



NEWSLETTER

23/8/2010 Vol 33 Issue 10

CALENDAR 2010	
Wed 25 th August 6.30 pm	HSC drama performance in the hall
Wed 25 th to Thu 26 th August	Class 3/4/5 camp
Thurs 26 th August 7pm	School Council meeting 7pm
Mon 30 th August	HSC art body of work due
Tues 31 st August	Primary school photos
Wed 1 st September	High school photos
Wed 1 st September 6.30pm	HSC drama repeat performance
Tues 7 th September	Year 10 RYDA workshop
Wed – Fri 8 – 10 September	HSC Trial examinations
Fri 10 th September 6pm	Exhibition of HSC art work
Wed 15 th – Fri 17 th September	Year 10 camp
Thursday 23 rd September	School Council meeting 7pm
Fri 24 September	Last day term 3
Fri 24 September	Year 12 farewell
Mon 11 Oct	Term 4 starts – all students
Sat 16 th October 10am – 2pm	Term 4 working bee
21 & 22 October	High school staff development days
Wed 8 December	End of year celebration
Thu 9 December	Last day term 4 for high school
Fri 10 December 1.15pm	Last day term for primary school

HSC DRAMA PERFORMANCES

Our senior drama students will perform their HSC assessment works twice. The first performance is on Wednesday 25th from 6.30-9.00 in the school hall.

This performance doubles as the Trial HSC and will be assessed by Cairo and Barb.

Further performances for sheer pleasure are on

Wednesday 1st September from 6.30-9.00 and

Thursday 2nd 1.00-3.30 (school showing for high school students)

Everyone is welcome to any of these performances.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

We have engaged Solitary Photos this year, who are offering an alternative to the usual fake-background school photographs. Primary photos will be taken on August 31st and high school on September 1st. You should have received an order form (if not, dig deep in the school bag). Please return it ASAP.

INCREASE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

School Council has decided to allow a gradual increase in enrolment numbers in primary classes. Over recent years the maximum number has been 16 students in each class, with some variations, from kindergarten to year 5. We have decided to increase this maximum to 20.

We plan to stage the increase from kindergarten upwards. We will enrol 20 children in kindergarten next year and each year following, so the growth in total numbers will be gradual. We will also accept enrolments in other classes up to a maximum of 20 but these enrolments will arrive gradually over the next few years.

During the summer holidays our two smallest K/1/2 classrooms will be extended (funded by the BER program). This will give us space to accommodate the increased numbers.

Our commitment to multiple aged learning is unchanged. It encourages children to form friendship and support groups across age boundaries, and to learn with and from older and younger children. Our skills-based classes are taught in single aged groups. These groups will contain a maximum of 20 students.

In the medium term we plan to increase staff numbers and to build one or two extra primary classrooms.

Our reasons for this new class size policy are:

- Since our relocation we have strong waiting lists for kindergarten.
- We aim to create a more even balance between primary and high school in our school community. Our current model, with 16 students in each year from K to 6 and 25 students in each year thereafter, is not balanced.
- It enhances our financial sustainability. Our current model requires us to find new enrolments in years 6 and 7. The new model will result in a greater proportion of students beginning in kindergarten and continuing through to high school.

Korowal School Council

MOBILE PHONES

We understand the usefulness of mobile phones for children, especially those who use public transport. There are, however, certain conditions that your child needs to know if s/he is going to carry a mobile phone. The following is taken from our policy document:

Mobiles must not be used to harass or victimise other students or staff, or to abuse a person's right to privacy.

Any mobile brought onto the school by a student may be inspected by a staff member who has reasonable grounds to suspect it may be being used inappropriately.

Any inappropriate use of the school name or resources in any form is totally unacceptable.

In using their mobiles students are expected to comply with the standards and act within the ethical framework of Korowal, where respect for individuals, their good name and dignity is paramount.

Mobile phones are not permitted during exams and they must be switched off during class time.

If the use becomes intrusive at any stage, the phone will be taken to the coordinator for later collection.

If students carry mobile phones, they do so at their own risk.

Use of mobile phones during off-campus activities arranged by the school, including field trips, camps and retreats, will be determined by the teacher or supervisor in charge of that activity. Arrangements will be in place for communication with a staff member in the case of an emergency and restrictions will be placed on the use of mobile phones to ensure that their use is not an intrusion into the educational and social objectives of the activity.

SAFETY ISSUES

1) Collection of children after school

Each afternoon there is a teacher on duty at the turning circle to help support a safe environment for students leaving at the end of school. It has been brought to my attention that many children and parents are not clear about the expected protocol, which has been designed to facilitate the safest possible environment at this busy time of the day. **Concern has been expressed about the number of young children and their younger siblings, who are not accompanied by parents, who use the turning circle as an extended play area.** It is also noted that many parents do keep their children close at all times and offer adequate supervision.

To help support everyone, including the teachers on duty who are aware of their duty of care, under the law, please note the following:

Children may be collected from the area outside the Primary School or

Children may go directly to the top of the ramp at the turning circle to wait to be collected by a parent/carer using the drop off/pick up zone.

Once children are collected by a parent/carer, they should remain with that adult.

The RTA recommends that all children up to the age of 8 should always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road and that all children up to the age of 10 should be supervised whilst crossing the road.

Once a parent/carer has stopped his/her vehicle in the drop off zone, the teacher on duty will allow the child to go to the vehicle, accessing the footpath side of the road.

Please do not call your child across the road.

Nancy

2) Leaving the car park: KEEP LEFT!

Drivers leaving the carpark in the morning sometimes drive down the middle of the driveway, and as I'm coming off the road and about to come up the hump, I have to stop and let them pass before I can proceed.

Luckily so far the timing has allowed for this to happen, but the potential is for the car coming in from the road to be hit head on by the car coming down the drive.

Bev Milner

BURSAR

Open Day

What a beautiful day we had. I hear from many of you that a typical response to "What did you do at school today?" is "Nothing." So....it was lovely to be able to show off all the "nothing" !!!!!

Open day is also a wonderful opportunity to go from Kindy through to Pathways and see the development of skills. If you missed out this year, you'll have another chance. Our Open Day is always the 4th Saturday of term 3 so mark the date now: Saturday 13th August!

Thank you to all those people who helped clean, decorate, feed and special thanks to Ellie Barrett, one of our HSC students, who spent time busking and raised over \$100 for Ella's family.

Nancy

Tropical Tuesday

We had a great day and it was wonderful to feel that we were able to do something significant to support Ella, Kate and Korey.

I was particularly touched by the generosity of the students, who came with their bags of coins or significant donations taken from their own savings. Also heart-warming was the way in which so many children dressed up. I particularly liked the "home made" creations. Well done and thank you!

If you would like to make a donation directly to Kate & Korey, their details are:

Kate Waters and K. Moon
St George Bank
BSB: 112879
Account: 055345196

A message from Ella's parents

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to everyone who has so generously helped us with canteen meals (Ella always says that the canteen has wonderful food and now we know she is right!!), soups, pies, bread, waffles, eggs, jams and with money. We are deeply touched and grateful for the support - both the practical assistance and the emotional support that comes of knowing that we are part of such a wonderful school community who, despite our relative newness, have been so generous in their support. The many drawings, notes, emails and texts that have come, and keep coming, from Ella's classmates and her teachers throughout her time in hospital have been really important to her and have helped her to stay positive and connected to the world beyond the hospital room walls. We have a rotating display of them all over the walls, along with photos and Ella's own drawings, it makes for a very cheerful room. We're looking forward to adding the photos from Tropical Tuesday next!! After a long period of complications Ella is now doing well and we are hoping that we may be able to get home by November... though it will be many more months before she is able to physically return to school it will be good just to be out of hospital and back in the mountains! (Kate)



TROPICAL YEAR SIX

Tree Day

On Friday 6th August Kindergarten helped the year 7 & 8 children plant some more trees outside the Science Lab. This was part of national Tree Day and was supported by a generous donation from BMCC and several members of staff.

COMPUTERS FOR SALE – only four left!

The lease of our trusty Dell desktops has finished. They are all in good working order and come complete with 21" monitor, DVD writer, keyboard and mouse (80 GB hard disk, 2 GB RAM). To install a larger hard drive or more RAM is very easy and quick with these models.

You can install Windows or use the supplied Ubuntu operating system, which includes all the software you might need.

They are really great machines- quick, reliable, economical. Price: \$ 220

Please pay in the office and see Joachim for the computer. Be quick, we only have 6 for sale.

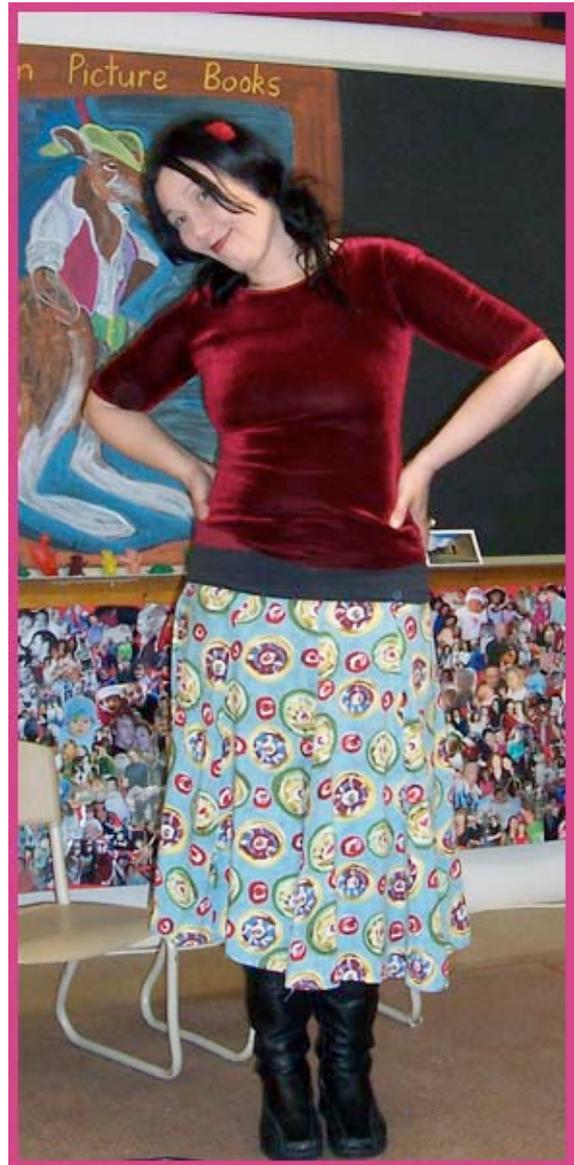
Joachim

SCIENCE NEWS

I took my Physics students to Sydney University School of Physics on Friday 20th for a very big day out at HSC Kickstart Physics

This program provided hands-on practical experiences with equipment not available in schools, that illustrate topics within the HSC course. The students gained powerful insights into concepts like superconductivity and magnetic levitation, the photoelectric effect, induction motors, and many more. They were worn out but smiling by the end of a successful excursion! (Steve)

Year 8 and 10 visited the Powerhouse Museum as part of Science week. We had a great day, attending lectures on lie detection and astronomy, not to mention the great exhibits in the museum, itself. (Joachim)



TROPICAL AMANDA

REMINDER

PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILDREN'S CLOTHING
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CONNECTIONS: Community activities and links.

New Asthma Website for Teachers and Parents

Asthma Foundation NSW has a range of resources and information services available to help people with asthma and their carers better understand and manage their asthma to minimise symptoms and avoid unnecessary asthma attacks so that people with asthma can lead full and productive lives. These resources include a new and improved website. Visit www.asthmafoundation.org.au to find out how you can support the 1 in 9 children with asthma in your school

Care Flight Fundraiser

I have created a team for the Sydney Bridge to Opera house Fun Run 18th Sep 10 and if you would like to join

I have created the team called **Team V**. The login details are as follows (case sensitive):

Team Member is Mick Voysey

http://au.eventdirector.net/_Public/_Reg/regTeams.aspx

Team Name: **Team V**

Member Password: **voysey**

Just open the link and click on search for a team. Type in 'Team V' and click on the green tick to the right of the team name.

Once you're in enter the password 'voysey' and follow the registration details.

I'm aiming to raise money for CareFlight*, a cause that is close to my heart and I would welcome any contribution, great or small, that you could make! **Please visit my Fundraising Page:** http://www.gofundraise.com.au/Michael_Voysey All donations to this site are electronically wired to CareFlight* and an automatic receipt is emailed to you immediately. Help me make a difference by making a small donation - Every little helps to

reach my target of \$470.00. Thank you for your support! Michael Voysey

BEGINNERS YOGA COURSE

Tuesday evenings 7 – 8pm for 8 weeks

Starts Tues 7th September

Dianne Currie 47571004

Katoomba District Little Athletics Centre is holding Registration Days

Saturday 28th August from 12 – 4pm

Saturday 4th Sept from 10am - 2pm

Saturday 11th Sept from 12 – 4pm

at Pitt Park Canteen

Tiny Tots to 17yrs and Seniors

Online registrations available at www.laansw.com.au with credit card

Cash or Cheque ONLY - **NO** EFTPOS or CREDIT CARDS

Proof of age is required for new registrations

**Season begins Saturday 2nd October 8:45am
at Pitt Park Athletics Field**

Contact Julie 4757 3806 or Cincelia 4782 7353 for further details

HAZELBROOK ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

7.00PM - 9.00PM

HAZELBROOK BOWLING CLUB

Come and join us to hear about some of the exciting things happening in Hazelbrook or to discuss anything that you are concerned about in our neighbourhood.

MICK BARRETT

MID MOUNTAINS NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

will tell us about the programs and services at this centre - computer courses, financial support, visitor services etc

EUGENE STOCKTON

local anthropologist and historian will guide us through the history, and talk about the geology of this important landmark which is now quite visible after recent road works.

SPIRAL

'Soul on Fire'

September 11th ~ 7pm

Katoomba Masonic Hall,

Station St.

\$10/\$5 donation

spiralmountain.wordpress.co

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auspiced by one in five

creative arts association ~

project of the springwood

neighbourhood centre co-

operative ltd

Blue Mountains Trek For Timor 2010

September 18th 2010

Raising funds for East Timor

Take the challenge of a lifetime

A trek of 13km or 45km in teams of 4-6 with each trekker raising a minimum of \$150 in sponsorship towards our projects in East Timor.

It may be a walk in the spectacular Blue Mountains National Park, but it's no walk in the park! Each section of the walk has steep descents or ascents, and our profile maps may make you gasp.

But you can experience the buzz of a great achievement while raising vital funds for impoverished communities in East Timor.

For more information see our website:

www.trekfortimorbm.org.au



Jointly organised by:

Blue Mountains East
Timor Sisters and

Blue Mountains
Friendship Group

Auspiced by Mountains
Community Research
Network Inc, PO Box
152, Lawson 2783