



ACT
Government
Education

KINGSFORD SMITH SCHOOL



HARMONY EXCELLENCE RESPECT OPTIMISM



@kingsfordsmithschool



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NEWSLETTER

Date: Friday 8th September 2023
Principal's Address
Principal's Word of the Week: Pinnacle

There has been so many wonderful things that have happened recently. KSS has been awarded the ACT CDS environ champions for 2023 for the KSS CDS scheme (Container Deposit Scheme). A huge congratulations to Tim Kirsopp and Ho Tin Lee who organised this, taking our containers to Belconnen CDS depot to and sorting through the bins. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped and continues to support the collection of cans, bottles, poppers and 600ml milk containers. As winners of this we received a lovely certificate and \$500 to support the students going to Adelaide to represent us at the National finals of the Kids in Space competition. Well done KSS!



We also held our Musical last week, which was amazing! It was lovely to be able to hold these events again onsite, with many of our families coming to watch over both night. Some even came for both nights! I am so proud of the efforts of our students who performed brilliantly over both nights, including our backstage and technical crews. The Musical could not have happened without the support of staff, with many staff giving up a lot of their time over the term to ensure this ran smoothly. I want to thank all staff who were involved, not just for the performance but also supervising students, making costumes and props. Without the efforts of these teachers, the night could not have happened. I also want to thank Mr Britton, Ms Langridge, Mr Bale, Mr Crisp and Mr Bayley who put so much work into ensuring the night was as successful as it was.



There has also been a lot of work happening at the end of building 2 and in the preschool, with the creation of Indigenous Gardens. There will be formal opening of these spaces next week with an opt in BBQ for all students, with bite sized tastes of Kangaroo available. Thank you to Bec for organising this event for us. Thanks to Cody, Anne and Hamid for their work with our Cultural Connections Club to create the mural that will be on the wall. An information note will be sent out today with all details.

Have Your Say: mobile phones in ACT public schools

The Education Directorate is reviewing policies related to student use of mobile phones and similar devices in all ACT public schools.

A new *Personal Use of Communication Devices in ACT public schools' policy* will be created to ensure that ACT public schools and classrooms are safe places that provide an effective and accessible learning environment for all students. It will outline the appropriate use of mobile phones and other communication devices by students. By providing feedback, you can help make sure the policy meets the needs and expectations of parents and carers.

You can provide your feedback by visiting yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/mobile-phones-in-schools before 8 October 2023.

Kind regards

Karen



Deputy Principal

We're down to the business end of the term!

We just wanted to publicly thank all the staff and students involved in the KSS School Musical. It was a great experience for all involved and for those who watched the spectacle.

A number of our sporting teams have competed in school competitions (netball, oz-tag, northside athletics), congratulations to all students for their representation and efforts. Year 7 camp commences on Monday morning (11th Sept) - a great opportunity for all year 7 students to participate in a range of activities and further develop positive relationships with their peers. Normal classes will operate for those attending school. Year 9 camp commences in week 10, Wednesday to Friday (20th - 22nd Sept)

You should receive your child's (year 6-10) mid-semester progress report early next week (from Monday 11th Sept). This brief report indicates your child's academic progress and application in classes. The teacher may request a parent/teacher interview if there are any concerns with their progress. Parent/teacher night is Tuesday 19th Sept, from 4-7 pm. You should receive an email early next week with instructions on how to access and make bookings. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

This year's school satisfaction survey closes this evening! You should have received an email from the Directorate on/after Friday, 18th August, including information and access instructions for the survey. We truly value your time, input, and feedback through surveys such as this one and look forward to reviewing this data to inform our future direction.

Year 10 students will have their immunisations (Meningococcal ACW vaccine) on Tuesday 14th November. Refer to the flyer after this article for more information.

Just a heads up that on Monday 18th September, Bec Thompson (Youth Worker) and Marina Leko will be hosting our inaugural Formal Op shop for year 10 students

Just a gentle reminder that your child should be wearing school uniform items. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher if you require support in acquiring uniform items.

If there has been a variation in your child's attendance over this last week, you may have received a text message to show this. We have many students who sign in late, despite them being dropped off at school on time. These unexplained absences add up over time. A gentle reminder that Parents/Carers are legally responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day OR they must explain their absences as close to the date as possible. This can be in the form of a written note (handwritten note to your child's homeroom teacher, school, or email – info@kss.act.edu.au), a verbal explanation (in person or over the phone) and/or a medical certificate.

Have a great day.

Lee

Attention Year 10 Parents

Your child's vaccinations are due in term 4



ACT
Government

Canberra Health
Services



The following vaccine will be offered **FREE** as part of the ACT High School Immunisation Program in Term 4.

✓ Meningococcal ACWY



Scan for more
information
or call
02 5124 1585

If you did not return a consent card at the beginning of the year, please find a consent card and return it to your school as soon as possible.

🔍 **Find** a consent card at your school OR download one from our website

📝 **Sign** and complete the card

🔄 **Return** it to your school ASAP

If your child misses this vaccine at school and you returned a consent card, and you have indicated your wish to have your child vaccinated, you will receive a letter in the post on how to access this vaccine through your GP or local pharmacist.

This will be available **FREE** from your GP or pharmacist up until your child's 20th birthday.

Acknowledgement of Country

Canberra Health Services acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this city and region.

© Australian Capital Territory, Canberra August 2023



Accessibility
Call (02) 5124 0000



Call 131 450

canberrahealthservices.act.gov.au/accessibility

Calendar

Date	Event
Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th September	Year 7 Camp
Wednesday 13th September	Year 5 combined Band Practice @ Latham 12-3pm
Thursday 14th September	R U OK Day Year 9 & 10 Dance Excursion Disco Preschool-Year 2 2pm-3pm Year 3-Year 5 3:30pm-5pm Year 6-Year 10 5:30pm-7:30pm
Friday 15th September	House Day Opening of KSS Indigenous Gardens
Monday 18th September	Formal Op Shop Year 2 National Capital Authority Excursion
Tuesday 19th September	Year 6-10 Parent Teacher Night
Wednesday 20th - Friday 22nd September	Year 9 Camp

Year 1

Our Year 1 students have discussed, explored and shared different ways that light and sound are produced through the current science inquiry. Students shared insights about sound, vibrations and shadows in their home and school environments. We are looking forward to our Questacon excursion in Week 10 to assist with gaining further information. Students are continuing to develop reading strategies. This has included questioning, predicting, thinking, and sharing prior knowledge to make connections with a range of different texts. We have identified word patterns, meanings and discussed vocabulary in guided reading groups. Students have reflected on their word knowledge with LINK (Learning I need to know) weekly cycles focused on effective spelling and writing strategies. We have used warm-up number games and problems with place value work in mathematics. Students have used manipulatives, thinkboards and numberlines to accurately solve simple addition and subtraction problems. We have worked collaboratively in daily physical education sessions to practise kicking, throwing, catching, running and the vertical jump. Students have used the Zones of Regulation with frequent opportunities to demonstrate their emotional language, knowledge and skills to interact positively with others.



PBL

As part of our Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) framework that underpins our ethos here at Kingsford Smith of all students being safe, respectful learners - we are committed to having a clean and safe environment to learn and play in. This means that every student has a responsibility to themselves, their classmates, teachers, the school community and the local wildlife to keep our school clean. When you decide to put your rubbish in the bin, you have made a positive decision that represents yourself and the school in a positive light.

No matter where you are in the school, no matter what time of the day it is, Kingsford Smith School deserves your respect to keep it clean for everyone. This means putting your rubbish in the bin, which you can find in every classroom, bathroom and playground area that allows eating. It also means keeping our bathrooms clean so that everyone feels comfortable using the bathrooms. We all share classrooms, seats, tables, playgrounds and bathrooms - let's respect each other by making sure the next person to use that area doesn't have to clean up your mess.



High flyers will always be given out for students who demonstrate responsible behaviour, so if you are after some fantastic prizes, make sure you pick up after yourself and watch your high flyer count rise!

Library News

The Library space has been undergoing some changes to create a lovely learning space. This past week we had a giant tree erected in our Junior Library section. The students are very excited about the tree and love how the space now feels. We will run a small competition to name the tree, so watch this space to see what the students decide.



Next term the Library will be hosting a Book Fair. Scholastic provides the books for parents, students and staff to look at and can then purchase anything they like. From the sale proceeds the school earns money to also purchase books for the school library.



Below is a link to a short video from Scholastic.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfHJ98jVAqM>

Reading Tip from the Library

Choose a favourite time and as a family sit down together and read.

<http://bit.ly/40A2c50>



Family Support

The early years of a child's life set the foundation for their future health, development and learning. These years are characterised by rapid brain development and the acquisition of sensory, motor, learning and social skills.

This term West Belconnen Child and Family Centre will be partnering with our school to offer parenting support to families who have children aged pre-birth to 8. Rebeca Hanson from the Centre will be available at the school on Mondays from 9:30am to 3:00pm to have a chat with families. Rebeca is a Social Worker who has worked in the Centre for 12 years supporting children and their families.

To make an appointment with Rebeca please contact reception on 61423399.

More information about the Child and Family Centres can be found through this link

https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/children-and-families/support-for-parents-and-families/childandfamilycentres/service_delivery

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS™



The next Holiday Happenings edition is now available online.

To see the *Programs, Activities & Events* happening these holidays go to:

www.holidayhappenings.com.au/online-booklet

Supporting Teens to Eat Well in a Food Confused World - FREE Parent Webinar

Join Butterfly and two Practising Accredited Dietitians and learn how to help your teen have a positive and balanced relationship with food. Topics covered include: Why it's hard to chart a healthy course | What's helpful diet information and what's problematic | Supporting eating through puberty | Troubleshooting common eating dilemmas - 'junk food', 'high protein diets', veganism, not eating at school.

Details

Tuesday, 12th September

7 - 8pm (AEST), plus question time

Via Zoom (time-limited recording available)

Free

Register:

https://events.butterfly.org.au/portal//event/?id=EP_BCCT_Parent_Webinar477928020&Name=12/09/23

BKF Teens Eating



WESTON INDOOR SPORTS 2023-24 SUMMER JUNIOR INDOOR SOCCER

Boys, girls and mixed teams

For players of all skill levels

Girls divisions for 9 years and older

Register as an individual or as a team
we'll find you a team for you and your friends

Season: 5-15 years and all girls teams
Sat 14/21 Oct 2023 to Late March 2024

Season: 16-20 years (Youth)
Sun 22 Oct 2023 to late March 2024

Break over school holidays and long weekends

Not affected by weather—we're indoor

Come and join the most fun indoor soccer competition, the non-stop game where the ball doesn't go out. We have 20 years of experience in running sports for children and with over 140 teams playing Summer Indoor Soccer we can offer games to enjoy for players of all ages and skills.

**FOR PLAYERS AGED
5 YEARS TO 20 YEARS**



WHAT IS INDOOR SOCCER?

- * five-a-side game
- * played with a futsal ball
- * played on indoor courts with nets

APPROX AGE GROUPS & KICK-

Rooball	5 to 8 years	1:00pm – 4:00pm
Juniors	9 to 14 years	8:00am – 12:30pm
Girls	8 to 17 years	11:00am – 1:30pm
Youth	15 to 20 years	Sun 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Season Fees: \$195. \$10 discount per person if two or more from the same family register.

Teams are placed in divisions based on suitability (age, size, skill level and intensity of play). Game start time can vary depending on the number of teams within each group. If you have a time you can't play, let us know and we will do our best to work around it.

REGISTER AT: <https://westonis.com.au/kids-rebound-soccer/>

For Further Information – Contact Weston Indoor Sports

Phone: 6288 0444 **Email:** soccer@westonis.com.au **Website:** westonis.com.au

Canberra Party Central at Weston Indoor Sports.

The best parties in town!

**NERF
WARS** parties.