



Korowal School

47587466 54 Hall Parade Hazelbrook
info@korowal.nsw.edu.au
www.korowal.nsw.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

2/9/2009 Vol 32 Issue 10

CALENDAR	
31 August	HSC art works due
11 September from 6.30 pm	HSC art exhibition from 6.30 (G1)
17 September	School Council meeting
Monday 21 September 7pm	HSC music performances (hall)
24 th September	HSC music examiners at school
23 - 24 September	Class 3/4/5 camp
25, 26 & 27 September	High school cabaret
2 October	Last day term 3
19 October	First day term 4
Saturday 31 October	Garage/jumble/car boot sale
Fri 11 December	End of term 4
27 & 28 January 2010	Staff development days
Fri 29 January	Pathways students start term 1
Mon 1 st Feb	Years 1 – 10 start term 1
Thurs 4 Feb	Kindergarten starts term 1
Thus 1 April	Last day term 1
Mon 19 April	Staff development day
Tue 20 April	Term 2 starts – all students
Fri 25 June	Last day term 2
Mon 19 July	Term 3 starts – all students
Fri 24 September	Last day term 3
Mon 11 Oct	Term 4 starts – all students
21 & 22 October	High school staff development days
Thu 9 December	Last day term 4
Fri 10 December	Staff development day

OPEN DAY

From Paula: The sun shone and a mood of optimism and energy came with the steady flow of visitors. It was very successful in that many families, past and present, neighbors and first time visitors came to enjoy the beautiful, informative displays throughout the school. The quality of the work and its presentation was as high as usual but was enhanced by our new setting. The day was a celebration of all the efforts by staff, parents and students since our move only 7 months ago.

From Nancy: It was wonderful to see so many parents, friends and relations at Open Day and to be able to watch the obvious delight and pride that the children exhibited as they showed their work. Thank you so much for coming. A huge thank you is extended to the many parents who helped make our inaugural Hazelbrook Open Day such a success. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful teachers who work with so much passion and commitment to provide such a rich educational experience for our children.

From Trish & Tracy: A huge thank you to everyone involved for your hard work to help make the cafe lovely, and the open day a successful event. It was a great day and was a lot of fun to work with you all. Thank you also for the beautiful food that was donated, it was delicious

and very much appreciated. See you all again next year!

From Annie: A big thank you to Tracy who made those fabulous red flags and organized the café.... and to all those teachers who worked into the night on Friday making the classrooms and the student's work look their best... and to Steve, Sharon and David who set up those exciting hand-on activities in the science lab ... and to Pam who converted the library into an enticing jungle of books ... and to Kim and the high school music students who entertained us in the music room.







WHAT WE DID

This is an extract from a document prepared for the Board of Studies by the school executive last term. It says a lot!

With the relocation of Korowal to Hazelbrook much has been achieved.

In short:

- *We managed to relocate our community to a prepared site within 3 months of purchase.*
 - *Major building modifications and renovations were overseen during this time.*
 - *The staff maintained normal classes and routines during term 4 2008.*
 - *High school drama and D&T students devised a performance for the community in term 4.*
 - *HSC students at their exams uninterrupted.*
 - *Packing and moving of all equipment was done over the Christmas holidays by staff, parents and some students.*
 - *Packing and cleaning of the old school site was completed within 10 days.*
 - *Internal painting of all classrooms was done by volunteers and staff.*
 - *Set up of classrooms, resources, library, office spaces, staff studies and play equipment and grounds was carried out by staff and volunteers during January.*
 - *The school had its first students, years 11 and 12, return on January 27th to a fully functional school.*
 - *Year 6 returned four days later and were introduced to the new school by the senior students. They in turn introduced the primary students the following Monday.*
- This demonstration of commitment embodies all that we strive to be. Korowal is the community. The staff are leaders within it. The parents are supporting us. The students are the*

focus.

HSC ART EXHIBITION Fri Sep 11th

HSC art works will be exhibited in the dining room (G1) from 6.30pm on Friday Sep 11th.

PERFORMANCE OF HSC MUSIC Mon Sep 21st

HSC music students will perform their works for parents, teachers and friends in the hall at 7pm.

Everyone is warmly invited to come along to these events to appreciate the hard work and talents of our senior students.

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Our raffle will be drawn on October 31st. Very soon we will finalise the collection of prizes and begin selling tickets. The list of prizes below has been sourced by just two parents who have approached local businesses that they know. We are keen for other parents to donate or seek out goods, services or vouchers so that the raffle is rich in prizes and makes a decent amount for primary play equipment and high school musical instruments.

Please do not approach any of the Hazelbrook shops, or the Springwood "Hippy Shop", who all generously donated to Pam's library raffle... or any of the businesses listed below.

Prizes collected so far:

- \$100 voucher from Leura Toy Shop
- \$40 voucher from Megalong Books, Leura
- \$20 from Lamda Books, Wentworth Falls
- a gourmet hamper of wine and local produce from d'Vine Cellars, Wentworth Falls
- two nights accommodation mid week at Tuscany Estate Resort, Hunter Valley (value \$500, donated by Bygone Beauty's, Leura)
- \$40 voucher from Cicero clothing store, Leura.
- voucher from Leura Cellars

If you would like an introductory letter on Korowal letterhead to use when approaching businesses please email Annie acarment@bigpond.net.au

Contact Noya for all raffle enquiries, or if you have a donation: 0412 387 000 or noyaelron@googlemail.com

At the end of this newsletter there is a letter that you can print if you feel that it would help in approaching businesses to ask for donations.

GARAGE/JUMBLE/CARBOOT SALE Oct 31st

As you can see from the above, we are yet to come up with a catchy name for this event.

The idea is:

Anyone and everyone in the school community is invited to bring their trash or treasures or hand crafts or produce to sell. You bring, we buy, you take away what isn't sold.

A proportion of all sales will be donated to the school.

There will also be food and music.

So.... start sorting out your clothes cupboards, garages, toys, bookshelves, sheds ...

COME TO THE CABARET!!!

We are having a Cabaret! As we go to press, students are rehearsing song and dance routines and making short films for an evening of entertainment. The shows will be on Friday 25th, Sat 26th and Sun 27th September. Times and ticket prices will be finalised this week.

If you want to help out in any capacity- musical accompaniment, publicity, front of house, wardrobe and make up, photography, catering, clean up, ...the list is endless, then please leave your name with the office staff (4758 7466), and one of us will make contact with you. We will hold our first production meeting this week, and then put the production team together. It is always fun, and a great event for all – whether you participate or are simply entertained. Stay tuned..... (Barb)

GARDENING NEWS

•Footbeat Festival

The Blue Mountains City Council has provided compost, seedlings and recycling crates as part of an initiative to encourage children to grow their own food. This project is part of the Footbeat Festival, which will take place in October at Wentworth Falls. The recycling crates have been planted out with a variety of seedlings, including spinach, lettuce and rocket. They will later be decorated and taken to be part of a display at the festival. There was plenty of compost so we have also been able to establish 2 garden beds in the K,1,2 courtyard to grow vegetables which we hope will be able to be used by the canteen. We are delighted to have been helped in this project by local community gardeners.



•Our organic vegie patch

Many many thanks to Deb Hurley who has worked for months reinvigorating, tending and planting our vegie patch with the assistance of Saturday working bee volunteers, and to Mick Barrett who built a bird fence around the garden. Deb is not able to continue with the Saturday work due to other commitments but has left us with a fertile, well organized, bird-proof organic garden. Our aim is to grow vegetables that Trish can use in the canteen, and for parents and students to be involved in this process.

If you are interested in helping out in the vegie patch at any time – on weekends, during school hours, or at pick-up time, contact Annie on acarment@bigpond.net.au or 0431352022.



•National Tree Day

Children from year 1 were assisted by Class 9 students to plant trees as part of the National Tree Day project. These trees were donated to us and have been planted in front of the science labs.

•Thanks Jacqueline and Carradine ...our amazing gardeners.

Jacqueline and Carradine are employed for only one day per week on the enormous task of understanding and caring for our many hectares of gardens and grounds. They have approached this daunting task with resilience and creativity, and we are all enjoying the fruits of their labours!

OUR BEST WISHES GO WITH YOU NICK

At the end of this term we say goodbye to Nick Palmer after ten years as a teacher at Korowal. It is with sadness and fond farewell that we accept Nick's resignation. Nick has been a significant member of the High School staff since 1999. In this time he has taught music and fostered a passion for music and technology in hundreds of students. We were privileged to have Nick musically direct our 25th Anniversary production of 'To Granny's and Beyond', which also featured several of his original compositions. In addition to this Nick has musically directed and performed for the High School bi-annual Cabarets. Students and staff have been nurtured by his compassion. We have been entertained by his band and serenaded by his roving accordian playing.

As he moves off to sunny climes, we would like to say thank you for all you have given us. We will miss you dearly, Nick. (Barb)

YEAR ONE SCIENCE

On Wednesday 26th August. Margaret, Jill and Year One went on a science excursion. The children took the school bus to Gloria Park and then walked up the hill to the footbridge in Hazelbrook. Their task was to survey the local traffic flow. In pairs they counted car, trucks, bikes, utes, vans and buses. They correctly predicted that cars were the highest number by far!!!! Next week we will follow up this excursion by creating a graph and making some conclusions about our local traffic. (Margaret)

FOOD FABULOUS FOOD!

As a grand finale to their Food main lesson, the children in 3,4,5 prepared and served the most wonderful feast last Wednesday. They catered for vegetarians, meat eaters and people who need a gluten free diet. All staff members were invited. There was an excited and happy atmosphere in the room and I couldn't help but feel extremely proud of the learning that had taken place and the obvious enjoyment shared by all. Well done, 3,4,5 students and teachers and thank you for a feast to remember! (Nancy)



THROUGH VISITORS' EYES

Hana and Keisuke, on a family visit from Japan, joined Year 9 and 10 for three weeks this term. Hana shares her impressions. *I had a very good time at Korowal. Korowal is very different from Japanese schools. There are very good things to do – not just writing, reading and lots of tests. The teachers are interested in what students think. It's more personal and open. The best part was my friends, they were so kind and nice. I loved them. I was surprised that boys and girls are so*

friendly. In Japan we are not like that. It's very nice. I really enjoyed Korowal! I want to come back again!!

HEAD LICE

Unfortunately these non-fee paying visitors to our school are being particularly active at the moment, as is usually the case when spring is on its way. Please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly. There are many treatments available. Please check with your health care provider, pharmacist or at your local health food shop for a product to suit your child. Your efforts to contain this problem are appreciated by all of us.

CYBERBULLYING

From Joachim.

As people increasingly interact using electronic media, we don't just get the wonderful aspects of human communication, but also the ugly ones, like on-line bullying or harassment.

An article I was sent recently points out that the anonymity factor can make cyber bullying more stressful than face-to-face bullying. "At least if you're being bullied at school you know who it is that is doing the bullying, so you can stay away from them," says Donna Cross from Edith Cowan University, Perth. "If someone laughs on the playground, she wonders if they are laughing at her."

Tom Wood is only 18 and an ex bullying victim. He now consults government on the issues and has a successful website www.thewoodverdict.com. He stresses that we should not throw out the Internet in trying to protect our children from cyber bullying. This would damage the children's social networks even more. Instead, observe 3 steps:

STOP

Stop engaging with the bully.

BLOCK

Blocking the bully and deleting the offensive comments is the next step. Then, limit your communication to close friends.

TELL

Tell your parents about the bullying. As a parent, tell your kids that it is not their fault and that they are not alone in this. Help them with the steps, above.

Tell the school about the incident, so a wider picture of the offender can be formed and a bully can be identified and counselled.

On Tom Wood's website, there also is a step-by-step guide on how to block bullies from your facebook, Youtube, email and other social networks.

Other resources -

www.cybersmartkids.com.au, www.headspace.org.au, www.stopcyberbullying.org,
www.teenangels.org, www.netalert.gov.au

CONNECTIONS

Community events and notices. Korowal does not specifically recommend or guarantee any of these organisations.



and The Blue Mountains City Council presents;

Circus and Physical Theatre for Youth

5 weeks of special classes in Circus and Physical Theatre being held at The Wentworth Falls School of Arts.

Starting **Thursday 3th September** and concluding Thursday 1st of Oct.

Classes run from 6pm - 8.30pm Classes will be held in all **Circus Skills, Tumbling and Acrobatics**, as well as **Juggling, Unicycle** as well as **Theatre Skills, Performance Skills**,... and more.

Classes will be being run by 2 Professional Circus Artists and will conclude with a public performance.

Class \$10 per class. Ages 8-24. All skill levels welcome

Please email all enquiries to

Kate Reid / email: tangoluke@hotmail.com

For more information on Trainer/s go to:

Candy Stripe Circus

www.candystrpecircus.com.au or phone Patrick on 0412 786 988



YOUR CHILD COULD ENJOY A MOST REWARDING EXPERIENCE

Every child gains from having friends. However, when the child has a disability, the opportunity for friendships can be limited. WESTLINK aims to provide these extra friends through our Host Family Program. The Host Family Program offers regular, planned, respite to families who have a child (0 - 18 Years) with a mild to severe disability, living at home. Respite care can occur in the child's home (sitting), in the volunteer's home (Host Family) or in the community.



If you wish to know more, please contact
one of the Coordinators at WESTLINK

on

4751 8213 or 8805 0917

We'd love to hear from you

The Premier's Adventure Challenge encourages young explorers to discover the State's museums and galleries with their families.

1. Visit any of the participating museums and galleries, and collect a free Passport.
2. General admission is free for the passport holder on weekends, public holidays and during school holidays only.*
3. The Passport is not valid on normal school days/weeks.
4. Collect a stamp in the passport each time you visit (only one stamp allowed per visit!)**
5. You need to collect at least three stamps to complete the Adventure Challenge.
6. Be quick... the Passport expires on 27 January 2010.
7. Fill in the tear-off page at the back of the Passport. It must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Mail the page to:

Premier's Adventure Challenge,
PO Box A226, Sydney South NSW 1235

8. Your certificate will be mailed to you.
9. The first 200 to return the completed challenge will receive great prizes!

Prizes include:

100 family passes to Taronga Zoo!

100 family passes to Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo!

50 family passes to the Australian Museum's Egyptian Treasures: art of the pharaohs exhibition!

50 family passes to the Sydney Opera House's Kids at the House Shows!

* To gain free entry, you must be a Primary School student and in possession of a Kids' Adventure Passport. The Passport does not give free entry to any special fee-paying exhibitions or activities.

For more information -

<http://www.arts.nsw.gov.au/KidsAdventurePassport/AboutthePremiersAdventureChallenge>