



Fortnightly Newsletter

OPEN DAY

Saturday August 12th
10 - 2

Dates to Remember

31/7 - 7/8	Year 9 Camp, Mittagundi
1/8	Basic Skills Test, Yrs 3 & 5
4/8	Debate Final Winmalee High School
2/8	Basic Skills Test, Year 7
2/8	Science In The City - Years 8 & 10
3/8	Basic Skills Test, Yrs 3 & 5
11/8	No School for Primary, Half-day for High School
12/8	Open Day
14/8 - 15/8	Life Education K - 6
16/8	Council Meeting
22/8	Interviews - Primary School Parents
6/9 - 9/9	HSC Trials
18/9 - 20/9	3,4,5 E Camp, Dubbo
26/9 - 28/9	3,4,5 J Camp, Dubbo
31/9 to 1/10	Mt Solitary Trek

Afro-American Style Quilt Raffle

On display in the office is a gorgeous Afro-American Style Quilt, in rich warm colours. The patches were made by Year 7/8 Design and Technology classes of 2005. The students pieces were then patchworked and quilted by Greg Somerville.

Tickets can be obtained from the office for \$2 each or 3 for \$5. This raffle will be drawn at Carols in December.

Thanks
The Fundraising Committee

Newsletters via email

See the newsletter in full colour!
Please remember to let the Office know your email address so that we can begin saving paper! You may email it to: info@korowal.nsw.edu.au

Celebrating National Tree Day



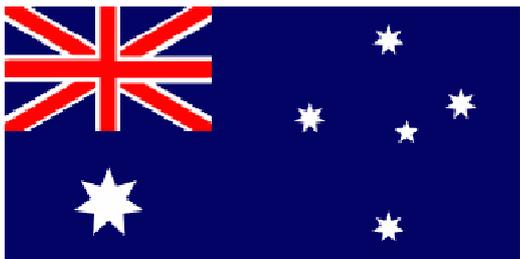
Jesse Walker assisted by Kindy and Class 1 plant a tree

General News

Celebrating National Tree Day

Korowal registered with Planet Ark and received a grant for a tree and some tubestock for our grounds. On Friday Kindy and Class 1 watched Pathways students Jesse, Tylaa, and Matt plant a casuarina in the courtyard garden. Everyone gave the plant some water and lots of love.

The Flagpole - an update



Did you notice the Australian flag flying during the World Cup?

As you are aware, last year the Commonwealth Government introduced the requirement that every school fly the Australian flag. This compliance must be met in order to receive Federal funding. Our school community has various opinions regarding this mandatory dictate, and ongoing discussion continues. The flag raising committee has met several times. The following is a summary of the minutes from April (thank you Brenda).

- The Commonwealth Government offered funding support to assist the School to meet the costs of the flag flying requirement. The acceptance of any funding involved further obligations.
The School decided not to accept the funding and has opted to meet the Commonwealth Government's requirements independently.
- Preliminary enquiries have been made to have indigenous custodians officiate at a ceremony, but we need to clarify the nature and purpose.
- There was again passionate discussion regarding the requirement to raise a flag at all. It was recognised that not all members of the school community feel this way. With all the directives coming from the government at present it was decided that effective protest against the government's interference in academic issues was a priority.
- We resolved that a ceremony and it's development must acknowledge and provide space for different perspectives.
- Preference was given to using the flag ceremony to bring forward our own values and meaning surrounding Australian citizenship, essentially embracing a diversity of perspectives.
- A wonderful range of suggestions from year 8 students was considered, and two were of particular interest. These included raising a collection of the flags of the world, and landscaping around the designated area to include other flagpoles, plantings, sculptures, and Aboriginal 'memorial poles',
- These ideas could include the sustainability committee and perhaps Learnscapes.
- The anticipated timing for the ceremony is Term 4.

We now need to reconvene to refine ideas and processes. ***You are most welcome to attend.***

There were four teachers and two parents present at the previous meeting.

Are you interested? Do you have an opinion?

Perhaps you would prefer to email your suggestions to info@korowal.nsw.edu.au with attention to Nancy or Barb

The next meeting will be held on the Tuesday, 15th Aug at 3pm, in the staff lunchroom.

General News

Fundraising and Social Committee News

Country Fair Cancelled

We would like to thank all of those people who expressed a willingness to help at this year's Country Fair. We would especially like to thank those parents who came to the meeting at the end of last term. Unfortunately, we did not feel that we had enough organisers, which would have enabled us to distribute tasks. As a consequence, we have decided to cancel this year's Country Fair.

We are aware that we have not had any of our usual community events so far this year, but this is not the first time that we have been in this position. We remain optimistic that we shall continue to have activities that will bring us together in a social context and which might also help raise funds for the School.

If you have an idea for an event and you are in a position to take on the responsibility for co-ordinating it, then please contact Mark or Nancy. Spring Enrichment Days, bush dances, auctions and trivia nights have proved to be popular in the past. New ideas are welcome – we want you all to feel valued members of our School community. Meetings can be held at School, the Newsletter can be used as a communication tool.

We shall be having our Open Day on Saturday, 12th August and encourage you all to come to see your child/ren's work and to bring family and friends with you.

There will be a carols/community singing night at the end of Term 4.

We would like to acknowledge and thank Andrea, Ruth and Tracy for their contribution to the Fundraising and Social Committee.

Their support and organization for the Fun Run was fantastic. We raised \$1356! Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this success.

Mark

Head Lice

Head lice have been a problem at most schools and child care centres for several years now. We are often asked what the best practice is, regarding prevention and cure. To the best of our knowledge, different products work for different people. You may wish to read an article concerning the latest research into the control of head lice, recently published in the Herald, using the following link:

<http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2006/06/30/1151174393365.html>

I certainly found the following statement from that article very reassuring: "washing bedding, carpets and clothes is no use, because once removed from the human head, a louse's life span is no more than a few hours." !!!

Nancy

Term Dates 2006

Term 3 10 weeks	First day of term: Tues 25 July Last day of term: Fri 29 Sept	Monday 24 July Friday 11 August Saturday 12 August	SDD - All Staff – Boys Education SDD - Primary School Staff OPEN DAY
Term 4 10 weeks	First day of term: Mon 16 Oct Last day of term: Wed 13 Dec	Thursday 26 Oct Friday 27 Oct Thurs 14, Fri 15 Dec	SDD - High School Staff SDD - High School Staff SDD - Whole School Staff

* Please note students must not attend school on Staff Development days.

General News

Japanese Visit Cancelled

Unfortunately the AIU have had to find an alternative school for their student group from Japan. We really appreciate the one Korowal family who offered to host a student and hope that there will be more interest in this cultural enrichment program next year.

Winter Asthma Warning

With the onset of winter and cooler weather, many people find that their asthma seems to flare up. If you or a family member has asthma, you can do the following things to help manage your asthma, as we approach the coldest time of the year. See your doctor and have your asthma reviewed. Ensure that you have an up to date Asthma Action Plan. Make sure you carry your reliever medication at all times. Continue to follow a healthy lifestyle – exercise and watch your diet. Stay warm. Ensure that your home is heated uniformly throughout. A warm bedroom temperature certainly seems to reduce night cough and wheeze.

Ensure you continue to comply with the treatment plan your doctor has devised for you.

For more information about asthma, please contact the Asthma Foundation on ph: **1800 645 130** or visit our website: www.asthmaaustralia.org.au

Student Support

Our Student Support Teacher, Kirsty, is now available to work with students to assist them through issues that may at times make life and learning difficult. Kirsty works as part of the team of class teachers and parents in supporting students, and we have a clear process of consultation and referral. These processes are outlined in the Primary and High School sections of this newsletter.

Primary News

Welcome back to Term 3 – always a busy term! We extend an especially warm welcome to Eleanor Gershevitch, our new student in Class 2. Her brother Tomas has been with us since the beginning of this year. We also welcome back an ex student, Lindsay Westrup, who has joined us as a teachers' aide.

Children in K,1,2 will be hearing about The Adventures of Dewdrop for their Main Lesson this term. This story helps the children to learn about the water cycle, so it was particularly pleasing to see some rain! Children in years 3,4,5 are starting this term with a Main Lesson about Crossing the Blue Mountains and Class 6 have started with The Solar System. Work relating to these Main Lessons and previous ones from this year will be on display at our Open Day on August 12th. Please bring your friends and family along to join us in this celebration of our children's work. Just a reminder, too, that there will be no school for children in Primary School on Friday, 11th August as teachers will be busy setting up displays. There will also be no after school activities for children from K,1,2 on that Friday afternoon.

If your child is participating in the after school activities program, please ensure that s/he returns the permission slip required by the government, that has been sent to you via your child. You may need to check the school bag!!!!

Beginning in the week starting August 21st, we shall be holding our parent interviews. Letters relating to this should have been received by now. It would help us enormously if you could return the letter to your child's class teacher by Wednesday, 2nd August if you have not already done so!

On Friday, 4th August, weather and condition of oval permitting, we will be having a Tabloid Athletics Carnival – where the focus is yet again fitness, fun and participation. We will be on the oval from 10 am till 12 noon and you are welcome to come along to share the fun. We would also appreciate some parent helpers. If you are able to help, please phone the Office and leave your name. This will greatly assist David with his planning. As always, your child/ren need/s a sun protective hat and suitable clothes to permit freedom of movement. A clearly named water bottle is also recommended.

Hope to see you either at the Carnival or at Open Day!
Nancy

High School News

Welcome Back Andrew

We are delighted that Andrew Ireland has returned to Korowal to teach Art. Andrew is equally delighted to be back. The elective Art students will never forget his off-the-wall recreation of the Dada Cabaret Voltaire in their first lesson!

To all HSC students—we have great faith in you!

It's time to breathe deeply and eat well!

This term is becoming busy for the students, parents and staff who work towards the final stages of their subject requirements. This Friday there has been great relief as the Society and Culture personal interest projects were submitted. That's 30% of the total completed. Within the next five weeks 60% of the Drama HSC and 50% of the Art HSC examination work will be submitted. In early September the Trial Exams are held, and then we have a few delightful weeks of finalising. Meanwhile remember to have fun doing the things that keep you happy, include exercise and sleep in your routines, have faith in yourself and take time to smell the roses!

Learning Tools

High school teachers have noticed after the holidays that some of the students don't have all their equipment ready for class work.

Please check if your child has everything needed for a successful start of the term and fill any gaps as soon as possible.

We will run an equipment audit in the near future, checking for the following items:

General Equipment: School diary, pencil case, black and blue pens, HB pencil, coloured pencil set, ruler, eraser, sharpener, whiteout, glue, scissors, USB memory stick, hat

Special Subject Equipment: Textbooks for English, Maths, HSIE and Science, Maths calculators and protractors, Art Kits, Drama Log Books, French exercise books and CD.

Remember, some equipment like Art Kits can be stored in student lockers at school.

Joachim

Student Welfare

Here's an interesting follow-up to our earlier information on wellbeing.

Kirstie & Barb

Symptoms of depression

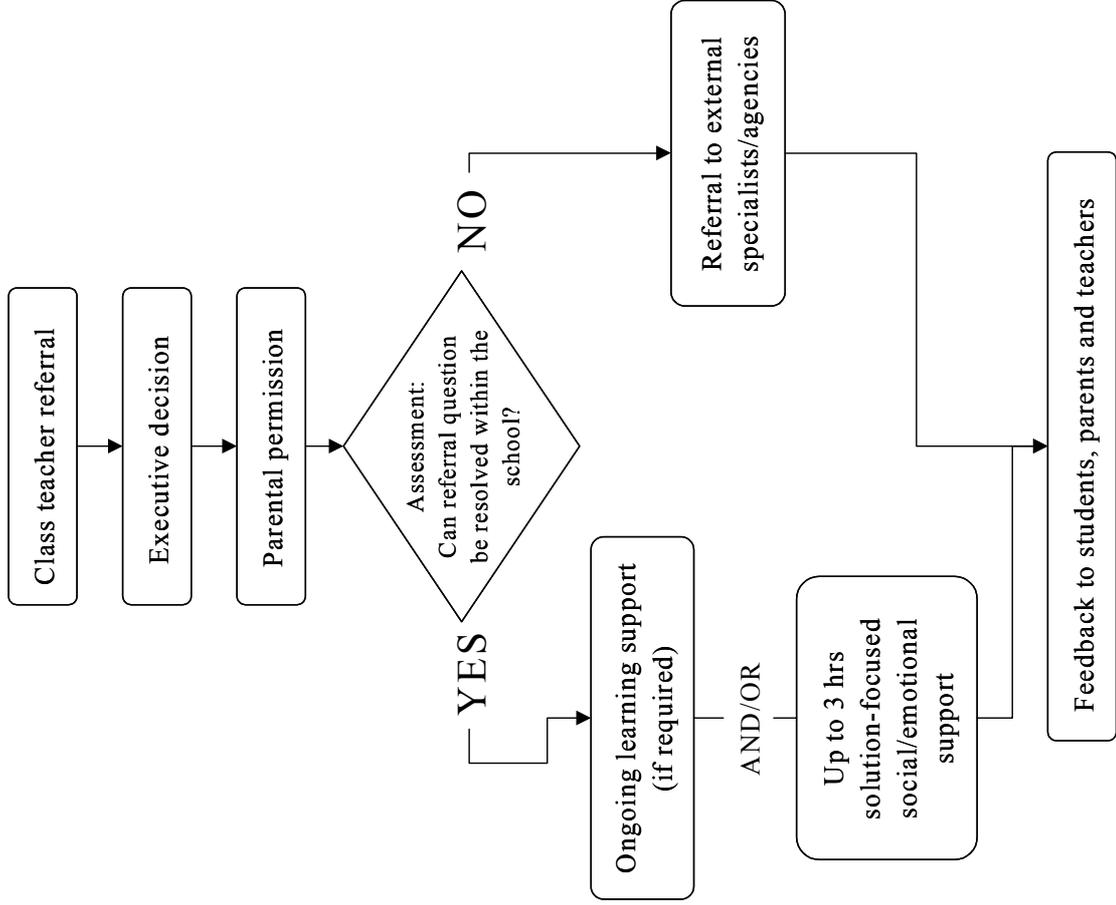
If a person is clinically depressed they would have at least two of the following symptoms for at least two weeks:

1. An unusually sad mood that does not go away;
2. Loss of enjoyment and interest in activities that used to be enjoyable;
3. Lack of energy and tiredness;

As well, people who are depressed have other symptoms such as:

1. Loss of confidence in themselves or poor self-esteem;
2. Feeling guilty when they are not really at fault;
3. Wishing they were dead;
4. Difficulty concentrating or making decisions;
5. Moving more slowly or, sometimes, becoming agitated and unable to settle;
6. Having sleeping difficulties or, sometimes, sleeping too much;
7. Loss of interest in food or, sometimes, eating too much. Changes in eating habits may lead to either loss of weight or putting on weight.

ACCESS TO STUDENT SUPPORT - PRIMARY



ACCESS TO STUDENT SUPPORT - SECONDARY

