



Korowal School

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We're on the web! www.korowal.nsw.edu.au

2009 Scholarships

If you are interested in having your child sit for a scholarship, please register on the school's website **no later than Friday 11 April 2008**. Registrations received after this date will incur a late fee.

The scholarship examination will be held on **Saturday 10 May 2008** at school.

Korowal offers scholarships at the following levels: Level 1 - Entry into Year 7, 2009, Level 2 - Entry into Year 10 in 2009.

Korowal offers The Whitton & The Nelson Mandela Languages/Peace Scholarships to Pathways students. These two scholarships are applied for through the school's office.

High School Swimming Carnival Helpers Needed!

The high school swimming carnival is on Thursday 28th February at Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend and if you can assist with the running of the carnival please ring David Clucas during school hours or leave a message with the front office and let me know times when you are available.

David

Dates to remember

25 Feb	Community Events & Projects Committee meeting - 6pm
27 Feb	Year 6 Peer Support sleepover Sustainability Sub Committee meeting
28 Feb	High School Swimming Carnival
29 Feb	Police Visit - Graeme Canty - Youth Liaison Clean Up Australia
1 Mar	K-6 Picnic Day - Wentworth Falls Lake from 2pm
4 Mar	Yr 7 Hep vaccinations dose 1 HS Girls HPV vaccination dose 1
6 Mar	Board Meeting Community Events & Projects Committee meeting
10 to 14 Mar	Year 6 Camp
13 Mar	Community update meeting 6.30pm
18 to 20 Mar	HSC Preliminary Examinations
21 Mar	Good Friday Public Holiday
24 Mar	Easter Monday Public Holiday
26 Mar	Art Express Excursion
26 to 28 Mar	Year 8 Camp
3 April	Board Meeting
9 April	Last day of term 1
11 April	Final date for online Scholarship registration
28 April	First day of term 2
10 May	ACER Scholarship examinations

Library welcome to 2008

- Over the holidays Korowal was able to **donate** many **culled books** and **textbooks** to a Rotary program through which they are warmly received by schools in PNG.
- It's wonderful to see **Kindies** enjoying the library they are now part of. Please make sure your K-6 child has a library bag (with books needing to be returned) on their library day. Children are usually disappointed if they can't borrow.
- **Some of our new acquisitions are the result of student or staff requests -**
 - The children*, Charlotte Wood
 - Freddy Neptune: a novel in verse*, Les Murray
 - Right book, right time*, Agnes Nieuwenhuizen
 - Long-Long's new year*, Catherine Gower, He Zhihong
 - Captain Fact's creepy crawly adventure*, Knife and Packer
 - The Dugong meadow*. Naomi Mairou
 - The peasant prince: the true story of Mao's last dancer*, Li Cunxin & Anne Spudvilas
 - The sleepwalker*, Robert Muchamore (Cherub book)
 - Ten things I hate about me*, Randa Abdel-Fattah
 - The Tempest and Macbeth*, complete with explanatory notes in comic book format by William Shakespeare
 - The 'Are' word: helping people with intellectual disabilities to deal with bullying and teasing*, Dave Hingsburger
 - A spot of bother*, Mark Haddon
- **Changes to library organisation –**

The Dewey system/ SCIS cataloguing can result in some unhelpful placements of biographies and autobiographies, so we now have all these in one section called **Life Stories**. It's just near the beginning of Fiction. Many people love these stories, so we hope this will improve access to them. Also, we are in the process of gathering all our graphic novels together and expanding this collection. They're in the same area. More on graphic novels next time.
- **Library Celebrations** included Chinese New Year last week and Library Lovers day on 14th (move over St Valentine!)
- **And don't forget the ONLINE RESOURCES** -available to all 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.

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

Check out what Blue Mountains Libraries have available. Joining is free!

Carole and Kathi

KOROWAL ON THE MOVE

COMMUNITY UPDATE MEETING

Everyone is invited to a meeting at school on
THURS 13th March at 6.30 pm

to hear the latest updates on every aspect of our
relocation and to find out how you
can help Korowal move
into its **NEW HOME**



CHESS CHAMPION

We have a quiet achiever in Year 10 who just happens to be the NSW Country Junior Chess Champion. Gill Morris began playing chess at the age of 9, representing Korowal at the Interschools' Primary chess matches on Friday afternoons. At the end of last year Gill participated in and won the Country Junior Championship, and in January he participated in the 11 day Australian Junior Championship, achieving a 16th placement in the rapid. Congratulations Gill.

We would love to celebrate our students achievements in the wider world, so if you have anything that you or your family wish to share, we will publish it.

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The High School has it's annual **SWIMMING CARNIVAL at Katoomba Aquatic Centre on Thursday 28th February from 11.30 am**. It is always a low key and highly enjoyable event, with students from Years 7 – 12 nominating their participation in events. Parents are most welcome.

If the weather is as it is today we will be applying buckets of sunscreen. If it is inclement the carnival will go ahead. But if it is raining cats and dogs, we will have classes as usual. The class that accumulates the most points for participation gets to spend a day at the beach later on in the year.

Today (Wednesday) the sun is shining. What a wonderful thing!

Debating in 2008

Korowal is once again entering the Blue Mountains debating comp with three teams: one each from Year 7, 9 and 10.

We're looking forward to honing our skills and having fun. The first round is on Tuesday 19 March at Lithgow!



Pathways 2008 Camp

Pathways students enjoyed another wonderful camp experience last week.

Together with other teachers Shoba, Steve and Mark we spent three days camping and canoeing in the Kangaroo Valley.

The landscape was exceptional and we were fortunate to catch the few sunny days they have had all summer.



Primary School

The beginning of the new school year has been as busy as is customary. It usually takes a little while for everyone to settle into the rhythm and routines of school after the long summer break and this year has included staff changes, which have added another layer to this process. We have welcomed 20 new children and their families. It is now week 4 and there is a feeling of harmony descending!

Thank you so much to those parents who attended class meetings or met their teacher/s to hear of our overviews for the year. Teachers regard these meetings as an essential part of our relationship building and cannot emphasise too strongly the benefits to children of seeing parents and teachers working together in a supportive manner.

Your child/ren's teacher/s encourage you to contact them if you have anything you wish to discuss with them. You are also invited to make an appointment to meet with me – Wednesdays and Thursdays are usually the easiest times to reach me, but there are other options available if necessary. The easiest way to set up a meeting time is to phone the school office and ask for the teacher to phone you back.

Our class 6 students are displaying great leadership qualities – we're really looking forward to starting Peer Support and beginning our east Timor project. Please remember to send those cans along – we need from 80 – 100 altogether.

Please try to come along to our Community Update meeting on Thursday 13th March – childcare will be provided. This is a year when we really want and need to establish a strong sense of unity. Attending meetings such as this assists in everyone having the same information and the opportunity to ask questions. We encourage you to become engaged in the relocation process!

Nancy

PS Don't forget the picnic – March 1st at Wentworth Falls lake from 2pm.



Primary Swimming Carnival

The annual Korowal primary school swimming carnival was held on the 12th February at Katoomba Aquatic Centre. The weather was just right for a swimming carnival. Races were tightly contested and all students who competed swam well. Thank you to all parents and staff for their invaluable assistance. Lastly thank you to our marvellous students for their attendance and enthusiasm. Below are some photographs of the carnival.



Year 2 Visitors



Aloka Welsh

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

Students in 3,4,5 and 6 are encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Why? It provides a goal to travel towards, peer-group support and a comprehensive, annotated list of books. Here's how it works

- Once a student indicates they'd like to join in, I register them online. I give them a sheet to keep track of their reading, but I enter the books they've read online as we go or at the end. Lists of age appropriate books are kept in the Library with our holdings highlighted. Basically, they must read 20 books, 5 of which can be of their own choosing. There is a new rule about series books:

***Rule change for series books:** For approved series (including trilogies and quartets) any two books may now be read as part of students' official reading and up to five as personal choices. Collections of newspaper articles and school magazine anthologies are now approved series with the same rules applying.*

- Whilst I'm not actively promoting the PRC amongst the younger children, I am happy to assist with their participation if parents/carers would like to contact me in the Library.
- K-2 must read or have read to them 30 books.
- The rules and any other information are to be found on the PRC site:
- <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

The Challenge ends at Korowal on 28 August. All students completing the Challenge receive a certificate and are listed (name only) in the honour roll in the Sun Herald. Thanks and happy reading!

Carole

Korowal Konnections

This section promotes activities and events involving members of the 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.

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 subject to editorial review and must directly relate to a current Korowal parent. Please contact Cath in the office to discuss how to contribute your ad. You may email also on cwalker@korowal.nsw.edu.au

Monica Morris
Therapist/Facilitator

Harmonising your Natural State of Wellbeing.

Rest the Body
Relax the Mind
Replenish the Spirit

Reiki Master
Bodywork - Pruss Technique
Body Alignment
Life Coach/ Guide /Mentor

Tel: (61) 2 4784 1323

Email: monica.morris@bigpond.com

Wanting to Rent a house for mother and daughter. Acres would be a bonus. Excellent references. Please call Satneeta 47841918 or 0403983628.

Measles alert

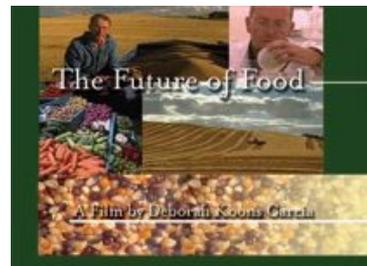
A community outbreak of measles is occurring in western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

A fact sheet from the NSW Department of health was sent home with every student on Wednesday 20th Feb.

Please take the time to read that important document.

FREE PUBLIC FILM SCREENING

"The Future of Food"



An in-depth look into the controversy over genetically modified foods.

San Francisco Chronicle called this film one of the "must-see documentaries"

Won Best Documentary Category at three film festivals, and was awarded the Human Rights Award at the Taos Film Festival

If you and those dear to you eat, then do not miss this film!

Wednesday 20th February 7.30 pm Bullaburra Progress Hall Cnr Noble St & GWH Bullaburra	Wednesday 27th February 7.30 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts 217-219 GWH, Wentworth Falls
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(includes an update on current Australian and NSW situations with GM Crops and Food)



Background: In late 2007 the NSW and Victorian state governments announced that they would end their bans on the commercial growing of genetically modified (GM) Canola. WA, Tasmania, and SA have more sensibly chosen to extend their bans. GM Canola is an inadequately tested new entrant to the food supply, with its medium to long term effects on animal and human health remaining largely unknown, though what is known is not good. However, as GM Canola is the first mainstream GM food crop for Australia, it also represents the *foot in the door* for the biotech companies and governments to introduce other inadequately tested GM food crops. **There is extremely well documented scientific evidence that many of these GM crops pose significant risks to animal and human health, and the environment.**

Sponsored and Organised by: The Blue Mountains Food Co-op Working Group for a GM-Free Future and Mid Mountains Seed Savers