

Volume 30, Issue No 1

Tuesday 6 March 2007



Fortnightly Newsletter

Help

Another consequence of our new computer system is that we can no longer access your email addresses – nor can we simply cut and paste . . .

It would save us time if you could send us an email – your address is then entered automatically.

Thank you so much!
Nancy and The Office Staff

Dates to Remember

- 2/3 PIP SAC Excursion – Pathways Students
- 12/3 Focus study change
- 21/3 Equinox
- 21/3 - 23/3 HSC Preliminary Exams
- 26/3 Focus study change
- 26/3 - 30/3 Class 6 camp
- 30/3 Pathways Art Excursion
Debating – Springwood High
- 3/4 - 5/4 Year 10 Camp
- 4/4 Opera Australia – Primary
- 5/4 LAST DAY TERM 1
- 23/4 FIRST DAY TERM 2

Lyra Pencils NEW COLOURS

Yellow
Apple Green
Light Pink
Dark Brown

Order forms available at the office

Host family needed

Paul from Berlin is coming in the winter term to Korowal and we are looking for a guest family (expenses will be paid).

He is 15 years old, studying in Year 9 and plays the saxophone. It would be great if there was a boy or girl the same age in the guest family.

Please call Anna on 47572430 or 0424132329

Parent Tip

'Helping Teenagers Become Safer Drivers'

Discuss the effects of drugs on a driver, including fatigue, loss of attention, slower reaction times and impaired perception of the driving scene.

General News

As it goes with computers ...

Well it was all planned out to be in place before Christmas, and January was supposed to be time for fine-tuning and testing. As it happened, the new system went on-line just before School started and it was only half complete ... if that.

Unfortunately, we had to learn that the Novell partner, the company in charge of the installation, are extremely uncommitted in resolving our issues. We have started dealing with Novell headquarters in US directly and I am negotiating an urgent replacement of contractors. In the meantime, I would like to give you an update of where we are at the moment and what will happen in the coming weeks.

- The email is working. Everyone has an email address with <username>@korowal.nsw.edu.au. Click on "Groupwise" icon and it all happens;
- The calendar system is functional;
- Firefox should be well behaved;
- USB memory sticks, cameras, sound, CD and DVD drives are still not working and will be fixed asap;
- The problem of systems dropping out has been solved;
- Staff and student personal laptops will be connected to the network the weekend after next, we hope;
- Outside access to K Moodle (online courses) and the Teachers folder to follow;
- Apple computers network access will follow;

All the remaining bits and pieces, like Careers software, Maths CDs, will also follow

Robert (our technician) and I would like to say our sincere thanks to everyone for being so incredibly patient and supportive. This has been much appreciated, as we have felt under immense pressure, spending many weekends at school trying to get things sorted under difficult circumstances.

Joachim

Personal Laptops

If students would like their laptops to work on our network, choose a partition of about 5GB needs to be created on the hard drive. Students will then have the option at start-up to choose between either their current Windows partition or the school's Novell/Suse partition for our network. The license costs \$120 and includes all software that is on our school computers (Office suite, Internet browsing, email, sound, photo, graphics and video editing, games, CAD, media players, and much more). In addition, you can download many more applications for free off the net.

To take up this offer:

- Pay the office \$120 for the license in the office. Installation costs are funded by the school;
- Back up all your files (copy to DVD or CD), - just in case!
- Leave your laptop at school, next Friday, 9 March 2007.

Open Office

Open Office CDs (for installation on Windows) are available from Joachim. No cost involved. Please return after installation, so they can be shared around.

Primary News

Swimming Carnival

Tuesday, 13th February, saw our upper Primary School holding its annual Swimming Carnival. Although the day began with drizzle, we all proceeded to the pool full of enthusiasm and ready to swim, swim, swim.

All who participated should be proud of their efforts as they all endeavoured to do their best swim on the day. To those who didn't swim, thank you for cheering your classmates on. All in all a great day was had by everyone and each student is to be congratulated for the part they played in making our carnival a success.

Thanks also to all those parents who helped out on the day as without you our carnival would not have been possible.

David

Primary News

Primary News

Peer Support Training

Each year Class 6 students take on an important leadership role in our school community, as Peer Support Leaders. This year's Class 6 students have now completed the initial phase of their Leadership Training and have proudly accepted their well-earned certificates. The rest of their training is 'on-the-job', with our first Peer Support session to take place next Monday. Once again we will have ten Peer Support groups meeting every fortnight. The network of friends which Peer Support helps to build is a vital part of our feeling of well-being in the Primary School.

Sustainability Day

We had a wonderfully inspiring day – the children were full of ideas of ways in which they are able to contribute to a more sustainable lifestyle eg switching off lights, turning off taps, recycling paper, composting food waste, feeding scraps to worms or chooks, using paper bags and paper wrappers rather than plastic or aluminium. We now have 4 worm farms and learned a lot about what worms can and do not eat. The children have been told that uneaten lunches need to be returned home – the worms will only be fed apple cores, not whole apples etc.!

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the day for each class was to walk around the School site and appreciate the natural beauty that surrounds us every day. We are indeed lucky to have such a magnificent environment and need to be aware of our responsibility to look after it!

Nancy

Making a Difference

As the old man walked the beach at dawn, he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea.

Finally, catching up to the youth, he asked him why he was doing this. The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun.

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," countered the other. The young man looked at the starfish in his hand and threw him safely in the waves. "It makes a difference to this one," he said.

Sustainability Day in 3,4,5

During this year we will be focusing on sustainability. It is about helping and caring for the environment and earth to enable us to keep on enjoying it. This year, for sustainability day, our class went on a walk to the borders of our local national park right on the edge of our playground. On the way we saw rubbish and human damage that is causing erosion, and we realised how bad these things are and how they wreck our environmental ecosystem.

How we can all make a difference

When we got back from our nature walk, we were inspired to start to make posters to tell everyone how we can cure and help our environment. We also found a way to reduce landfill and enrich the earth by building worm farms. Sustainability day was a great day to learn about our environmental ecosystem, and just remember we can all make a difference!

Isaac and Nicholai

on behalf of the 3,4,5

High School News

Year 9 Excursion

Class 9 had a very successful excursion to Winmalee Sewage Treatment Plant on Wednesday 21st February as part of their “Environmental Action/Streamwatch” Science Focus Study. The plant manager Mr Steve Diffey gave us a really detailed description and tour of the facility so the whole class now knows where it goes!

Steve

Sustainability Day High School

Dominic, Year 8 - “very positive that children are being made aware of changes and consequences for our world”

Ayla, Year 8 - “of course the film was alarming, however, I don't feel hopeless as the day 'workshopped' possible remedies.

High School News

“... Take a line for a walk” - Paul Klee

Secondary students at Korowal are invited to enter 'The Inangural JJ Plumber Student Art Award for Drawing 2007', at the Kedumba Gallery in the grounds of the Blue Mountains Grammar School.

This award provides a wonderful opportunity for successful entrants to exhibit their work in the prestigious Kedumba Gallery.

Prize money, workshops, fame and fortune await . . .

Andrew

What is it? A drawing competition for secondary students judged by an eminent Australian artist

Aim: To inspire students for excellence in drawing and to provide opportunities to extend drawing skills through workshops with eminent Australia artists in the Kedumba Gallery.

When: Entries must arrive at Kedumba Gallery by 7 June 2007

Conditions: Works must be on paper and not exceed 76cm x 55cm

Cost: \$10 per entry limit of 4 entries per school per age division

Prizes: Senior individual winner (Years 11 & 12) - \$300
Senior Highly commended (Years 11 & 12) - \$50
Junior individual winner (Years 7 - 10) - \$200
Junior Highly commended (Years 7 - 10) - \$10

Winning students schools receive A Perpetual Trophy and a workshop for twelve students in the Kedumba Gallery.

Contact: The Secretary kedumba@ozemail.com.au or see www.kedumba.org.au for entry form and conditions

Korowal Connections

Easily Swayed Community Choir

This choir meets weekly in our Drama Room. The leader is Graeme Archer, an ex Korowal teacher and current member of the Spooky Men's Chorale. Currently, there are about 12 regular members of this group, who would love to be joined by other (adults) who can sing – particularly men. If you would like to join us on a Wednesday evening, from 7.30pm – 9.30pm, please phone Graeme on 47 59 1293. Nancy

Yoga for Children

with Alima

Calming, nurturing and fun yoga classes that follows a creative flow of yoga poses, songs, games, stories, meditation, music and relaxation.

When: Tuesdays 3.30pm- 4.30pm

Where: Korowal School (77 Scott Ave, Leura.)

Cost: Term \$64 (8 weeks, 13 Feb-3 April)

Casual class fee \$12.00 Ages: 4-9 years

Bookings: 47 878874 or 0431 616737

Alima Clarke is qualified teacher with over 20 years experience working with children and families. Within Yoga, Alima holds qualifications as a IKYTA accredited Yoga Instructor, Children's Yoga Therapist, a certified Radiant Child Yoga Program teacher and teacher trainer.

Waste2Art – what an idea!

The Blue Mountains City Council in conjunction with NetWaste and Sims Metal is involved in an exciting project, which may be of interest to your school community. The Waste2Art and Design Competition is a community art project that encourages groups, schools and individuals of the Blue Mountains City Council region to produce innovative and imaginative artworks from recyclable materials.

Entry is free and the competition starts on 19 February 2007 and closes 11 April forms from Blue Mountains City Council Chambers or phone 4780 5000

The project will run in four stages:

1. There will be two local workshops open to only the residents of the Blue Mountains Council region with local artists who will help inspire and support the entrants.
2. A local exhibition and competition where group or individuals entries may be submitted for judging. Winners will be announced at a special Award night on 19 April 2007.
3. A regional exhibition in May 2007 where winning entries from the Blue Mountains will be exhibited at the Dubbo Art Gallery.
4. A travelling photographic exhibition showcasing the winning entries.

The nine categories professional and non-professional artists of any age to enter including:

- Primary schools
- Community (groups or individuals)
- Open (professional artists are included in this category)

With artworks to be either:

- 2 dimensional -Poster/painting/drawing
- 3 dimensional – Sculpture/installation/video/soundscape
- Craftworks-Furniture/functional/objects made from recycled materials

If you would like any further information please contact Wendy Lenthén, Waste2Art Project on 4780 5726 or email wlenthen@bmcc.nsw.gov.au.