



Korowal School

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NEWSLETTER

3 December, 2008 - Volume 31 - Issue 14

DATE & TIME	EVENT	HELP NEEDED
Friday 5 December 11.30am	Year 10 Graduation Closing Circle - Primary School 12.45pm LAST DAY OF TERM 4	Year 9/10 will throw a bbq & bring salads
Sunday 7 December 10am to 3pm	LAST WORKING BEE AT NEW SCHOOL BEFORE THE MOVE	Jobs to be advised
Monday 8 to Friday 10 December	PACKING at Leura	Turn up when ever you are able to help
Saturday 13 December Midday to 3pm	LEAVING LEURA ... We're Moving On	Picnic in the courtyard, share stories, make a wish
Monday 15 to Wed 17 December	Removalist	Contact Nancy if you can help at Leura or Hazelbrook (no children under 13 please)
In the holidays	Helping at the new school	Jobs and arrangements to be advised by email/newsletters and on the website
Tuesday 27 January	Pathways begins	
Friday 30th January	Year 6 begin	
Saturday 31 January 10am to 4pm	Picnic/Open day at the new school	Come and have a look!
Monday 2 February	Years 1-5 and 7-10 begin	
Tuesday 10 February	Kindergarten begins	
Saturday 4 April	Official Opening of the new school	
Thursday 9 April	Last day of Term 1 2009	

**“We’re Moving On”. A gathering.
Saturday 13th December, 12.00 - 3.00pm.**

77 Scott Avenue, Leura

Please come bring your picnic, share food and stories and have a walk around as we farewell this chapter in Korowal’s evolution.

It will be a light afternoon. No speeches, just a big wishing bowl. Write your wishes for the school, for this site, for the community, for our future.

We will take the wishing bowl with our life and energy, our community, to our new site at Hazelbrook. We will light a candle here, and take that candle with us, to be lit each day.

We look forward to being with you.

A message from Barb, Joachim & Nancy

This has been a remarkable year and we end it with a sense of achievement and success, whilst acknowledging the sadness felt to be leaving a site that has been enjoyed and loved by many, many students, families, staff members and local community members over the years that we have been here.

There are so many people to thank, but we wish to begin with two individuals who stand out for their commitment, leadership, tenacity and sheer hard work: Mark Thomas, our school co-ordinator and Annie Carment, who is a parent of long standing!

As well as overseeing the running of the school, which is usually a full full-time job in itself, Mark has also taken the role of project manager – concerning himself with the big picture of our relocation and the details. He has had to split himself between two jobs and two locations and has done so with remarkable calm and grace. He still finds time to listen to people and provide leadership. Upon becoming owners/guardians of the Hazelbrook property, Mark has spent the best part of every weekend painting, supervising volunteers, co-ordinating jobs to be done etc.. His commitment to making our relocation a success is outstanding. Thank you Mark, on behalf of the whole Korowal community.

Annie has, in her own words, been on a tremendous learning curve over the last 18 months. Her conversations are now full of terms like DA96, provision 52b etc etc!!! Not only has she worked away at various compliance issues and sourcing demountable buildings, cranes and carpets, but she has also brought the community together via the memorable “On the Groove” evening held recently at Wentworth Falls. Her indefatigable determination to make our relocation possible has been of enormous support to Mark and our community. Thank you Annie!

The Korowal School Council has worked tirelessly to facilitate this process, ensuring that all legal and financial requirements are being met and maintaining a stance of positive support and commitment towards the school and its members. We thank all members of the KSC, including those who retired at our last AGM.

There are many, many others who have quietly and tirelessly offered their time and labour. These people include Margit Baltgailis, Tracy Barrett, Jenny Beggs, Cindy Babbage, Don Burton, Mark Carey, Trish Fitzgerald, Michael Hennessy, Deborah Hurley, Debra Keenahan, Leanne Kent, Tom Kortegast, Karen Reid, Imants Thomas, Scott Turner and Byron Williams. Our appreciation extends to all the unnamed who have turned up at weekends to help with cleaning, painting, rubbish removal, gardening etc etc etc! We also acknowledge and thank those who quietly work behind the scenes. Without such support from our community we would not have made the amazing progress that we have made.

Our final thanks go to our wonderful staff members - Hilary, Cathy, Susan and Narelle, who have continued their excellent work in the office, and of course our teachers, including the relief teachers employed throughout the year, who have managed to remain focussed upon their students' education and well-being throughout this busy year. Their commitment to providing a stable and secure environment for the students whilst also assisting them through this transition has been exemplary.

We are privileged to be at a stage in our evolution where we have a strong and healthy school with a community to support the massive effort of purchasing our own property and moving a whole school!

We wish everybody a healthy, restful summertime and look forward with great excitement to the years ahead of us at Hazelbrook.

Thank you all!

Coming and Going

Sadly, at the end of this year we farewell three of our part-time staff: Elize, who has taken a full time teaching position at a Steiner school in South Australia, Carole, who leaves us to take up a full time position at Caroline Chisholm and Narelle, our Bursar, who has also been appointed to a full time position at the University of Western Sydney. We shall miss each of these colleagues enormously. They have been valued members of our community and each has made a significant contribution to the well being of our school. We wish them happiness and fulfilment in their new positions.

We are delighted that Margaret McGuillion has accepted the position as K,1,2 teacher next year, during Vanessa's absence. Margaret was a teacher on the K,1,2 cycle for 3 years, from 2003 – 2005. We are thrilled that she is able to be with us at this time of transition as she is familiar with our rhythms and routines already and was a much loved teacher during her time with us.

Packing

A huge thank you to those people who have already offered to help with packing – which begins next Monday. If you made an offer, it has been accepted, so just turn up! Please note that we cannot supervise children, nor can they be left to play unsupervised outside. You may wish to share “playground duty” amongst yourselves!

If you are able to come, but have not returned your form, just turn up!

We aim to be finished by lunch time on Friday.

SOIL AND PLANTS needed for gardening at Oaklands

CAN ANYONE CONTRIBUTE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?:

- 🎬 Tree ferns
- 🎬 Small Strelitzia (Bird of Paradise)
- 🎬 Kangaroo Paws
- 🎬 Native Grasses
- 🎬 Birdsnest ferns
- 🎬 Topsoil
- 🎬 Well rotted compost

I am more than happy to come and dig, divide and transport any contributions.

Please call Jenny on 0424571534 or email to jcbeggs@optusnet.com.au



Love Lawson Festival

Korowal had a presence at this year's "Love Lawson" festival. Thank you to all the parents, students and teachers who helped on the stall. It was a great day for meeting our new local community and many children had the chance to create beautiful artworks using our traditional materials - crayons and water colour paints.

Removal

Our removalists will be here on Monday morning. We are looking for 5 people to be at Hazelbrook and 5 to be here to assist with directing boxes to the correct locations. We shall have lots of signage up at Hazelbrook to aid this process. We do not expect these volunteers to be involved in any heavy lifting. Please let me know if you can help.

Travel from Blackheath to Katoomba

A current kindergarten parent has offered to provide supervision on the train from Blackheath to Katoomba or to drive to Katoomba for 6 days of the school fortnight. She would be interested in car pooling from Katoomba in the afternoons if anybody wanted to share the pickups. If you are interested, please contact Jill McMurray, jillandtommas@peacemail.com or 0430 282 295

PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATIONS FOR TRAVEL PASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

New contact details

Mailing address is PO Box 561 Hazelbrook NSW 2779 and our street address is 54 Hall Parade Hazelbrook. Our new phone number is 02 4758 7466. The office at Leura will be closing on Friday 12th December and will reopen at Hazelbrook on Tuesday 16th December. The office will close for two weeks on Friday 19th December and will reopen on Monday 5th January.

High School News

The Year 12 formal took place in the elegant setting of Leura House (a significant choice of venue). It's always a delight to see everyone dressed up to the nines! Several members of staff and parents stood to reflect on the journey of this group and Korowal's role in their lives. Bob in particular spoke about the school's beginnings in Leura House. It was a wonderful evening for all who attended. Carole





High School - Text Book Trading

For Sale

Maths Quest 9 (5.2 Pathway) including disc \$20.00. Purchase from the school office on behalf of Monica Morris.

Wanted to Purchase

Year 7 - Philip Hammial - year 7 text books - 47586635 or isphaw@hermes.net.au

Year 8 text books Rebecca Hamilton - 0432 278 996.

Year 9 text books - Sylvie (Louise Yr 9, 2009) - 0402 548 555 or 47 8438 67 or silverde7@yahoo.com.au

Primary News

Swimming Scheme

Yet again our wonderful children endured the vagaries of the Blue Mountains weather – cloudy one day, raining the next! The silver lining to swimming in cool (cold?), misty, drizzly weather is that the risk of sun damage to skin is considerably reduced!! Congratulations to all those children who were able to participate and whose swimming has improved as a consequence.

Nancy



Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are just finishing two weeks of swimming lessons at Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre. Judging by the smiles on the faces of the pictured Year 2 and Kindy children, learning to swim can be a lot of fun! We would like to thank the many parents and grandparents who have come along to support the K,1,2 children and watch their progress.

Mary-Ann

Year 2 Sleepover

The traditional year 2 sleepover was held Friday 21st November and what a lovely event it was! The children had lots of time to play in just about every area of the playground. A wonderful meal was prepared by parents. The Italian/Art room was transformed into a very cosy dormitory. A night walk, ending with singing in the dark on the oval, was a real highlight. The only wildlife we spotted, however, were magnificent slugs with red dots! Here are some reflections from Year 2.



Kalyani: It was really fun cos we got to do lots of things and there weren't too many people.

Lachlan: It was fantastic, especially the food.

Piper: I liked all of it, especially the ice cream.

Sarah: I liked the possum prowl and the dinner.

Alice: It was very exciting and I loved the food.

Juliette: I liked the food and when we were making shadows in the turning circle.

Sarah Elizabeth: It was fun, especially sleeping on my mattress.

Jude: I liked the walk we did and the food was nice.

Noah: Going on the walk was fun because it was dark.

Sage: I thought that the year 2 sleepover was fun because I could bring my toys and we played cards.

Nissa: I liked going on the possum prowl and having beefburgers with salad for dinner.

Olivia: I loved going on the possum prowl and seeing slugs.



First Morning Circle at New School!

Today, K,1,2 went to Hazelbrook to have Morning Circle in their new Home Room. It was a wonderful event! The children were also lucky enough to meet Byron and thank him for all the painting he's been doing and Don, who has been fixing up floors for us! There was an excited, uplifting atmosphere that makes all the work SO worth while!

Nancy



Jennifer took the Class 5 students down to Hazelbrook to have a look inside the new school building and visit their classroom for next year.

Year 5 Social Night Recounts

I think the social night was good there was lots of soccer and music and food. Sean

Me and Indi found brooms and pretended they were guitars and I did the worm. Talisen

We drew an awesome border for each others' Year 5 graduation certificates and painted them as well. We had to dance to coldplay which was heaps of fun. We then had one of the best and absolutely delicious dinners ever. It was so fun. Ruben

After that we went inside and passed around our certificates and people wrote a kind thing about everyone. Mara

It was a fun night with time to play, dance and have nice food. Caragh

Perspectives of our new school

There will be ups and downs with the move, this place will be missed. The new school is amazingly big and it will be fun to find all the cool secrets and hiding spots. Jack

There are lots of fruit trees. There were grapefruits, passionfruit vines and a cherry tree. There is an awesome pond with lots of frogs in it and so many other things. I really can't wait till next year. Tim

I was very excited when I heard about the school moving. It is much bigger so we have alot more room to play. Romenie

I hope that our new school will be a good place for new students to learn new things and have a great time. Charlotte

The inside is like a maze. My favourite place is down the bottom, it has lots of trees, long grass and lots of flowers. Talia

When we were playing cricket and I was looking for the ball, I saw a mountain dragon. Jack

Lost Property

On Friday 5th December all remaining lost property will be displayed on the paved area near the office. Unless we can find a name on the clothing, any unclaimed items will be taken to a charity bin.

Collection of childrens' work & belongings

All reports, art folders etc are now ready for collection. Please ensure that your child's belongings have been claimed by Friday 5th December. Thank you!

Packing

If you returned a form to say that you can help with packing, your offer has been gratefully accepted. Please turn up whenever you can. As well as classroom teachers needing help, so too do the office staff, library, music and other specialist departments. Please note that we cannot supervise children, nor can they be left to play unsupervised outside. You may wish to share "playground duty" amongst yourselves!

Closing Circle, Friday 5th December, 12.45pm in the courtyard

On the last day of term, we shall be holding a closing circle in the courtyard. You are more than welcome to join us while we sing through a few of our favourite songs and bid farewell to each other as a whole primary school at this site. We also have a surprise celebration in store!

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.

Music Makers

Classes for young children and parents

Through rhythm, song, story, movement and games, develop a joy in music for the everyday. Small classes, friendly and fun, 30-40 mins, qualified and experienced teacher
Tuesdays 10.30 & 11.30 am- Mid Mountains
Call 4784 2337 or email jane@hrlearning.com.au

DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY

Hilary Black

The Studio, 1/110 Katoomba St Katoomba

Phone 1300 558 753

Katoomba Work Wear

Discounts for Korowal families
clothing, camping gear

Christine & Glen Davidson 4782 6611

174 Katoomba St, Katoomba

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Horses for Leadership and Teambuilding.
An innovative approach to Personal/Professional Development, and Stress Management.

Interactive programs provided in the peaceful environment of Kanimbla Valley. Create a day to detach from the busy demands of daily routine, allowing time to "breathe" and reconnect with Life.

Be inspired by these amazing creatures as you work in partnership to uncover your true potential through a journey of self-discovery. Liberates the mind and opens the heart. Enjoy a guided trail ride to complete the day.

Workshops designed for 4-24 people.
Individual sessions also available.
Age specific programs suitable for ages 10 +

For further information or bookings contact:

Monica Morris
Tel: 0406205309 or 4784.1323
Email: monica.morris@bigpond.com

Christmas all wrapped up!

As a special gift to Korowal parents and students, Solitary Photographic is offering a one hour natural-light photography shoot of your family for only \$175.

This price includes 50 images delivered to you in your choice of size and format on CD.

Also available as a DVD slideshow presentation.

A perfect gift for relatives and friends abroad or far away.

Printing can be arranged should you require.

Call Annabel on 0406 933 315 or email solitaryphotographic@gmail.com

Please book early as the calendar is now filling up fast as we get closer to Christmas!

Subaru for sale

Great car - Subaru Impreza MY07 (2006). One female driver/owner only 46,000kms. 7 months manufacturer's warranty. Auto. White, basic series with lots of added extras including window tinting & paint protection. Great driving stability and comfort. Owner (Elize) moving. Reluctant sale \$19,500. Very negotiable to Korowal community member. Talk to me! Elize (0425 286 504)