FROM THE PRINCIPAL

During the holidays, we regrettfully farewelled our front office manager Tarun Garcha, who has taken leave to be with his family. We wish him well in his new temporary position as finance officer at Coober Pedy Area School. This has meant a reshuffle of current front office and ICT staff and I thank all staff who have increased in time and taken on new roles. We welcome to the school Kathy Bell who will project manage the establishment of an indigenous garden made possible from a generous bequeath. Her enthusiasm and knowledge will be a valuable asset to our school. Congratulations to Sheree Brown who has won the permanent position of Community Library Assistant and will continue to promote our library services within the community. Also congratulations to Kylie Daniel who has a permanent part time contract in our canteen and is working full time while Louise Madex is on long service leave.

Over the past three weeks I have met individually with Year 12 students to ensure they are on track with their work commitments and to note any worries they may have. At the moment they are busy completing their outcomes for the Research Project and most are feeling confident and very positive about their learning. They are all into the full swing of Year 12 and most are considering future career pathways. Research has indicated our graduating class will have many changes in their careers over their lifetime, so while they see this as a major decision, it is our task to show them that nothing is set in stone and they need to concentrate on maximising their outcomes rather than becoming distracted.

The Year 3, 5, 7, and 9 students completed NAPLAN tests last week in literacy and numeracy. While some students were nervous they had all prepared well for the test and did their personal best throughout the three days of testing. It is important to recognise that these tests are simply a snapshot of student learning.

The senior boys competed in the SASSA knock out football competition during the week and narrowly missed out on advancing to the next round. Thank you to all parents and staff for supporting a student initiated activity.

Our Year 6/7 students head to Adelaide on camp early Sunday morning as staff did not want the students to miss any valuable learning experiences because of the school closure day on Friday May 27. They have a busy and exciting program ahead.

The school closure day next Friday is to allow teachers from across the Limestone Coast to attend a STEM summit (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). I have included an article in the newsletter that explains this day and the research that underpins it and how it fits into the work of our SECAV partnership. This day will also support one of the focus areas of our Site Improvement Plan to build and continuously improve teacher pedagogy to develop powerful learners. As educators we strive to continuously update our own learning and to act as role models for our students. As educators we need to build a “Growth Mind Set” and extend ourselves as learners and seek new challenges.

Best Wishes,
Lucretia Tocaciu
As part of the Year 8 HASS Curriculum in Geography, students have looked at internal migration within countries and migration between different countries. Migration often happens as a result of individuals wanting to improve their lives, but is nevertheless a difficult and sometimes dangerous process. For a practical activity, the Year 8 classes were divided in half: the rich city people, or “haves”, and the poor country people, or “have nots”. The “haves” received a large plate of food (resources) to eat, while the “have nots” received nothing and had to complete a series of obstacles to reach the area with the “haves”.

“I learnt that the poor were doing it a lot tougher than the rich and we should appreciate the life we have now. I was a poor person and it was a lot tougher than what the rich were doing.”

Luke Pedlar

“The food tasted good and it helped me realise about poverty. It helped me realise that poverty takes a toll on people in poor countries.”

Kane Daniel

“The city people got all the good food, while the country people got the leftovers. The activity was to teach us that, in third world countries, rich city people often get everything.”

Hagan Wright

“The poverty activity was unfair, but that is what some people deal with. The activity taught us a lesson so we understand about poverty and migration.”

Shelby Haggett

“The activity was a very interesting way of learning. I learnt how city people have access to advanced facilities, whereas poor country people do not.”

Vijay Legoe
YEAR 7
*Cereals and Grains*
We have looked at how they are made and what are the different types. Students designed a muffin recipe with a partner based around what they have learnt.

YEAR 8
*Fabulous Fried Rice*
With a partner, students had to design a new original recipe for Fried Rice and ensure the meal was healthy by choosing foods from the green and orange/yellow groups. We have been looking at different food colouring groups and why they are grouped that way. Students brainstormed ideas, designed a recipe, produced the product and evaluated.

YEAR 9
*Multicultural Focus*
Students have investigated a different country each week. We have looked at:
- Australian Cuisine
- Thai Cuisine
- American / Canadian Cuisine
- Indigenous Cuisine
- Vietnamese Cuisine

We also cooked something based around each culture/country. Students then researched their own country and look at how it has influenced Australian cuisine. They produced a product from the country and evaluated their decisions.

YEAR 10
*Seasonal Produce*
Students have researched the different types of seasonal produce available within the Limestone Coast region. They then researched a seasonal produce and cooked with the produce to produce an entrée, main meal or dessert item.

YEAR 11/12’s Food and Hospitality
Year 12s
We researched the Regional Foods available in the Limestone Coast, then cooked with the produce available. We investigated Food Safety and the importance of personal hygiene.

Year 11s
We researched Lacover Foods (means within 50 km of your local area) and indigenous foods.

YEAR 11/12’s Child Studies
Year 12’s
We cooked a healthy meal for a family of four. We created a children’s book

Year 11’s
We made a gift for a baby – sewing items (beanies / hats / blankets)

**GYM FUN**

Late last term and early this term students in Reception to year 3 have participated in the school gym fun program. They have had to incorporate elements of effort, space, time, objects and people in performing simple movement sequences.

We have seen students comparing different types of movements and identifying which ones are easier and harder and why this might be the case.

Students have been performing movements under, over, through and between objects, people and equipment. They have demonstrated how they can balance on different parts of the body and make different shapes.
Our year 10 students participate in a subject called PLP – Personal Learning Plan and this subject is conducted over one year for 2 lessons on Friday afternoons.

PLP is about each year 10 student, their subject choices and decisions about their future career pathways. It can be seen as the beginning of their journey and the many paths they can take. PLP helps students take control of their career path, approach it with an open mind and focus on what they want for themselves.

The major themes of the subject are: getting to know themselves and their capabilities, setting goals, exploring the world of work, work experience and planning future study and career pathways.

The focus for all year 10 students now is to find work placement for the work experience camp. Some students have elected to not go on camp and have found work placements locally.

Work experience camp dates are Sunday 26th June to Friday 1st July. Full details for this camp will be sent home early in June. We strongly encourage parents and guardians to participate in helping their students with work experience placements and finding a placement which has relevance to the student’s future career plans.

In summary, PLP aims to broaden a student’s outlook, develop an understanding of their present skills, to develop these capabilities and give them access to both resources and information for their future outside of school.

**YEAR 10 PLP - ‘IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!!’**

Revisions have been made to the previously available Australian Curriculum to make the curriculum easier to manage, particularly for R-7 schools, to simplify the curriculum’s presentation and to strengthen the focus on literacy.

To achieve this:

The presence of phonics and phonemic awareness in the Australian Curriculum: English has been increased. Sound and letter knowledge has been strengthened and renamed phonics and word knowledge, comprising three threads: phonological and phonemic awareness, alphabet and phonic knowledge, and spelling.

Did you know?

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LETTER NAME AND A LETTER SOUND. Letter sounds assist students to decode words. Teachers call this letter-sound correspondence. LETTER SOUNDS ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN LITERACY EDUCATION.

Many students know letter names which they have learned through television programmes, songs and games. However, knowledge of letter names can interfere with successful decoding. For example, the learner looks at a word and thinks of the names of the letters instead of the sounds.

Parents can assist at home with letter sound correspondence for homework using alphabet letters that have been taught in class.

SOUND HUNTING- a simple game for home.

Parents say a letter sound, e.g. mmmmmm (the sound for the alphabet letter named m.)

The learner
- listens to the sound
- selects the correct letter
- from a group of letter cards,
- from an alphabet board, or
- from a keyboard, magazine, library book, ipad, mobile phone.

Our school has a site literacy agreement. It assists teachers to focus on literacy in all subjects and to develop a high standard of literacy skills across all curriculum areas. We have common expectations which are listed below.

**KINGSTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

**SITE LITERACY AGREEMENT**

**ACROSS THE SCHOOL WE WILL:**

- Have high literacy expectations for all students.
- Explicitly teach literacy skills.
- Be enthusiastic and passionate about teaching literacy in all subjects.
- Make literacy connections in every lesson.
- Use data sets to monitor student progress in literacy.
- Connect text genre, writing genre, vocabulary and grammar relevant to curriculum areas.
- Display literacy rich classroom environments.
- Programme for literacy using contemporary research and pedagogy.
- Differentiate literacy activities for students within classes according to their literacy needs.
- Strategically intervene to focus resources on students not achieving agreed benchmarks.
- Monitor and review student literacy data to achieve literacy improvement.
- Publish, promote and celebrate literacy achievement in all curriculum areas.
- Build the capacity of parents to support their child’s literacy improvement.
What is STEM?

STEM Education is a term used to refer collectively to the teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Why is STEM important?

STEM touches every aspect of our lives, from our smartphones to the technologies that enable us to explore the world around us and outer space. In the future it is predicted that there will be a high demand for STEM related jobs, such as ICT professionals and engineers. We know that not every student will become a scientist or mathematician, and that is the way it ought to be, but we do want them to be aware of the role that STEM plays in their everyday lives and how important it is that their STEM knowledge continues to grow. By cultivating an interest amongst students in these areas it is hoped that they will gain a greater understanding of these subjects, show improved engagement and be more likely to continue studying STEM areas as they get older.

STEM subjects are well placed to teach skills that are relevant to an ‘information-rich’ society such as problem solving and creative thinking. Building STEM capacity in our students aligns with our current strategies to support children to develop a growth mindset and become powerful learners. Fostering these areas will help them develop the confidence and curiosity to:

- Actively participate in their learning
- Make decisions based on sound evidence
- Skillfully solve problems and deal proactively with new situations
- Communicate effectively in a variety of forms
- Collaborate with others.
- Believe that they are capable of learning and achieving with effort.

Regional STEM Training and Development Day, Friday May 27th.

This day will provide teachers the opportunity to listen to guest speakers and participate in STEM related workshops to build their capacity and awareness to teach these areas in the curriculum. Local community events have also been organised for the weekend of May 28th and 29th, with families having the opportunity to attend various free events at the Mt Gambier Library and Main Corner Complex (Saturday) and the Railway Lands (Sunday).

SASSA KNOCKOUT FOOTBALL

On Tuesday the 17th of May a group of 20 boys travelled to Hatherleigh Football club to take part in this year’s knockout football competition. It has been a number of years since Kingston participated in knockout sports and the return was led by the SRC so they must be applauded for that.

In our first game we took on Grant High School and the boys came out ready to play. We opened up an early lead and were never really threatened, ending up winning by 52 points. This left us to face the winner of the other game which was Millicent High School. Once again the boys showed great attitude and effort to hold a slender lead at half time. Millicent responded in the second half and unfortunately was able to run over the top of us and win by a small margin of 5 points, meaning we did not advance to the next round.

Whilst disappointed with the result in the final, the boys were happy with how the day panned out and excited for more opportunities like this in the future. All the boys should be very proud of how they played on the day and the way in which they represented Kingston Community School.

PE Faculty
On Tuesday April 12th we departed Kingston Community School and headed towards Adelaide for the annual South Australian Secondary Schools Sport Association (SASSSA) competition at Santos Stadium.

We arrived into Adelaide around 6.30pm and the students enjoyed some time at Latitude Adventure Centre where they bounced around and went indoor rock climbing amongst other activities, before making our way to our accommodation at Urrbrae Agricultural High School. We were very privileged to stay in such an ideal location and set of facilities at Urrbrae and we thank the high school for their hospitality and kindness. A couple of stories were told before we went to sleep for the night.

We arrived at Santos Stadium early to familiarise ourselves with the world class facilities. The students were in for a big day at such a large stadium. The competitors who did attend were placed with the added pressure of filling events for those who chose not to attend which left some very sore and tired bodies at the end of the day. It was a great chance for students to test themselves against some very high quality schools and athletes.

Everyone performed to their absolute best on the day and we are extremely proud of the standard of competition our students are competing at. There were many personal bests broken and first, second and third placings achieved. Hagan Wright was able to re break his own 400m record from Sports Day.

After presentations, we began the lengthy journey home, stopping at Murray Bridge to have some food after such a big day. There were many sleepy students when we returned back to Kingston. Congratulations to all who were involved, you represented Kingston Community School extremely well and we are very proud of the efforts you gave.

RESULTS: B GRADE DIVISION 2
GIRLS: 9th place
BOYS: 6th place
OVERALL: 7th place

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YEAR 8 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAMP

The start of term 2 saw the year 8 students of Kingston Community School head off to Nora Yo Long near Rendelsham for 3 days and two nights to enjoying the great outdoors, the high ropes, abseiling and cooking for themselves.

Students were challenged by instructors and Blue Light police officer Des to get out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves to try something new. The group also took part in team and partner challenges back on the ground, building clear communication skills and the courage to push themselves and encourage those around them to reach higher.

Des from the Blue Light police organization was very pleased with the groups’ efforts and level of growth throughout the three days. He has offered to come and work with the students again later in the term which will be a great follow up to an already amazing experience.
WE WANT TO SAY A BIG “THANKYOU” TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

Our school is privileged to have a wide section of the community involved in volunteering at the school. The range of activities volunteers contribute to includes:

- Governing Council, school committees, canteen work, classroom support, sports coaching, transport, camps, excursions, Breakfast Club, working bees, sports day, swimming lessons, listening to reading, animal health, Pedal Prix - and the list goes on.

Our site defines volunteering as any activity that involves spending unpaid time doing something that benefits students (individuals or groups) other than, or in addition to their own children. Volunteering is a choice freely made by each individual and we want to acknowledge the very special work you do at our school in your own free time.

Site volunteer coordinators, Jeanette Emery and Sam Murdock said “We should all feel very proud that we live in a community where large numbers of people care about the school and its programmes and enjoy providing assistance in many areas”.

Senior volunteers have vast experiences with life, maturity and wisdom, whilst younger volunteers offer a wide range of skills, enthusiasm and variety in classrooms. Every single volunteer that provides support in the classroom gives us two more hands to assist students in many different ways.

THANKYOU again for the valuable contributions you make to our school throughout the year, it is very much appreciated.

Jeanette Emery and Sam Murdock

IMPORTANT

VOLUNTEER TRAINING
(including renewing certificates)

LIBRARY CLASSROOM

THURSDAY 2/6/2016

AGENDA:

7.00-7.30pm
RESPONDING TO ABUSE AND NEGLECT CERTIFICATE COURSE
You are required to attend this course if you are a new volunteer or your certificate is more than three years old.

7.30-8.00pm
WORKING WITH STUDENTS
VOLUNTEERS INDUCTION
HOW TO APPLY FOR A DCSI SCREENING CHECK.
Please note if you are working in your child’s classroom you are no longer required to have a screening check.

All forms can be completed after attending this meeting.

BOOKINGS REQUIRED FOR EACH SESSION
RSVP 87 672677 to reserve a place.

We value parents assisting in classes

Needed in the library for our lunchtime program

- Any old tools including screwdrivers, hammers and spanners.
- Dress up clothes for children.

Please drop into the library.

ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP NEWS

Kingston Community School recently welcomed on board SSO Kathy Bell from the local area. Kathy will be working within the school on Mondays alongside staff and the 15 strong aboriginal students and their peers to develop an aboriginal garden in the front area of the school. The garden has been designed by students who drew on inspiration from the local history of aboriginal people to this area. On completion the garden will be used by both students and community to learn more about aboriginal culture and gain further appreciation for the land. Stay watching for further progress and an opening date for the garden area.

Students Aaron, Kailen and Aza with Peter Clark and Kathy Bell
Friday 19th August 2016
9am – 2.30pm
TAFESA Mount Gambier

The Rotary groups of Mount Gambier have been providing the Limestone Coast with the opportunity to discover career options for 50 years! Don’t miss out on your chance to see what is on offer this year.

- Visit our website to view the list of 60+ exhibitors and timetable of events.
- Join in on a workshop
- Listen to a speaker talk about their chosen profession
- Walk through the trade section and view the Worldsskills competitions taking place on the day.
- Take part in the Career Trail for your chance to win a prize.
- Interested in volunteering? Visit the Volunteers room and find an organisation that suits you.

www.lcrotarycareerexpo.com.au

FOOTBALL: the fun game for all!
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4-9

Club: TATIARA SOCCER ASSOCCIATION
Venue: GALL PARK OVAL, KINGSTON
Start date: 22/05/16
Contact: KRYSAL 0411708648

Register at miniroos.com.au

KAS REUNION 11, 12, 13th JUNE

On Sunday 12th June a host of Kingston Area School reunion visitors will be descending on the school as part of their reunion weekend.

The library will be creating a display of memorabilia to allow them to take a trip down memory lane. If you attended Kingston Area School (up to 1985) and have any old photographs, uniforms or other artefacts that you would be willing to loan to the library, could you please telephone Jane Dicker on 87673003.
Crossing Roster Term 2

Please be at the Front Office by 8.20am. Finish time at the end of the day is approximately 3.30pm.

TERM TWO
New teams take over on Tuesday morning each week, including new terms.

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<th>WEEK</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>24/5/16</td>
<td>I Drabsch  C Harding  Z Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>31/5/16</td>
<td>T Smith-Rogers Z Emms  C Hamilton Smith</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>7/6/16</td>
<td>I Drabsch  C Harding  Z Lewis</td>
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Canteen Volunteer Roster
Starting time 10:15am
Thank you for your support in the canteen. All volunteers are supplied with lunch as a thank you. Starting time is 10.15am. If you are unable to work on your rostered day please try to arrange a swap. In case of an emergency or to fill a volunteer needed vacancy please contact Louise or Kylie at the canteen on 87672171 or Louise AH on 87672610. Tuesday Treats will also be available of Fridays.

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nicole Tomlinson</td>
<td>Tanya Watts</td>
<td>Courtney Clark</td>
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<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<td>23 – 27 May</td>
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<td>Kylie Wood</td>
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<td>Bara Agustsson</td>
<td>Trudy Pilmore</td>
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<td>Jodie Gluyas</td>
<td>Renae Bawden</td>
<td>Suzanne Drabsch</td>
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<td>6 – 10 June</td>
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Kingston Community School
Chaplaincy Support Group
Fundraiser
Tickets—$12 each are available at
the Library or from Bliss

Venue—Kingston New Life Centre

May 21st 2016 @ 7:30
Doors open at 7pm

Don’t forget to like our FACEBOOK page to stay connected and to receive regular updates and reminders of school events and activities.
You can find our page at www.facebook.com/kingstoncommunityschool/.
Dear volunteers,

You are usually busy putting other people’s needs first, but this week it’s your turn. Today marks the start of National Volunteer Week when we recognise and celebrate your contribution to our community - especially to South Australian kids.

South Australians can be proud of our record of volunteering. Despite our busy lives, almost 37 per cent of us still find the time to volunteer in our communities - the second highest rate across the country.

This figure includes thousands of parents, grandparents and others who give their time in our children’s centres, preschools, schools and care and protection services. Thank you for all the roles you take on, including coaching kids’ sport, serving on governing councils, listening to reading, helping out in tuck shops or on excursions, teaching languages in our ethnic schools and helping kids in care with their homework, providing transport so they can visit family members or supporting older kids to learn vital life skills.

You make kids’ lives better in so many ways. You support them to develop a love of reading and to know their heritage and culture, you introduce them to the fun of sports and the value of teamwork and you help to establish safe and settled environments for kids in care. And just by being there and sharing your valuable time with kids, you show them they - and their future - are important.

To all of you, I want to say thank you for giving so much to our communities. This week, the spotlight is on you - enjoy your well-deserved celebration.

Susan Close
Minister for Education and Child Development