: Cheque/Cash/Visacard/Mastercard Payments (in person/by phone)

Circle appropriate payment type

Card Number:

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Card Holder's Name _____ Expiry Date ____/____/____
(As shown on card)

Signature _____ Contribution Amount \$ _____



Come and Try Rugby Day **2**

Friday 17 March

5pm - 7pm

**Weetanger
Playing Fields**

- Bring the family
- Meet coaches
- Learn skills
- Free sausage
- Free drink
- Have fun



West'sJuniorLions.com

Parent & Carer Online Safety Webinars - 2023

Help your family be more confident and safe online

All parents and carers of an ACT public school student are invited to attend an online safety (eSafety) information session designed to develop their knowledge and skills in supporting their child with digital technologies. This webinar will look at understanding the current eSafety issues children and young people are experiencing, how to support your child to be safe online, resources for preventing and responding to online issues, and where to go for further support.

Families are invited to attend one or more of the following sessions held online from 6.00-7.00pm:

	Primary	Secondary
Term 1	21/2 or 23/3	23/2 or 21/3
Term 2	9/5 or 8/6	11/5 or 6/6
Term 3	1/8 or 31/8	3/8 or 29/8
Term 4	17/10, 14/11 or 16/11	19/10, 14/11 or 16/11



bit.ly/3TyRaZx

Scan the QR Code or type in the address for more information and to register for one or more parent and carer eSafety webinars.



ACT
Government
Education

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GUGAN GULWAN

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



Week 1:

11TH - 14TH APRIL

✉ kathryn@gugan-gulwan.com.au

☎ 0421 486 313

Week 2:

17TH - 21ST APRIL

✉ cyndy@gugan-gulwan.com.au

☎ 0401 414 479

**APPLY
NOW**

Applications open 27th February



Applications close 17th March