

Kenthurst Public School

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Excellence and Innovation in a Unique Community

Kenthurst Village Voice



Issue 13 Term 3 Week 6

Thursday 23rd August 2012

Good afternoon parents and friends,
This is such an exciting time of year at Kenthurst. Book Week this week was such a resounding success with our Fairy Tale theme. The Sydney Opera Company performed Hansel and Gretel to thunderous applause.

Athletics Carnival.

What a terrific day. The weather was perfect, lots of parents and grandparents and the atmosphere that only Kenthurst can create. Well done to all those children who participated. Take the time to have a look at our website for photos that captured some special moments. Levi McCormack came and ran his race too. He was thrilled with his ribbon. The Year 6 Mums did a wonderful job in the canteen and raised over \$800. Fantastic effort!

Book Week this Year the theme was 'Champions Read'. Come and have a look at our dioramas in The Learning Centre and the Hall display has some great photos. Thank you *Mrs Parnaby* for all that you do, to ensure Kenthurst students love to read. Because they do!

Fathers Day

Next Wednesday all our Dad's and Granddad's are invited to a delicious breakfast here at KPS, starting at 8.00am. There will be games and opportunities to visit classrooms.

Next Wednesday I will be joining Stage 2 on their excursion to Australia Pioneer Village. We are once again off to hire costumes to look authentic.

The Ridges Athletics Carnival will be held next Friday 31 August at Blacktown Olympic Centre. Parents are welcome to attend and cheer on our students.

Enrolments for 2013

If you have a child or know of a child that is enrolling at Kenthurst please remind them to come and get the necessary forms. We can post copies if you prefer. Our transition program will be starting soon and we want to ensure all new students have the necessary information for a successful start at the School of Choice ~ Kenthurst.

The Hawkesbury Eisteddfod

For the first time our students will be participating in a Verse Speaking competition. All students from Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be representing our school. The children are learning 2 poems to perform on the stage. There will be other schools from across The Hills participating too.

Recent data from England has been gathered, that proves learning and performing Poetry enhances Literacy skills, improved memory and intelligence and confidence. Parents are welcome to come and watch us perform at The Windsor Function Centre on Thursday, 6 September from 10.00am to approximately 1.00pm. See you there ☺



Building Literacy and numeracy when organizing family activities:

Pre-school to Year 2

- Ask your child to count the number of plates, cups and pieces of cutlery used to set the table
- Count with your child the number of buttons as you do up their shirt
- Play dominoes, card games and board games involving one or two dice. This will help your child to recognize number patterns
- Encourage your child to count the number of pegs you use to hang out the washing
- Count the number of eggs in a carton and again after you remove some
- Count how many steps it takes to go from the front door to the back fence. Can your child make up a song or rhyme while playing?
- Play a game of snakes and ladders. Use two dice and encourage your child to add the two numbers rolled
- Try using dice that have numbers instead of dots to help your child read and recognize numbers
- Give your child different-sized plastic cups and a larger container to play with in the bath. Encourage your child to guess how many of each cup it will take to fill the container. Can your child make up a song or rhyme while measuring?
- Look for objects inside or outside that are shaped like a circle, triangle, square or rectangle. Look for different sized shapes or shapes in a different positions.
- Fold a paper to make shapes a hat, boat or plane. Talk about the shapes you are making.
- Make your own jigsaw from a picture in a magazine. Cut them into specific shapes eg make one all triangles the other squares. Count the pieces and discuss the images and colours in the picture.

SDD

Kenthurst staff attended a Staff Development Day (SDD) last Saturday at Glenorie PS. The focus was on technology and the presenter was able to give us current thoughts on embedding technology in education and daily lessons and the future directions with technology and apps. An exciting time to be an educator! Our team presented the Maths project Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) that we have been working on this year. Congratulations to the *Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Teachers* on your professionalism and attention to detail. The other schools were very impressed and appreciative of your depth of knowledge and obvious camaraderie.

Everything is Connected.

Yours in quality education,

Caron Dodd

Principal







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- All eligible students must have returned this **permission note** from their parent to bring devices to school.
- Only bring **one hand-held** game/gadget such as an iPod, PSP, Gameboy, mobile with game applications etc (students will not be permitted to text, make phone calls or connect to the internet during the lunch break)
- Any games played or music listened to should be **age and content appropriate**
- Make sure your **name is clearly marked** on your gadget (use a name sticker or band-aid to do this as many gadgets will look the same)
- Do not bring large consoles that require plugging in to a screen
- Make sure your gadget is **fully charged** as students will be unable to charge them at school
- Your gadget must be **handed in to School Captains and prefects** when you arrive at school in the morning prefects will mark off student names on a class roll- they will be kept secure by the Principal until lunchtime
- The school accepts **no responsibility for accidental damage** to gadgets caused by students when using them in the hall or damage caused by other students after willingly swapping them to use
- Gadgets will be taken back by students at the end of the lunch break to be placed directly into their school bags- if possible, school bags will be kept inside classrooms for the last session of the day
- Any headphones students wish to use with their gadget can be kept in the student's bag during the day
- Students who breach any of the above rules will have their **gadget confiscated** and **may be ineligible to participate for the rest of term**- any major abuses of school or Departmental codes of conduct will be dealt with in accordance with school and Department of Education and Communities policies

Caron Dodd

Principal

Kenthurst Public School- Gadget Device Permission Note

I give permission for my child _____ of class _____ to participate in School Gadget Program for 2012. I understand that my child can bring along an electronic gadget to school that I have checked for appropriate games, applications or music.

I also understand that the school accepts no responsibility for accidental damage or loss to gadgets caused by students whilst using them or damage that may be caused by other students after my child has willingly swapped it for use.

Signed: _____ Date: _____



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Kenthurst Public School Digital Device Policy –22/8/12

1. Purpose

1.1 The widespread ownership of digital devices among children requires Kenthurst PS to develop a policy for the use of digital devices at this school.

1.2 Kenthurst PS has developed this Acceptable Use Policy so that potential issues involving digital devices are clearly identified and understood in the hope that the benefits that digital devices provide (such as increased safety) can continue to be responsibly enjoyed by our students.

1.3 Students, their parents or guardians must read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy before students are given permission to bring digital devices to school.

2. Rationale

2.1 Personal Safety and Security Kenthurst Public School accepts that parents give their children digital devices such as phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety including concerns about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a phone gives parents reassurance that they can contact their child if they need to speak to them urgently while they are travelling to and from school.

2.2 Educational The use of digital devices in the classroom is to support active Learning pedagogy. Digital devices can enhance and engage students with the learning process. Accessing the internet independently of the school's proxy servers (ie by personal ISP) is not allowed in order to ensure cyber safety.

3. Responsibility

3.1 It is the responsibility of students who bring digital devices to school to comply with the Acceptable Use Policy.

3.2 The decision to provide a digital device to their child(ren) should be made by parents or guardians.

3.3 Parents should be aware if their child takes a digital device to school their children are expected to obey the Acceptable Use Policy and any failure to do so could result in the digital device being confiscated or a child being refused permission to bring their digital device to school in the future.

3.4 A student will not be given permission to have a digital device at school until their parent/guardian has signed a copy of this policy. Parents/guardians may revoke approval at any time and should advise the school if they do so.

4. Acceptable Uses

4.1 While outside of the classroom but on school premises, during school hours, students should not use devices unless under the direction of a teacher. 4.2 Digital devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the school.

5. Unacceptable Uses

5.1 Unless express permission is granted by the teacher, digital devices should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, surf the internet, take photos or use any other application during school hours.

5.2 Digital devices must not disrupt classroom lessons with ringtones or beeping. Digital devices which disrupt lessons in these ways may be confiscated and the student may be refused permission to take the digital device to school in



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the future.

5.3 Using digital devices to insult, tease, embarrass, bully and/or threaten other students is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at this school. Students who act in this way towards another student or a teacher will be dealt with under the school discipline policy.

5.4 Students must not use their digital devices to take videos and pictures to embarrass and humiliate another student or staff member and then send the pictures to other students or upload it to a website for public viewing. Any student who does this will be dealt with under the school discipline policy. This also includes using digital devices to photograph or film any student without their consent. It is a criminal offence to use a device to menace, harass or offend another person and almost all calls, text messages and emails can be traced.

5.5 Digital devices are not to be used or taken into changing rooms or toilets or used in any situation that may cause embarrassment or discomfort to their fellow students, staff or visitors to the school.

5.6 Should there be repeated disruptions to lessons caused by a digital device, the responsible student may face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Principal.

6. Theft or damage

6.1 Students should mark their devices clearly with their names.

6.2 To reduce the risk of theft during school hours, students who carry digital devices are advised to keep them well concealed and not 'advertise' they have them.

6.3 Digital devices that are found in the school and whose owner cannot be located should be handed to front office reception.

6.4 The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged digital devices.

6.5 The school accepts no responsibility for students who lose or have their digital devices stolen while travelling to and from school.

6.6 It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure of unauthorised access, if possible.

7. Inappropriate conduct

7.1 Any student who uses vulgar, derogatory, or obscene language while using a digital device will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the Principal.

7.2 Students with digital devices may not engage in personal attacks, harass another person, or post private information about another person using SMS messages, taking/sending photos or objectionable images, and phone calls. Students using digital devices inappropriately will be dealt with under the school discipline policy and if necessary will be reported to the Police.

8. Sanctions

8.1 Students who do not obey this policy could have their devices confiscated by teachers. The digital device would be taken to a secure place within the school and the student's parent informed. Appropriate arrangements would then be made for the parents to collect the digital device.

8.2 Repeated infringements may result in the withdrawal of the agreement to allow the student to bring the digital device to school.



Calendar Term 3

Week 6

Thursday 23 August	Scripture Choir 11.45am
Friday 24 August	PSSA/Gymnastics Kenthurst Pre-school visit 10.30am Assembly 2.45pm

Week 7

Monday 27 August	Hills Music Festival
Wednesday 29 August	Father's Day Stall
Thursday 30 August	Scripture
Friday 31 August	Zone Carnival Assembly 2.45pm

Week 8

Tuesday 4 September	Band Its Academic Semis Mathletics Challenge
Wednesday 5 September	Mathletics Live Maths Challenge
Thursday 6 September	Hawkesbury Esteddford
Friday 7 September	PSSA/Gymnastics Assembly 2.45pm

Week 9

Monday 10 September	Pre-School Visit
Tuesday 11 September	Band Its Academic Dance Troupe
Wednesday 12 September	St2 Excursion Australiana Pioneer Village Elbelles Visit 10.30am
Thursday 13 September	Scripture Choir 11.45am

Week 10

Tuesday 18 September	Band Dance Troupe
Thursday 20 September	Scripture Choir 11.45
Friday 21 September	Last Day of Term



Book Week Celebrations

When the Opera came to Town

Kenthurst students were in for a treat last Tuesday when “Opera Australia” came to perform the children’s opera Hansel and Gretel. Our students sat enthralled by the performers voices and acting. They were particularly interested in the stage set, how it was put together and the special effects.

It was a great opportunity for our students to experience an opera and the fairy tale theme will help to enhance the Fairy Tale units being taught in the classrooms.

This week is Book Week along with the opera to celebrate the students came dressed as their favorite fairy tale character. This is always lots of fun and it was great to see everyone getting involved.

Thank you to all those parents who spent hours creating their costumes.

Edwina Shaw
Assistant Principal





Premier's Spelling Bee 2012

The Premier's Spelling Bee was introduced in 2004 as a fun and educational way for primary students to engage in spelling and to promote improvement in literacy. Two Stage 3 students and two Stage 2 students are asked to represent their school and compete against other schools in the area.

In order to establish who would represent Kenthurst, the students in primary participated in a class spelling bee last week. The top 2 students from each class then competed against the children from their stage.

Our school representatives are Anastasia and Tahlia from Stage 2 and Hannah and Jasmine from Stage 3. They will be representing our school in September at Cherrybrook Public School. Congratulations and we wish you all the best!

Melinda Ristuccia

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY COMES TO KENTHURST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Over the last few years Kenthurst Public School has increasingly become more involved in the Macquarie University's Teacher Education Program. 3rd and 4th year Pre Service Teachers have spent time at our school, in our classrooms, as part of the professional experience aspect of their training.

This opportunity for student teachers to apply their learning at university in 'authentic classroom settings' is invaluable in ensuring that the new wave of teachers entering the profession are well placed for the demands of 21st century learning.

Not only do we believe we have a responsibility to mentor these future teachers. We also know that their experience at Kenthurst Public School will be especially rewarding due to the high quality teaching and learning programs and outstanding teaching practice they will be an integral part of.

Welcome to the following student teachers...

Ms Lauren Shirvington

Ms Ellen Lingley

Ms Sharon Wong

Ms Nikolina Ivis

Ms Jacqueline Maher



Ditto

On Wednesday 22nd August Kindergarten to Year 3 had the opportunity to participate in a 40 minute show in which they were educated about being safe and responding to unsafe feelings. The show was presented by Bravehearts and the aim of the program was to equip children with the skills needed to avoid risky situations and help them understand the rights they have to their own body. The children learnt about 'yes feelings' and 'no feelings' towards different situations and it was emphasised that 'no feelings' should be avoided. This was done by Ditto (the Lion) and his friends who incorporated interactive songs and actions to help the children understand and remember how they should respond to warning signs.

As well as songs, actions for particular words helped the children remember what they were taught. 'Yes feelings' were signified by thumbs up while 'no' were displayed by thumbs down. The children also learnt recognise nervous, 'no' feelings as unsafe feelings which be told to someone trusted.



feelings'
how to
should

More information can be found on Bravehearts' website

<http://www.bravehearts.org.au/>.

Band Workshop

Thanks so much to all the children, tutors and parents who participated in the band workshop day it was a huge success! After an action packed day of tutorials and rehearsals the improvement at the end of the day was amazing. Well one everyone!

A special thank you to all the parents who helped throughout the day - Julie Brady who ensured the tutors were very happy with scrumptious food and beverages! Thanks also to Mom McCusker, Suzie Craig, Meiwan Jaeggi and Kate Wilton-Dyer who assisted with supervision and food preparation. The day ran so smoothly with your assistance, we could have done it without you!

Thanks also to the other parents who offered to volunteer and weren't needed – we really appreciate your support. Thanks also to Mr Ciccarelli and the other wonderful tutors for their skill, patience and dedication throughout the day.

At the end of the day, the band sounded fantastic! There is only 1 band rehearsal before the Hills Performing Arts Festival so keep practicing and we are all looking forward to see you up on the stage on Monday 27th August!

Hills Performing Arts Festival

As soon as we know the meeting time and place I will let you know. Please note that all band children need to wear full school uniform to the Hills Performing Arts Festival.

Email contact

I think some parents may still not be receiving my band emails. Each week I have been emailing band parents to inform them about the band and keep everyone up to date about what to practice. If you haven't been receiving my emails and would like to be on the band email list please send me an email at jasperandharley@aol.com and let me know your child's name and details so that I can make sure you are kept up to date about either the junior or senior band!



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Canteen

Please note that the Canteen will be ***closed*** on Mondays.

Position Vacant

Canteen and Uniform Shop

The Kenthurst P&C requires a person to be the Co-ordinator for the Canteen and Uniform Shop.

It is 10 hours per week for each position, except for School Holidays. The Canteen is open Thursday and Friday and the Uniform Shop is at your discretion.

Paid Casual Hourly under Educational Services (Schools) General Award. Trial required. Training available.

Please contact Sandra Gaskin 0410 437 208 if you are interested.

Skoolbag Trial

Skoolbag is an iPhone and Android based School Communication web app that delivers school notices and information direct to parents' mobile phones. You can use the Skoolbag web app to access information about our event dates, cancellations, school requirements, newsletters, timetables, etc.

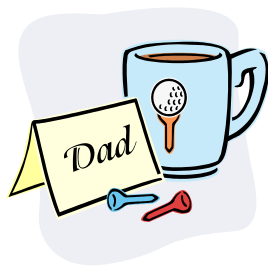
Currently we are **trialling** this app and ask that you **give us feedback**. If we receive plenty of positive responses we will make this an ongoing service beyond the trial period.

We need to decide before 31 August as if we register before then, we will get an app written for free that will be available through the App Store for Free and it will have more functionality than the Browser Version.

Accessing Skoolbag: On your smartphone browser enter www.skoolbag.com.au/kpsnsw.

Once loaded, you can then add it to your home screen – look at bottom of screen and see Arrow in Box. Click on that, see “Add to Home Screen”.





FATHER'S DAY STALL

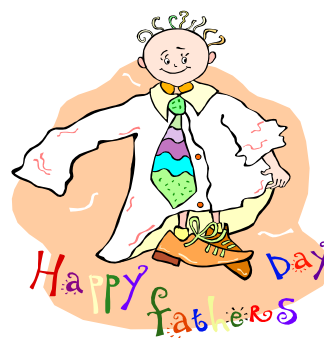
In readiness for our Father's Day Stall Wed 29th August 2012, we are asking for donations of:

- 1) Gifts (from \$1 -\$15)
- 2) Wrapping paper (for men)
- 3) Ribbon for curling/bows

All donations to be in by Friday 24th August.

Thank You
Parents' Auxiliary

YEARS 1 & 2 HELPERS NEEDED FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST



Wednesday 29 August is Father's Day Breakfast.

Years 1 & 2 has been asked to help serve our hungry dads.

We are asking for help setting up, cooking, and serving.

Please support our school by giving an hour of your time.

Breakfast set up starts 6.30am. Ms Dodd will be helping and this will be a great time to show her our school spirit.

To make this a great event we need to work together as a team and to give thanks to all the dads at the school.

Please rsvp via office or contact Mell Holder 0421463374 or email parentsaux@gmail.com

Thanks for your support and time
Parents Auxilliary & P & C

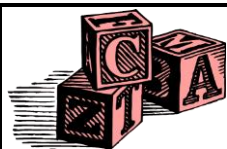
Donations

Any families with pre-loved Lego they would like to donate to the school for children's use at lunchtime, it would be appreciated. We want to have some other quiet games for students to play.

Duke Box

We are looking for a **Duke Box** for display purposes that we could borrow for the year six farewell in term four, if you are able to help please contact the school.





Elbelle's Preschool and Early Learning Centre

174 Kenthurst Road, Kenthurst 2156
(Opposite Caltex Service Station)
9654 2009

*7:30am to 6pm

* A "NCAC" Accreditation of "High Quality" in all areas of Early Childhood Education *Extensive Transition to School/Pre School Program for children aged 3-5 years

*Children are divided into groups according to age with qualified staff programming for each group

*All meals provided

*Licensed for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years *Some casual days available

*Child Care Benefit available

*50% Childcare rebate on all pre-school



PARENT FORUM

Dear parents, I am offering a computer session which will cover:

- accessing the portal from home
- what the student email system looks like
- how your child can use emails for homework
- basic Mathletics and Edmodo access for those interested

When: Wednesday 29th August, 2.30pm in the Learning Centre

Hope you see you there!

Ms McHugh

Computer Coordinator

Kenthurst Public School





Saturday 8th September
10am — 2pm

Hillside Public School
122 Cattai Ridge Rd, Glenorie



There will be a **jumping castle, balloon darts, BBQ, coffee.**

Sites only \$15
Bookings - Phone Sue on 0424 355 615

This will give you the opportunity to sell those unwanted items that have been sitting around your house, garage and backyard. So bring along all your preloved toys, bric-a-brac, antiques and collectables.



GLENHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Spring Fair

Sunday
26th August
9am - 3pm

Stalls

Show Bags
Pamper Parlour
2nd Hand Clothes & Books
Hairspray/Tattoos
White Elephant
Gift Baskets

Fun

Mega Raffle
Entertainment
Fantastic Rides
Pony Rides
Games

Food

Cafe Haven
Mexican & BBQ
Cakes, Gelato
Fairy Floss

At Glenhaven Public School, 74a Glenhaven Rd, Glenhaven