



Korowal School

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NEWSLETTER

30/09/2009 VOL 32 ISSUE 11

CALENDAR 2009	
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
1 October	Pathways camp (final year students)
2 October	Last day term 3
2 October	Year 12 farewell assembly 12 pm
6-7 October	HSC Chemistry revision camp
Sat 17 th October	HSC General Maths revision day
Sat 17 th October 10am – 1pm	Vegetable garden working bee.
19 October	First day term 4
Saturday 31 October 10am – 2pm	Garage/jumble/car boot sale
Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th November	School Certificate examinations
Wed 21 st October – Wed 11 th November	HSC examinations (see timetable below)
Sat 21 st November	Yr 12 Formal
Fri 11 December	End of term 4
2010	
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
HSC EXAMINATION TIMETABLE 2009	
Wed 21 October	English (standard and advanced) Paper 1 – Area of Study 9.20am – 11.30am
Thurs 22 October	Information Processes & Technology 9.25am – 12.30pm
Fri 23 October	English (standard) Paper 2 – Modules 9.25am-11.30am English (advanced) Paper 2 – Modules 9.25am – 11.30am

Mon 26 October	General Mathematics – 9.25am-12 noon
Tues 27 October	Mathematics – Extension 2 – 9.25am-12.30pm
	Music – aural – 1.55pm – 4pm
Friday 30 October	English – Extension 1 – 9.25am – 11.30am
Monday 2 November	Chemistry – 9.25am – 12.30 pm
Wed 11 November	Visual Arts 9.25am – 11am Society and Culture – 1.55pm – 4pm

BUSHFIRE PLANS

The NSW Government has announced a new Fire Danger Rating and public warnings. These are part of the new nationally agreed Fire Danger Rating and warning systems being introduced around Australia in the wake of the tragic bushfires in Victoria in February. The key change is a new enhanced Fire Danger Rating system, adding a new top level category – Catastrophic (Code Red), which recognises that conditions like those we saw in Victoria present a greater level danger to the community. If there is a forecast of Catastrophic conditions, there is a very real likelihood of major loss of life and property. When a catastrophic forecast is issued, the Government's advice is that if you live in a bush fire prone area, leaving the day before is the best and safest option. See www.bushfire.nsw.gov.au in light of our relocation and the above announcement we have updated our bushfire response procedures.

In the event of a Catastrophic (Code Red) fire warning the school would be closed. The implication of a Catastrophic (Code Red) could include wholesale community evacuations, although this remains to be tested. In the unlikely event that a bushfire threatened the school, of a non-Catastrophic rating, then the school's normal Bushfire response would be activated.

Staff and students practice our bushfire response, usually twice a year, (at other times we practice a 'fire in the building' response). This involves students returning to nominated classrooms and waiting until instructed to leave the room. Provision is made for toilet facilities, drinking water, first aid etc.

If the need for evacuation arose we would respond to the directions of Emergency Service personnel.

In the 30 year history of the school this has never happened. Fire threatened the Leura site once on a weekend. In periods of extreme fire danger a district emergency plan exists that would anticipate the need for evacuation of schools. We have experience of these protocols. In 1977 Hazelbrook experienced a major bushfire with flames reportedly passing over the school premises. At the time there was no damage to the existing buildings but some pine trees were destroyed.

The school has spent approximately \$100K in the past 9 months increasing the building protection to resist bushfires, including upgrade of hydrants, on-site water storage, fire trail, gutter and window screening and land clearing to meet Level 3 fire risk standards. In the event of a catastrophic emergency during school hours the school anticipates that roads would be closed, telecommunications networks overloaded and evacuation impossible. Staff are prepared to manage the children's welfare for as long as necessary at school, including overnight. The local Hazelbrook Bush Fire Brigade is in the process of arranging a community meeting at school to provide the most up-to-date information on dealing with the threat of bushfires. I will advise you of the meeting ASAP.

(Mark)

IF YOU CAN HELP IN THE KITCHEN NEXT TERM, please contact Trish ASAP on 47593519. What could be more worthwhile than providing healthy, tasty food for our children?

GOOD LUCK TO OUR HSC STUDENTS. FAREWELL TO YEAR 12.

HSC examinations begin at the start of next term. We wish our candidates the very best. For the first time this year, Korowal is a registered examination centre – this means that students can sit their exams in the familiar surroundings of their own school. This Friday 2nd October is the final school day for our graduating students. Their farewell assembly will be held at 12 midday. We would like to express our appreciation to this group of students who coped so well with the upheaval of the school's move last summer in the middle of their two year HSC period. They returned to school a week early at the start of term one to help with furniture moving and setting up the new classrooms and labs. They gracefully assumed a leadership role in introducing younger students to the new school. Thank you all!

LIFE WAS A CABARET!!!

... for three days and nights last week. Our high school students entertained us with a glittering, inspiring, amusing and thought provoking collection of cabaret acts and silent films – all presented with confidence and exuberance. Other students performed essential roles as light and sound technicians and stage-hand/clowns who did a remarkable job of keeping the whole event flowing smoothly and efficiently. Their performances will stay in many memories for a long time to come. Thank you all – this event was driven by the creativity and motivation of our students.

The performance was photographed and filmed. We aim to produce an edited film and to post photographs on the school's website. More information soon.

Very special thanks go to...

Cindy Babbage, Annie Daley and Cath Walker for their heroic organisational work.

Kim Poole for his calm and confident creativity as last-minute musical director.

Andrew Ireland and Rick Morris – accompanists extraordinaire. And to the one and only Barb – who is still standing!



HSC MUSIC PERFORMANCE

An appreciative audience of parents, teachers and friends watched and listened as this year's HSC music students performed their work. Many thanks to Nick, Andrew, the students, and their friends and relations who accompanied them on stage.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

What a great term! It began with a really well-supported working bee, when many tasks around the school were completed and the gardens tidied and prepared for Spring. The children have experienced so many wonderful events, the highlight possibly being Open Day.

The Footbeat Festival Community Gardening group has given the vegetable garden in the K,1,2 courtyard

a great start, assisted by children from Kindy and Year 1. This project will be continued by K,1,2 next term and we expect to have lots of fresh produce for the canteen. K,1,2 have also participated in the Golden Gum Tree Postal Run.

Class 3,4,5 hosted a truly sumptuous banquet to conclude their Food Main Lesson and have

been to Chowder Bay – the first school camp for our year 3 students – as a grand finale to their Animals Main Lesson.

Denise has been conducting cookery classes in her Italian sessions and Class 6 finished their Main Lesson about Asia by cooking a variety of Asian foods.

Next term will be full of exciting events too – swimming for everyone, sleepover for year 2, end-of-primary school formal for year 6 and class concerts.

I have been asked to raise the issue of head lice again. It really is necessary to check your child's hair regularly. If either eggs or lice are found, action needs to be taken before your child returns to school. Do not assume that because you have treated your child's hair, you no longer need to check. Re-infestations are very common. The NSW Department of Education states that 23% of primary school children have head lice at any given time. Here are a few websites you may wish to look at:

<http://www.jcu.edu.au/school/phtm/PHTM/hlice/hlinfo1.htm>

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>

We request that children do not bring lollies to school, nor eat them on the bus or train whilst traveling. If you do give your child money for lollies, please ask her/him to buy the lollies on the way home from the station at which they disembark. Lollies will not be bought by the train supervisors for children.

Have a great time with your children over the holidays. We'll see you all next term!
(Nancy)

SPRING VEGETABLE GARDEN WORKING BEE:

SAT. OCT 17th 10am – 1pm



Willing hands are required to weed and plant our vegetable and herb gardens. Our aim is to grow food that Trish and her helpers can use to make healthy lunches for our students and staff....herbs, salad greens, tomatoes, carrots, pumpkins, beans, peas, brassicas, zucchinis, corn, onions. We will provide seeds, seedlings, compost, mulch. Please bring digging and weeding tools, barrows.

SAFETY ISSUES

There can be quite a large number of children *waiting at a station for the train in the morning*. Large groups of children like to play. Parental supervision whilst waiting for the train is highly recommended, especially for children below the age of ten.

Unfortunately we cannot accommodate *scooters* – the group is too large.

Our turning circle is a busy place – please do not let your children play there. We recommend that small children are held by the hand for their protection. Parking rear to kerb is also requested.

HSC SOCIETY AND CULTURE PROJECTS

Students undertaking this course complete a major research project with a word tally of between 2, 500 -5, 000. This is a formidable task for all students, and the overwhelming feeling of relief when this task is completed is one never to be forgotten! The topics are chosen by students, and fit into the framework of social and cultural research.

These are the topics students chose this year:

- Kate Anderson: *'What a man!'*
- the search for the perfect man and the reasons women have for escaping into fantasy. Kate researched fictional men from Jane Austen's Mr Darcy to Edward in Stephanie Meyer's 'Twilight' series and asked women about their search for perfection and the effect it could have on the real men in their world.
- Luciano Carment: *'Prisoners to Shame.'*

Luciano investigated the reasons for the Cowra breakout in WW2, researching through history the Japanese notion of shame and its significance. He also discovered how the Japanese experience shame, using his grandfather's memoirs, visiting Cowra, and interviewing Japanese people and an Australian ex POW.

• Elyse Cunningham: *'Fired, Hired, Tired'*

- the Great Depression and how it is similar to and different from the present recession. How do people feel about losing their jobs in these hard times?

• Beau Dunne: *'Australian attitudes to Islam'*.

- the difference between Islam and radical Islam. Beau wanted to know what Australians actually knew about Islam.

• Oskar Edgren: *'Insanity without Delirium'*.

Through film and surveys Oskar researched peoples' attitudes to psychopaths. He wanted to know how much a part film played in our understanding of this personality disorder.

• Jade Fuda: *'I can be whoever I want to be'*

- COSPLAY is and its effect on teen life. For the uninitiated, "cosplay" (costume play) is a Japanese style of dressing/ cross dressing, and gathering in groups and venues in order to experience being someone else.

• Finbar Gailey: *Attitudes to binge drinking in the upper Blue Mts.*

- Finbar's research confirmed his original thesis: Too much of a good thing can seriously harm you.

• Georgie Gott: *'To Travel or not to Travel.'*

Being an ardent armchair traveller, Georgie wanted to investigate what Australians gained from travel: we are the world's greatest travellers. She specifically investigated women travellers from all eras and how personal perspective and your view of the world changes through travel.

• Rosie Morris: *Female Role Models:*

- the influence of significant actresses of the 30s, 40s and 50s. Rosie contrasted the effect these women had on society and individuals with actresses of the 90s. She found that though they might seem to have a significant effect, especially on teenagers, their effects proved to be much less than might have been expected.

• Kate Pagan investigated *the power of midlife crises.*

She wanted to know if these crises lead to depression or growth, and surveyed and interviewed people to find out what happened to them at this time of life.

• Bill Pringle: *'Game Over or Play again':*

Being an avid action gamer, Billy wanted to investigate the positive and negative effects of playing action video games. He was delighted to find that there were a number of positive behaviours resulting from playing action video games.

• Amie Smith: *'You have a new friend: accept or ignore':*

- the effect of social networking sites on teen relationships. What a way to investigate the power of facebook.

• Josh Spolc: *'Parental Restrictions:'*

- Parenting through investigating two different generations and their practices of different restrictions as a method of controlling adolescent behaviour.

• Gus Wheeler: *'Zionism in the 21st Century; its power over Israeli politics.'*

Gus investigated historically how this is one of the major moral challenges of our era.

The topics reflect the amazing variety of interests our students have and also the wonderful way in which this subject formalizes and helps you to understand your passion. Both Bob and I also learned so much, yet again confirming the adage that 'the child is the father of the man. (Catherine)

CREATIVE WRITING SUCCESSES FOR KOROWAL EX-STUDENTS

• **Kirstel Thornell: 2009 Vogel Award winner**

This year's Vogel Award has been won jointly by one of our former students, Kirstel Thornell for her novel "Night Street", based on the life of Melbourne artist Clarice Beckett. Since leaving school Kirstel has studied French and Italian at the University of Sydney and spent a year in Italy, researching the author Giorgio Bassani and then teaching English as a foreign language. She has published reviews, poetry and fiction in a range of journals, including Meanjin,

Overland, Southerly and Island. She is now working on a PhD in Creative Writing with the University of Western Sydney.

- **Stephanie Bishop**

Stephanie has recently published her second novel. Her first novel “The Singing” was published in 2005 and in 2006 she was named one of The Sydney Morning Herald’s Best Young Novelists. She is currently completing her PhD at the University of Cambridge and is working on her third novel. She is also a frequent reviewer and essayist with her work appearing in the Australian Literary Review, the Australian Book Review and the Sydney Morning Herald.

- **Rosie Cintio**

Rosie is a final year undergraduate student in Communications (Creative Writing) at UTS. Her short story, “Hiding Places” was selected for inclusion in the 2009 Writers’ Anthology “On The Side”, launched at this year’s Sydney Writer’s Festival. Now in its third decade, the UTS anthology has helped launch many careers, and provides readers with some of the freshest ideas in Australian writing.

FUNDRAISING

CAR BOOT SALE Saturday Oct 31st 10am – 2pm

Who can set up a stall? Anyone in the Korowal community. Start clearing out your cupboards and your garden shed!

What can I sell? Anything that you can bring and take away again if unsold, except food. We will sell food and drink and the proceeds from this will go towards our school kitchen.

Do I need a car boot? You can sell from you car boot and/or from tables. It will be useful if people bring their own tables/ trestles, but if not we will provide school desks.

How much money do I pay to the school? The school will collect a minimum of 20% of your takings. You are welcome to donate more! We won’t count your money – this will operate on the basis of trust.

What if it’s raining? In the event of rain, you could bring an outdoor umbrella or tarp, or you could set up a table under cover on one of the balconies or in the hall. The sale will be held whatever the weather.

What time? Set up time is 8.30am – 10am. The sale will run from 10am – 2pm. Pack up after 2pm. **YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SET UP OR LEAVE BETWEEN 10AM AND 2 PM** because the area will be closed off to vehicle movements during that time, for safety reasons.

“SPIRAL” has generously offered to entertain us. If there are other musicians out there who would like to add to the atmosphere, please contact Annie on acarment@bigpond.net.au ASAP.

QUILT RAFFLE FOR LITERACY RESOURCES

Many thanks to Louise, our learning support teacher, who not only organized this raffle but made the two beautiful quilts herself! The two lucky winners were Sarah Horton and Tallieson Brown.

RAFFLE TICKETS

\$5 each or 3 for \$10

to raise \$\$\$\$ for primary school
playground equipment and new musical
instruments for high school

*SO MANY PRIZES.....
SO MANY CHANCES TO WIN.....*

ACCOMMODATION IN THE HUNTER VALLEY

- At Tuscany Wine Estate Resort (value \$500)

HAMPERS FROM...

- D'vine Cellars, Wentworth Falls
- Leura Cellars

GIFT VOUCHERS FROM...

- Leura Toy Shop
- Lamda Books Wentworth Falls
- Megalong Books, Leura
- Cicero Boutique, Leura
- Divine Designs, Leura

FAMILY PASSES TO...

- Maritime Museum (2 family passes)
- Katoomba Sports & Leisure Centre (heaps of family passes)
- Leuralla Toy and Rail Museum
- Australian National Maritime Museum
- Scenic World Katoomba
- The Edge Cinema
- Taronga Zoo
- Western Plains Zoo

AND ALSO...

- DVD's from Hits & Myths, Leura
- One year's subscription to "Blue Mountains Life" magazine
- A Faery land painting.

And now for the BIG ENORMOUS RAFFLE!

...to raise money for primary playground equipment and much-needed musical instruments for high school students. Tickets are now on sale in the office. Feel free to take a book of 5 or 10 tickets to sell. Many thanks to Noya Elron and to everyone else who contributed to this fabulous collection of prizes.

CONNECTIONS: community events and notices

Bike Week 2009 Information Kiosks

Council will be holding a series of Bike Week Information Kiosks in Glenbrook, Springwood and Katoomba as part of NSW Bike Week 2009 Saturday 26 September to Sunday 4 October 2009.

The stalls will distribute the Mountain Bike Rides map and provide information on the Council's Blue Mountains Bike Plan 2020, the planned Greater Blue Mountains Trail, bike safety & maintenance, recreational cycling and using bikes as alternative transport.

Come and see us at:

Glenbrook Park 26 Sept 10am – 12pm

Springwood Town Square 26 Sept 12.30pm – 2.30pm

Katoomba Post Office forecourt, Hapenny Lane 3 Oct 11am – 1pm



October Holiday Workshops

Bookings essential ph 02 4735 1100

Pay by credit card over the phone

Wear clothes suitable for a workshop

Bring a snack

www.penrithregionalgallery.org

Monday 12 October 10am – 1pm 5 – 8 yrs
\$22 per student

Fabulous Fashion with tutor Sarah Birtles

Create a 2D cardboard model and dress her in your own paper designs, make a ball gown and a soccer strip, a rap star outfit and a wardrobe to store all your fabulous outfits.

Monday 12 October 10am – 1pm 8 – 12 yrs \$22 per student

3D Dolls houses and garages with tutor Trish Hickey

Make a mini house or garage from cardboard for your dolls and toy cars to inhabit. Decorate your new buildings and add furniture, windows and doors and your own tiny people.

Tuesday 13 October 10am – 11.30am All ages \$5 per adult, \$10 per child 2yrs +

Ballroom Bonanza Book Launch with children’s illustrator Nina Rycroft

An exciting event for carers and children, listen to *Ballroom Bonanza*, come on a sparkly treasure hunt in the garden, make a feathered headdress or a sparkly top hat, and take a twirl on our dance floor while listening to dance tunes in the garden. Cake and beverages included.

Wednesday 14 October 10am – 1pm 5 – 8 yrs \$22 per student

Alien/Insect masks with tutor Claire Simpson

Take an exploratory walk in the garden looking for aliens and bugs then use recycled materials to create an alien/insect mask. Bring your imagination.

Thursday 15 October 10am – 12 noon 8 – 12 yrs \$25 per student

African Adventure with tutors Johnny and Chandu Ngomeley

Experience the colour and excitement of an African safari. Sing an African song, learn an African dance, dress in traditional African costumes and make art inspired by the colours of Africa.

Friday 16 October 10am – 12 noon 5 – 8 yrs \$15 per student

Humpty Dumpty sculpture workshop with Cathy O’Donnell

Make your own 3D version of Humpty Dumpty out of clay complete with wiggly legs and clay feet.

Friday 16 October 10am – 1pm 9 – 12 yrs \$22 per student

Painting and book-making workshop with tutor Anne- Marie Hawley

Using the theme of ‘shoes with souls,’ kids will learn a variety of painting techniques. Their personalised shoe painting will form the unique cover of a hand-made journal.

2009 Weekend Kids Club 10am–11am 5 - 12 yrs \$8 per student

All materials supplied, bookings and pre-payment essential

Saturday Dates

10 October Sculpt creepy critters from recycled materials

14 November Design a funky outfit and dress a cardboard character in your creation.

Sunday Dates

27 September Use recycled plastic bags to make a zany banner for your bedroom

25 October Learn about colour and make a mosaic inspired by the Gallery’s art Collection

29 November Create a series of freaky ties using stencils drawing and collage

The Blue Mountains City Council asked if we could advertise in our next newsletter the FUN WORKSHOPS that they are running in their Libraries in the October holidays. The workshops cover bead making, salt dough sculptures, making art glasses, crowns and funky vessels, Dreamtime stories and Digital photography. More details from the brochures in our Library or from the Springwood branch Library.

Selwood SCIENCE & PUZZLES

HAZELBROOK

OCTOBER 2009 SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

WED	14	<i>Science Magic</i> 9:30 -12:30 Water Science 1:30 - 4:30
THU	15	Fun Electricity 9:30 -12:30 Slime Making 1:30 - 4:30
FRI	16	Easy Chemisty 9:30 -12:30

Selwood is OPEN everyday
during the October public school holidays

Bookings essential

Phone 4758-6235 or info@selwoodscience.com.au

- FUN ELECTRICITY (3 hours) 5 - 8yrs **\$24**
Make circuits that operate lights and buzzers. Lots of hands-on educational fun. Look at blowing fuses and other surprising activities.
- WATER SCIENCE (3 hours) 5 - 11yrs **\$24**
Look at science activities involving water. Make a plaster cast of your hand, launch a water rocket and lots more. Fun, educational playing.
- SLIME MAKING (3 hours) 5 -11yrs **\$24**
A fun time making and playing with different types of slime and take home what you make to show your family and friends.
- EASY CHEMISTRY (3 Hours) 8 - 13 yrs **\$24**
Demonstrations and hands-on experiments with real chemicals using real test tubes. Make smells, rubber, burn steel, invisible ink & more.
- SCIENCE MAGIC (3 Hours) 5 - 11yrs **\$24**
Make your own tricks and look at demonstrations of magic using science principles with everyday materials. Everything is explained so you can surprise your family & friends.

All classes held at Selwood Science & Puzzles - over the bridge at Hazelbrook railway station at 41 Railway Pde Hazelbrook

We would like to help you get through the HSC with stress relief from Massage

Who are we?

We are local massage therapists who love helping people in need through our profession. One of us is a mother of an H.S.C. student, so we know how stressful things can get. We came up with the idea of supporting students through massage. Massage can assist in decreasing stress, reducing anxiety, relieving muscle pain/stiffness, headaches, increasing circulation, and to encourage relaxation.

To Whom?

Students in year 11 and 12.

How can we help?

20 minute chair massages to encourage relaxation and reduce muscle tension especially for the head, neck, shoulders, arms and hands if needed. This massage is given on a massage chair, with recipients fully clothed.

How much does it cost?

This is totally free of charge. Gold coin donations will be accepted but are not necessary. Donations will be forwarded to the South African Village Aid Relief Appeal. (www.aids-hospice.org)

When?

9am to 4 pm on 5, 12, 13 & 14/10/2009,

10.00 am to 2pm on Sunday 4 & 18 October 2009. Hours will be extended if required.

Where?

Mountains Massage,
Blue Mountains Wellness Centre,
455 Great Western Highway Faulconbridge (Enter via Coomassie Avenue)

Bookings?

By appointment on 4751-5111. If you have any questions or existing health issues please talk to our therapists to relieve any concerns.

Further information

Takako Jawor / Noreen Davern Ph 4751-5111

takakomassage@gmail.com noreen_davern@hotmail.com

Dear parents,

This is not a business promotion and bears no relation to school activities. It is offered from our genuine concerns to help students as our contribution to our community. We would like to support students for their future. We hope the youth will in turn offer their skills to help the community in the future when they can.

Massage involves manipulation of the soft tissues of the body for therapeutic purposes. If you have any concerns, please accompany your children or phone the massage centre on the above number. Our team are fully qualified professional remedial massage therapists trained in accredited institutions, and are members of AMT (Association of Massage Therapists) or A.M.T.S (Australian Traditional-Medicine Society).

