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# NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Report

### Principal's Word of the Week: *Sombre*

Hi all, once again, and welcome to another newsletter filled with information and celebration of our student learning and achievement.

Unfortunately I have to start with a more sombre note to my report this week. Many of you will be concerned about the outbreak of the strain of Novel Coronavirus known as COVID-19. I have attached, at the end of my report, the information provided by the ACT Education Directorate about how all schools will deal with any potential threat from this outbreak. As of the time of writing there are no restrictions on students, staff or family members attending school. As a result, unless a student has visited one of the travel restricted countries within the time frame listed from ACT Health, or has had contact with someone infected, they are to attend school until advised otherwise. More information will follow but the general advice we are giving the community is to maintain hygienic practices such as washing hands.

Last week I had the pleasure of attending the University of NSW Best Female Mathematics Student Awards. We had two students who gained this award which includes a cash prize and a scholarship for the first year of engineering at UNSW. Congratulations to Laura Zhang and Buffy Budd on receiving this award.



Congratulations to Lucy Milner in Year 8 and Chloe Taylor in Year 6 who have been selected for the Instrumental Music Program system wide ensembles for 2020 in Senior Concert Choir and Primary Concert Band respectively.

### **Swimming Carnival**

Just a big thank you to everyone for such a successful Swimming Carnival last week. It was great to see the school spirit being shown in such a tangible way. Thanks to all the staff, students and family members for their enthusiasm and participation in making this a successful event. In particular, I want to thank the organising committee and in particular Jack Bayley, Greg Leach and Garth Bradfield.

Straight after the swimming carnival we had our Year 7 Camp at Camp Cooba last week. While it was a wet week, the students and staff had a great time and I am sure many new and existing relationships were strengthened on this trip. I want to thank the Year 7 Team for providing this great opportunity for our students.

Till next time,  
Paul

ACT Education Directorate advice:

## **Managing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in ACT Public Schools**

Australia is very well prepared to deal with novel coronavirus (COVID-19), with a suite of measures implemented to help stop the spread of the virus and protect Australians. All states and territories are taking a highly precautionary approach based on the latest and best medical advice.

The Education Directorate continues to work closely with ACT Health. ACT public schools are operating as normal and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Plans have been developed for ACT schools to respond to the potential spread of COVID-19 in school communities. When, and if, there is a case of COVID-19 in the ACT, these plans will be scaled in proportion to the spread of the virus.

Our response will be based on ACT Health advice and learnings from other jurisdictions. This may include that if a student or staff member were to test positive to the virus, the impacted school may close for a short period while ACT Health investigates the incident and the school is closed appropriately. Those students and staff identified as close contacts of a case will need to self-quarantine at home for 14 days

At this point in time, the best way to minimise any transmission of the coronavirus is for students and families to continue with good hand and respiratory hygiene to prevent the spread of germs.

Please be assured that the health and safety of students, families and staff is our top priority. We will continue to monitor any developments across Australia, and here in the ACT, and keep our school communities updated.

Parents and carers of children with an existing medical treatment plan may wish to review their plan with their child's GP and notify the school if there is a change to the plan.

### **What should I do if my child is sick?**

If your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath:

- Call your GP in the first instance. By calling your GP before arriving they can take appropriate infection control measures.
- Call your school to let them know.

Please do not send your child to school if they are showing any symptoms of sickness. Once your child is well again, they can return to school.

### **Where can I go for more information?**

The community is urged to keep up to date through the ACT Health website ([www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au)). This is where the latest

health advice is available. People can also call the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080 for further information on COVID-19. The line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Deputy Principal's Message

It has been lovely to welcome our new students and staff to our school and to see all our returning community members again. Last week we were certainly blessed with the weather for our swimming carnival, and it was great to see so many students participating in the races and activities. Congratulations to the staff and students in the winning house of Hinkler. The following day, our Year 7 cohort headed off to Cooba for their annual camp. Despite the inclement weather that closed in on the Wednesday afternoon everyone had a fabulous time. Thankyou to all the staff that worked so tirelessly to make the camp happen, and to the teachers who took time out from their families to take the students away. The term will continue to be a busy one with the Jets Obstacle Course Challenge happening on March 24 and Band Camp coming up in Week 9. Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the Year 10 Jewish Museum excursion scheduled for next week. Families will be updated on the new excursion date as soon as we have one.

Friday of Week 9 will see our first House Day for the year. This term's House Day centres on our school value of Harmony and will culminate in the school's hosting of Shave for a Cure. KSS has a proud history of supporting the Leukaemia Foundation through this event and last year raised over \$20,000. It isn't too late to join the KSS Family by shaving, waxing or colouring your hair. To join our team, click on the link below, go to sign up, click on I'm taking part in a team, join an existing team and look for KSS Family.

<https://worldsgreatestshave.com/>

If you have any questions about this event please contact Sharyn Davis at [sharyn.davis@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:sharyn.davis@ed.act.edu.au).

Lastly, I would like to remind students and their families, that as the days begin to get shorter, and the mornings cooler, we expect all students to wear school jumpers and hoodies to keep warm. Should families require assistance with uniforms please don't hesitate to contact the front office.

Kate Greeney

## Bushfire Donations

KSS are looking for supplies for animals rescued in the recent Bushfires near Canberra. All donations will be given to Wildcare (<http://wildcare.com.au/>), which is a volunteer organisation caring for animals around Carwoola, Yass and surrounding areas.

We are looking for Baby wipes, non stick bandages/dressings, towels, burn/wound creams and Jelonet. Please drop off any donations to the front office.

If we all donate something small, it will make a huge help to those animals suffering from bushfires and the drought  
Thank you for your donations.

Trevor Kefford

## Community Calendar

KSS Community calendar is back and you can find it at [bit.ly/KSSCommunity](http://bit.ly/KSSCommunity)

Keep up to date with what is happening at KSS.

## Swimming Carnival

The annual swimming carnival is one of our schools most beloved events. Everyone is always in high spirits from the rides, to the racing, and to everything in between. And this year was no different. Sure, the weather could've been better, but no matter where you looked, there were smiles everywhere and an overall great atmosphere from every age group. And of course, it was the curtain call for the year 10's. So, just like with everything, we made the most of it and had the best time possible. And this year's experience definitely left it on a high. Huge thanks to the Big Splash team for making each and every year so worth it, and to the school for always pulling it off in such an amazing fashion.

# Indigenous Education

Yeddung oongooru (Good Day in Ngunnawal)

Welcome back to Term 1 2020! For those who are new to KSS My name is Tikarra Looke and I am the Indigenous Education Officer here. You'll hear from me from time to time!

This year we will have our Nguru Program continuing in the high school on **Fridays from 1:40-3:00pm** lunch is provided! Wayne and Reggie have some on country learning days planned for us too which is super exciting.

We will have MALPA again for our year 3/4s and our 5/6s (YES, this year we have the shirts). There will be a note sent home with the time and days at a later date. Our weaving club will be back up and running on **Thursday lunch times** in the fishbowl.

We have also revamped our Umbagong garden with a meeting circle made by one of our very talented parents!

In some other bittersweet news this will be my last term here at KSS as I have been lucky enough to land a new role within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Directorate. I will be transitioning out of KSS for the remainder of the term and will only be on site **Thursdays and Fridays**. I am excited and sad all the same! As always, my door is always open (The HUB) and you can drop in for a yarn anytime you need.

Dhjan Yimaba,  
*(Thankyou in Ngunnawal)*

Tik



# Preschool Playgroup

## Preschool Playgroup

Would you like to volunteer?

Kingsford Smith School is looking for a friendly member of our community to coordinate our Preschool Playgroup.

Playgroup is a great opportunity for children to make connections to early childhood education prior to beginning school. Our Playgroup will be run on Wednesday mornings, from 9-10am.

If you would like to volunteer your time, please contact the Preschool team.

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Phone: 02 6142 3407

## Year 1

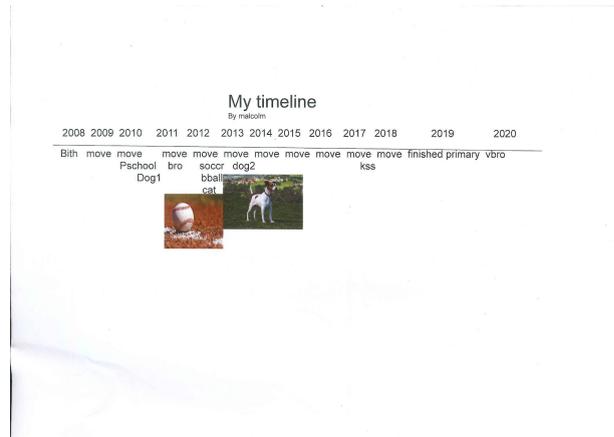
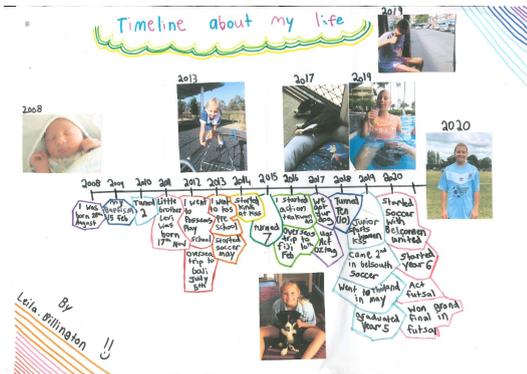
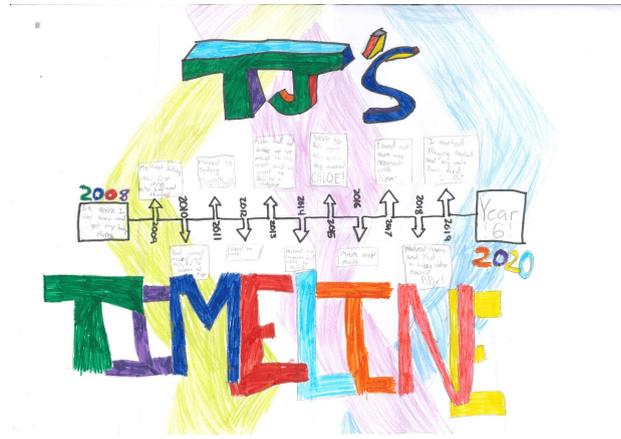
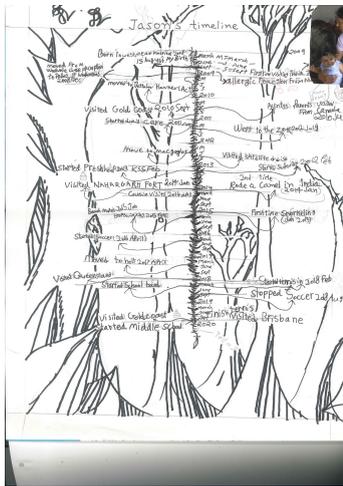
Students have settled well into their classroom routines and are demonstrating the PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) expectations of being a safe and respectful learner. Year 1 participates in a wide range of activities in our classrooms and within the school. In literacy, Year 1 students continue to develop skills and knowledge of writing factual texts that inform their reader. Everyday, students are encouraged to write on a range of topics across all our curriculum areas. During our LINK (Learning I Need Know) sessions Year 1 students are working in groups to apply learning of letter and letter blend sounds to improve their spelling skills. In numeracy, students have been exploring the sequencing of numbers forwards and backwards to and from 50. They also learn to sequence numbers from any starting point to 50. We enjoyed coming together as a school for the excitement of the swimming carnival. Our students supported their house teams by watching swimming races, cheering on their peers and joining in with fun water activities. Congratulations to Hinkler House on their win for the best house cheering! A fun day was had by all. Library days for Year 1 are Mondays for the Sugar Gliders, Tuesday for the Taipans and Wednesday afternoons for the Echidnas. The children are encouraged to borrow books for home reading during library time. They may also return and borrow before school on any day.

Best regards from the Year 1 Team Taylor, Christine and Meg.

# Year 6 HaSS

In HaSS we have been learning about timelines. Our assignment was to create a timeline about our life including important events such as getting pets, any moves, births of younger siblings and any awards we have gotten.

- Charlotte



## Year 7 Camp

We left bright and early Wednesday morning, and everyone was keen despite the weather. It took a little over two hours to get there, during which the rain only got worse, further dampening spirits. Luckily, this did not drag us down, and all students quickly embarked on the assault course, with many getting covered in mud. It was both exhausting and freezing, so we all made our way back to the accommodation as fast as possible. The first night featured a round of trivia, with the winner getting first dibs on dinner the next day. After a long night in which the teachers battled to get everyone to bed, the students finally awoke at 6:00 am. It took a little bit of time but soon we were back at the site for activities. The second day saw everyone getting involved with the leap of faith (a 10m tall jump!) as well a survival course where we pushed an off-road kart through the mud. Everyone left the camp tired, but got geared up for the disco which was running later that night. There were a lot of song requests, and plenty of dancing (including some fantastic moves pulled-off by the teachers), but eventually we all went to bed. The final day saw awards handed out to the best group. Despite a late surge from group 3 and a valiant effort from group 1, Ms. Moala's group 2 took out the award for best on camp. All in all, everyone left happy, and looking forward to a 3 day long weekend!

## Joinery

In Joinery this term students are building bird feeders. This week students have been busy practicing their cutting skills and learning how to use the sanders. All students have been wearing all the correct Personal protective equipment especially their green aprons while doing practical lessons.



## Construction

In Construction this term students have been learning about the processes of a jobsite and how we keep a jobsite safe. One way is through the use of signage. Last week, students were tasked with selecting signage, and putting it up in a correct spot, to help remind anyone on our jobsite of the safety required.



## NAPLAN Practice Test

On 23 March, schools across the ACT will participate in a nationally coordinated 45-minute NAPLAN practice test session. The goal of the practice test event is to help students and teachers become more familiar with the online platform, while also testing the network capacity prior to the actual NAPLAN Online tests in May. All eligible students are encouraged to participate in the practice test. No results will be received.

Visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

## Principal's Reading Challenge

The Principal's Reading Challenge is being run again this year, starting Term 1, Week 6 and ending during Book Week 22 – 28 August 2020. Students are asked to fill in the Record Sheet and submit during Book Week. Prizes will be awarded in various categories. Record sheets are available from classroom teachers and the library staff.

## P & C

The Kingsford Smith School P&C Annual General Meeting for 2020 will be held from 7pm on Tuesday 24 March in Paul Branson's office at the school.

Please open this link for more information:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ORAbOETyUWM9OqRqj1WBPVMLQC6dqxFIXUjIH9nQC6A/edit?usp=sharing>

If you would like to nominate for a position on the P&C, please submit your nomination from this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTYC6ucTsRVJeyU2XZmpyJ4A0bUffyH3Tpy-6BY3DOJrJhw/viewform?usp=link>

# FIND OUT FOR YRSELF

Welcome back to another episode of Find Out For Yrself. In the last edition, we asked teachers & students what their favourite movie is and why. This week, we're doing games. Shall we begin?

## FAVOURITE GAME

CHARLES SPRADAU: The Last Of Us. I love the story because it lets you get attached to the character.

MR. BRADFIELD: Initial D Arcade Machine. First arcade game I ever played that had cards of cars you purchased and upgraded. It took up hundreds of my \$2 coins.

LACHLAN HIRT: Skyrim. It was one of the first proper games I played, it sort of introduced me to next gen titles in a way. It was really well done and had an amazing story that I found fun to play multiple times.

MR. MCINTYRE: Backgannon. The strategy, the psychology, some of it's luck but also skills.

BRI WOLSTENCROFT: Stardew Valley. It's a fun farming simulator where you inherit your grandfathers farm. You can do heaps in the game like go mining, buy animals and bring old buildings back to life. It's such a great game with an amazing soundtrack and calming vibes.

MR. BRANSON (PRINCIPAL): When I was a teenager I spent plenty of 20c pieces at the local takeaway playing Galaga. I still get a buzz playing this game.

SABRINA WILLIAMS: Parappa the Rapper. I really like rhythm games and the style is cute and fun. The songs are catchy too.



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