

Korowal School

77 Scott Avenue Leura NSW 2780
Phone: 4757 2253 Fax: 4757 2037 Email: info@korowal.nsw.edu.au



END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION AT SCHOOL

Wednesday 12 December
Food from 5:30 pm
Singing at 7:00 pm

If you can help to prepare and serve simple food at the end-of-year celebration (BBQ, drinks, fruit), please contact Trish Fitzgerald on 4759 3519.

Fortnightly Newsletter

Lunchtime Singers

Please come along to the lunchtime singing!

ALL WELCOME

1:15 pm—1:50 pm
Tuesdays
in the drama room.

The singers will perform at the end-of-year celebration on 12 December.

Chicken Pox

There has been a case of chicken pox in Pathways.

For more information about chicken pox, please see the NSW Health information in this newsletter.

Helping teenagers become safer drivers

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Parents can help learner drivers by



providing at least 120 hours of safe, supervised practice, which must include 20 hours of night driving practice.

Dates to remember

- 23 Nov Year 7 orientation day
- 27 Nov Lunchtime singing
- 27 Nov Year 5 social night
- 28 Nov Year 8(2008) class meeting 7:00 pm
- 28 Nov Lunchtime singing 1:15 pm
- 28 Nov Parent-teacher interviews Years 7–10 (5:00 to 8:00 pm)
- 2 Dec Year 6 farewell dinner
- 4 Dec Year 8 camp
- 4 Dec Lunchtime singing 1:15 pm
- 5 Dec Kindergarten (2008) orientation day
- 7 Dec Year 2 sleepover
- 7 Dec K-6 reports & work available from teachers
- 9 Dec 3,4,5E visit to Oaklands
- 9 Dec Year 6 farewell assembly
- 11 Dec Lunchtime singing 1:15 pm
- 12 Dec End-of-year celebration

Save paper and view the newsletter in full colour. Email: wmonaghan@korowal.nsw.edu.au to receive the newsletter by email.

Deadline for contributions for the next Korowal newsletter:
8 pm Tuesday 5 December

General News

Term	1st day for students	Last day for students	Public holidays
1	Thursday 31 January, years 1-Pathways Wednesday 6 February, kindergarten	Wednesday 9 April	Friday 21 March <i>Good Friday</i> Monday 24 March <i>Easter Monday</i>
2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June	Monday 9 June <i>Queen's Birthday</i>
3	Tuesday 22 July	Friday 26 September	
4	Monday 13 October	Wednesday 10 December	

Please note that term 2 begins on Monday 28 April, not Wednesday 30 April as previously advised.

Withdrawal of Resignation

We are delighted to inform you that Mary-Ann accepted our request to withdraw her resignation.

Fun Run

There was a lovely atmosphere at school last Thursday, when all students from kindergarten to year 10 participated in the fun run. Many watermelons were later consumed, along with ice cream!

Thank you to those parents who helped on the day and especially to Tracy, who organised the sponsorship forms and co-ordinated the watermelon and ice cream treats for participants. Thanks also to David for preparing the students.

We have already collected a substantial amount of money and encourage you to send any contributions that you have as soon as possible.

Primary News

Swimming

The swimming scheme is going well – we are impressed with the level of participation and support. As well as providing the children with the opportunity to increase their swimming skills, or to increase their confidence in water, these two weeks are an important part of the children's fitness program.

Friendship with Mulo School, East Timor

Recently teachers from primary school met with local members of the Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters, with a view to establishing a friendship between our school and one in Mulo, East Timor. We have written to the teachers at Mulo and will be sending our letter, some photos and a wall hanging with the group that is travelling to East Timor with the Mayor, at the end of November.

If you have any no-longer-used musical instruments that you could donate to Mulo School, please leave them at the office, and we shall pass them on. We are thinking of recorders and percussion instruments. The most effective way of goods reaching their destination is if they are taken by visitors – the mail system to rural areas is non-existent! You may wish to consider this when making your donation, i.e. old drum kits could be a bit tricky!!!

Library News

What's happening in the library?

New possessions! Amongst many:

The Koran

The great Gatsby / a graphic adaptation by Nicki Greenberg

The book thief by Markus Zusak

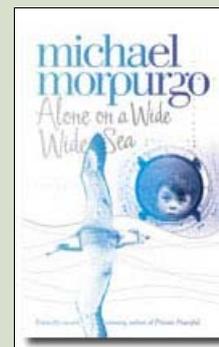
The Tibetan book of living and dying – Rinpoche (replacement of a missing copy)

Chocolate: the bean that conquered the world by Vivian French

Alone on a wide wide sea by Michael Morpurgo

Archer's Melbourne Cup: The diary of Robby Jenkins by Vashti Farrer

Studies of Religion, Living Religion and other texts for our new subject



ONLINE RESOURCES

The State Library connects HSC students with amazing online resources from home.

ONLINE ACCESS FROM HOME www.sl.nsw.gov.au/databases/athome.

Available are thousands of free, online resources and full-text articles relevant to all HSC subject areas. It is strongly recommended that students gain online access by simply registering for a reader's card at www.sl.nsw.gov.au/databases/athome.

The highlights include:

Literature Resource Centre: a vital resource for all English units: author biographies, criticisms, historical timelines, current journal articles, and tips on how to conduct literary research online.

ProQuest 5000: over 8000 local and international journals available, half of which provide full text articles.

drug info @ your library - www.druginfo.sl.nsw.gov.au

All My Own Work

Congratulations to Year 11 and Year 12 students for completing this new, compulsory HSC course on academic integrity and plagiarism - and especially the people who have already passed all five quizzes.

Beams of encouragement for the people still completing. It is now necessary for achieving the HSC.

Culture and recreation portal

Have you heard of the Culture and Recreation Portal? It provides access to stories about Australian culture, history and recreation, news and events in the fields of architecture and design, film and media, galleries and museums, libraries and archives, music and performing arts, indigenous culture, sport and recreation and government and community services.

Australian Stories

Check it out at www.culture.gov.au

News & Events

As the year draws to a close, we will be seeking to retrieve some of our stock, which has been (shall we say?) on extended loan. Overdue notices will be accompanied by conversations about the whereabouts of items and our strong desire to be reunited with them.

May your holiday season be a peaceful and happy one, and see you next year.

Carole and Kathi

Chickenpox is a common viral infection that can reappear later in life as shingles. A vaccine is available to prevent chickenpox.

Chickenpox and Shingles

Issued: 21 December 2006

What is Chickenpox?

- Chickenpox is a viral illness caused by the herpes zoster virus (also known as the Varicella-Zoster virus)
- It commonly occurs in children where it usually causes a relatively mild illness.
- Chickenpox in adults and immunosuppressed people can be severe.
- Chickenpox infection that occurs early in pregnancy can cause malformations, skin scarring, and other problems in the baby.
- Before routine vaccination began in 2006, chickenpox was a very common illness. Although it is still a common illness, the incidence of chickenpox is likely to decrease as more people receive the vaccine.

What are the symptoms?

- Chickenpox is an acute illness that begins with a sudden onset of slight fever, runny nose, feeling generally unwell and a skin rash.
- The rash usually begins as small lumps that turn into blisters and then scabs.
- The rash appears over three to four days. The skin lesions of the rash are typically in various stages of development at any one time.
- The first symptoms usually take around two weeks to develop from the time of first contact with the virus.
- Most people recover without complications but sometimes the infection can lead to serious complications such as pneumonia and inflammation of the brain. Rarely, the infection can be fatal.

How is it spread?

- Early in the illness, the virus is spread by coughing.
- Later in the illness, the virus is spread by direct contact with the fluid in the blisters.
- The infection is highly contagious to people who have never had chickenpox or who have not been immunised.
- People are infectious from one or two days before the rash appears (that is, during the runny nose phase) and up to five days after (when the blisters have formed crusts or scabs)
- Chickenpox infection usually triggers an immune response and people rarely get chickenpox twice.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who has not had chickenpox or been vaccinated in the past can get chickenpox. People with a past history of chickenpox are highly likely to be immune to the virus. Even adults with no history of chickenpox have a good chance of being immune (because of past infection that was mild). Doctors sometimes perform a blood test to see if these people need a vaccination.

How is it prevented?

- A free vaccine is now recommended for all children born on or after 1 May 2004 at 18 months of age and for children in their first year of high school who have not received varicella vaccine and who have not had chickenpox.
- The vaccine is also recommended for persons 14 years and over who are not immune. This involves 2 doses, 1 to 2 months apart. It is especially recommended for non immune people at high risk, for example, health care workers, people living with or working with small children, women planning a pregnancy, and household contact of persons who are immunosuppressed.
- People with chickenpox should avoid others (and not attend childcare or school) until at least five days after onset of the rash and all the blisters have dried.
- People with chickenpox should cover the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, dispose of soiled tissues, wash their hands well and not share eating utensils, food or drinking cups.

- Pregnant women should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles and should see their doctor if they have been around someone with these illnesses.
- Children with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or who are receiving chemotherapy should avoid anyone with chickenpox or shingles as the infection can be especially severe in this group.

How is it diagnosed?

Most cases can be diagnosed based on the symptoms and by appearance of the rash. Sometimes the diagnosis is confirmed by testing samples taken from the rash or from blood.

What Is Shingles?

- Shingles is caused by the reactivation of the virus that causes chickenpox, usually in adulthood and many years after the initial chickenpox illness.
- The illness is characterised by a painful chickenpox-like rash on a small area of skin, usually on one side of the body.
- Pain and tingling associated with the rash may persist for weeks or months after the rash has cleared. This is called post-herpetic neuralgia.
- The virus can be spread by direct contact with the skin rash of infected people. This causes chickenpox in people who are not immune.
- Shingles develops more commonly in people who are immunosuppressed.

How is it treated?

Your General Practitioner can advise on ways to minimise the discomfort associated with the symptoms of infection. Chickenpox infection usually resolves without treatment. Shingles may be treated with special antiviral drugs such as acyclovir.

What is the public health response?

Chickenpox is not currently notifiable in NSW but the incidence is monitored through the number of patients attending emergency departments and the number of patients who are hospitalised with chickenpox or shingles.

- The vaccine can prevent chickenpox, even if given up to five days after exposure.
- Short-term immunisation with varicella-zoster immunoglobulin (VZIG) – which is made from antibodies in donated blood – can be used in people at high risk of complications. This needs to be given within 96 hours of exposure to the virus to be effective. People at high risk of complications following exposure include pregnant women who have not had chickenpox and who have not been immunised, newborn babies, and some immunosuppressed patients.

Further information – Public Health Units in NSW					
For more information please contact your doctor, local public health unit or community health centre – look under <i>NSW Government</i> at the front of the White Pages.					
Metropolitan Areas			Rural Areas		
Northern Sydney / Central Coast	Hornsby	02 9477 9400	Greater Southern	Goulburn	02 4824 1837
	Gosford	02 4349 4845		Albury	02 6021 4799
South Eastern Sydney / Illawarra	Randwick	02 9382 8333	Greater Western	Broken Hill	08 8080 1499
	Wollongong	02 4221 6700		Dubbo	02 6841 5569
Sydney South West	Camperdown	02 9515 9420	Hunter / New England	Bathurst	02 6339 5601
	Liverpool	02 9828 5944		Newcastle	02 4924 6477
Sydney West	Penrith	02 4734 2022	North Coast	Tamworth	02 6767 8630
	Parramatta	02 9840 3603		Port Macquarie	02 6588 2750
Justice Health Service	Matraville	02 9311 2707		Lismore	02 6620 7500
NSW Department of Health	Nth Sydney	02 9391 9000			
NSW Health website	www.health.nsw.gov.au				©NSW Department of Health 2006

Sustainability Corner

Committee meetings and grant applications

The sustainability committee will not be meeting again until next term. In the meantime, thank you to Mahalia, who has offered to assist us with grant applications. If this is something you could help with too, there is plenty of work to be done! Please contact me either by email or the school office if you can help.

Greenfleet

I noticed this in the latest NRMA magazine and thought I'd bring it to your attention.

Greenfleet is a not for profit organisation which aims to plant native trees to neutralise greenhouse gas emissions and promote fuel efficient technologies and low carbon fuels. For \$40 they will plant 17 trees on your behalf.

For further information you can visit their website [www. greenfleet.com.au](http://www.greenfleet.com.au) or call 1800 032 999.

Nancy

School newsletter editor/ desktop publisher required

We require the services of a volunteer to edit and produce the fortnightly school newsletter in 2008. For more information please contact Nancy.

Job vacancy - Canteen manager

Robyn Mehl, our canteen manager, will not be with us next year. We are looking to employ a suitably experienced person to fulfil the position from term 1, 2008.

Robyn currently works three days per week, Monday to Wednesday. She is assisted by Linda Brisbane four days a week. Amongst her many duties, Robyn coordinates volunteers, plans and coordinates menus and arranges for supplies and materials.

If you are interested in the position, please contact the school and we will provide you with a more extensive job description.

A formal application will be required and interviews will be held. I am hoping to fill the position from within our existing community, but if you have someone you could recommend could you encourage them to contact the school.

Mark Thomas
School coordinator

Korowal Connections

Advertising your business in our newsletter

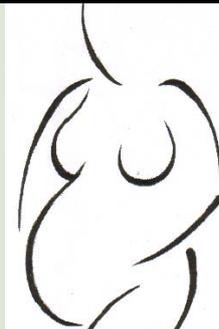
Parents who run a business may submit advertisements in our "Korowal Business Directory". There will be no charge, but adverts will be subjected to editorial review and must directly relate to a current Korowal parent. Please contact Wendy Monaghan, the newsletter editor, to discuss how to contribute your ad. You can email Wendy on wmonaghan@korowal.nsw.edu.au

INNATE BIRTH



Childbirth Education
& Doula Service

Birth & Breastfeeding Support
Pregnancy & Postnatal Groups



Natalie Dash : (02) 47 572080 or 0410 428307
nataliedash@optusnet.com.au

This section promotes activities and events involving members of the Korowal community and the broader Blue Mountains community.

Korowal School does not specifically recommend any of these activities, nor does it guarantee their quality or the qualifications of their sponsors.

CAROLE HAMPSHIRE'S ARTISTS OBSERVED

28 Nov - 2 Dec 2007
Exhibition & Book Launch

Join us for the opening & launch of *Artists Observed: Blue Mountains Artists Close Up*
On **Saturday 1st December**, 6pm

Opening Talk by Martin Thomas
(Author of *The Artificial Horizon: Imagining The Blue Mountains*)

Plus John Ellison will talk about being one of the artist in 'Artists Observed'

At Hat Hill Gallery
Blackheath

3 Hat Hill Road, Blackheath, NSW 2785
Ph: 61 (0)2 4787 7033

Email: info@hathillgallery.com.au

Opening hours: 10am-4pm Thursday to Sunday (or by appointment)

Images from *Artists Observed: Blue Mountains Artists Close Up*
(published by UNSW Press) Photography & Text by Carole Hampshire
Design of multiple image Di Quick & Josephine Pajor-Markus
www.carolehampshire.com

A R T I S T S



O B S E R V E D

Artists Observed
can be purchased at the school
office
\$49.95
10% of sales donated to
Korowal School

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Korowal desk calendar 2008

featuring artworks by Korowal students

\$14.95 ea
3 for \$40.00

This beautiful desk calendar makes an ideal gift — both stunning and practical.

Light and compact, the calendar is perfect for posting interstate & overseas for Christmas.

Printed on 50% recycled paper & presented in a recyclable case.

All proceeds to Korowal building fund

The Korowal calendar will be produced each year. Each edition will feature a new series of art works by students.

Taruno Larsen, who provided the vision and energy behind this project, wishes to thank the following sponsors: Maurice Cooper, Jeffrey Coner, Michael Dunne, Christopher Fullum and Wendy Monaghan. A very special thank you to Ian Marshall who donated his time and creative energy to the design of the calendar. Many thanks also to Paula Martin, Kath Veel and Nancy Oosterhoff their invaluable assistance.

“With this calendar, we can share our children’s achievements with family, friends and the wider community. Please, all Korowal parents buy a calendar or two—or more—to help our new school flourish.” —Taruno Larsen

The Korowal calendar is on display in the school office.



January

su	m	tu	w	th	f	sa
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

Rose Ready

Yes, I wish to order the Korowal Calendar 2008. My payment is included. (Cash or a cheque made out to Korowal School. To pay by credit card, please contact the school office.)



Name _____ Phone number _____

Please give my order to my child (name) _____ class _____

I will collect my order from the office

I wish to purchase (please tick)

1 calendar @ \$14.95 4 calendars @ \$54.95

2 calendars @ \$29.90 5 calendars @ \$69.90

3 calendars @ \$40.00 6 calendars @ \$80.00

To order more than 6 calendars, please fill in the quantity:

Quantity Total payment