

From the Principal

Welcome to week 7,

Last week our school celebrated NAIDOC week and what a WOW week it was! All students and staff engaged in cultural activities that promoted awareness, understanding and a deeper connection with our First Nations Peoples. The theme 'Always was, Always will be' provided the central purpose to our learning. A huge congratulations to our Aboriginal Education Committee (AEC) students who coordinated the week alongside Miss Meek, Miss O'Reilly and Miss Squire. Please see the gallery of photos further on in the newsletter. I'm sure you'll agree with me that the smiles say it all.



Week 7 signifies the start of all the end of year activities. This is a fun time of year but things move very quickly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who have responded so quickly to notes, permissions, money payments and all the other items where we have needed a quick turnaround. We now have a complete electronic note system for information, permissions and the collation of large amounts of data such as medical items. Thank you to all parents for being so diligent with the quick return.

A reminder that notifications are sent out on Skoolbag, often directing you to the Parent Portal to give permissions, pay money etc. The Parent Portal on our KSPS website and has a unique log in for each parent for each child. Even if your child is not attending an excursion, you need to log in to the Parent Portal and decline the offer. On occasion, we will need collate data for each child (like medical or permissions for other items) and this is done on a google form. The link is provided within the Skoolbag notification. I know it sounds tricky, but the more we use this cyber safe system, the easier it will become. Notes, payment and the history of all of this is all kept within the one place. No cash needed, no lost notes, no forgotten signature.

Our KSPS Presentation Day is fast approaching on Monday 7 December. As we will have no parents on site we are able to hold a full K-6 assembly and complete the presentations in one go. At this moment in time, we are exploring whether we have the bandwidth to support a livestream for the full course of the Assembly. In any case, we will have some type of online presence sharing the accolades of the Presentation Day Assembly. More information is to come and thank you for your patience.

Last Thursday, six year 5 girls and six year 5 boys delivered their Leadership speeches to the students and staff of KSPS. From this point the entire school (students and staff) had 1 vote for their preference of school leaders in 2021. We are very pleased to announce our shortlisted students in this newsletter. See Ms Payne's article further on in this Newsletter edition. Thank you Ms Payne and the stage 3 teachers for your support and encouragement of the leadership program at KSPS.

The year 6 Farewell is Thursday 10 December. Information has been sent home to stage 3 parents about this event. Due to COVID restrictions we will be hosting this event at school so that students may enjoy the full compliment of activities as they have in previous years. Stage 3 parents, please be sure to read the information sent through Skoolbag carefully. Please see Mrs Ward's section for stage 3 specific items.

The Stage 1 Excursion to Hunter Valley Zoo is scheduled for this Thursday. I know the stage 1 students are very excited to be getting out and about on this fun day. These opportunities form life-time memories with students and engage them in our local area. I'm certainly looking forward to the stories and smiles upon their return.

Stage 2 travel to Toukley on Monday for their 3 day camp. This 'sport and rec' style camp is a good introduction to the camping experience for our stage 2 students and focussing on independence, team building and having fun experiences with friends outside the school environment. The stage 2 teachers are very prepared for the camp and can't wait to get going. Remember stage 2 need to be at school between 8- 8:30am, leave their big suitcases at the front fence for loading under the buses. Day backpacks and pillows with them up to the hall.

The Kindergarten students get their opportunity for a day excursion next week to Oakvale Farm Thursday 3rd December. So much activity this term for all our KSPS students !

Thank you to all the staff who have ensured that each and every one of our students have had the opportunity to engage with these excursions. There has been a massive load of organisation behind the scenes in a very short time. Along with the day to day teaching and all the rest of the requirements of school, it has been a hectic time. Thank you to the teachers who also go away to camp and stay for multiple nights away from their own families. There is no extra pay for them, it is simply so the children can have this time together, learn and grow. All at the time of writing end of year reports. Our KSPS teachers are awesome! Thank you, teachers.

From the Principal continued

Student Reports will be available for parents to read via the Parent Portal. Please remember that if your child is in year 6 or leaving us at KSPS, you need to download and save all their Reports as once they leave the school we do not retain their information. The Parent Portal is the web-based platform that can be accessed through our KSPS website. Please call the front office on 49575319 if you need help with accessing the Parent Portal.

I am currently in the process of employing a new permanent staff member for KSPS. As Mr Englefield has recently become a Principal this leaves a permanent position at our school available. This has gone to advertisement across NSW and a panel will shortlist and interview suitable applicants. It is hoped this process will be complete and I will be able to announce the new AP before the end of the year, Mrs Ward will be the AP on early stage 1 and stage 1 and Mrs Cox stage 2. The newly appointed AP will be on stage 3.

As the year is drawing to a close, words can not describe the gratitude and thanks I have for the patience, purpose and kindness our KSPS community have shown one another in this most remarkable of times. As COVID restrictions slowly ease across the Department of Education and state, I know that with calmness and common sense the health and wellbeing of all people in our wonderful little community will be the ultimate winner.

Thanks for making #KSPSagreatplacetobe

Susan Maxworthy | **PRINCIPAL**



NAIDOC 2020



NAIDOC 2020





YEAR 5 LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our shortlisted nominees for the 2021 KSPS leadership team for 2021

Pictured left to right below- Milliana Bourke, Rose King, Sophie Oliver, Xavier Cowie, Mitchell Jago and Oliver Playdon (in no particular order)

Congratulations to the students selected for Leadership 2021. The positions for leadership 2021 will be announced on Presentation Day.

To all the students who gave their speeches we congratulate you on your courage and conviction. You all are worthy leaders at our school and you all worked extremely hard in our leadership program.

Well done leaders. You all make KSPS a great place to be.

Ms Payne – **STAGE 3 TEACHER LEADERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR**



YEAR 6 INTO 7 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - CHANGES

Due to DoE COVID restrictions, Kotara High School have rescheduled their Parent Information Evening. They will now be holding sessions for each Primary School at different times. The session for our Kotara South Public School parents is Thursday 26th November at 6pm. This will be held in the school MPC. Please note that parents from Adamstown Public School will attend this session too.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL

Our Year 6 Farewell is being held on Thursday 10th December. Due to COVID restrictions, we are holding the event at school. This way we can hold a great event complete with decorations, full catering, a disco and most importantly – a graduation presentation for our Year 6 students and their parents. All stage 3 students will receive their invitations to this event today at school.

In order for this event to run smoothly and in accordance with COVID restrictions, there will be set arrival times for Year 6 and Year 5 students so that we can limit the number of parents/adults on site. Please read the following information carefully.

Year 6 Students

Year 6 students and their parents are asked to arrive at school by 5.30pm through Gate 2. Our school graduation banner and balloon display will be placed on the wall in the grassed area just inside the gate, providing a large open space to accommodate both students and parents. At 5.45pm we will hold a graduation ceremony where each child will be called up to receive their Year 6 Graduation Certificates in front of the parents. There will be opportunities to take photos before and after the ceremony. At 6.15pm students will proceed to the senior COLA area for dinner followed by a disco in the hall. At 8.30pm, Year 6 students will be walked to Gate 2 where they will be collected by their parents.

Year 5 Students

Year 5 students are asked to arrive at school no earlier than 6.15pm through Gate 3. A teacher will meet them at the gate and take them to the Senior COLA area for dinner followed by a disco in the hall. We ask that parents drop their child at school and then leave as soon as possible so that we can minimise the number of adults on school grounds and out the front of the school. At 8.30pm, Year 5 students will be walked to Gate 3 where they will be collected by their parents.

We are looking forward to hosting a wonderful event for our Year 6 students. Please contact Mrs Ward or your child's teacher if you have any questions about this event.

YEAR 6 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The Year 6 Public Speaking Competition was held last week. Year 6 students were asked to prepare a 3 minute speech on the topic '*Thanks for the adventure.*' Congratulations to our 6 finalists Cooper H, Alex, Toby, Jeremiah, Nate and Ben who presented their speeches at the final last Friday. The speeches were very well presented by all the students. Well done to Nate Ward, who was announced the overall winner of the competition and to Alex Watson who was awarded a Highly Commended. Nate will have his name engraved on a perpetual trophy and present his speech at our school Presentation Day.



INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER NEWS

This term I have been working with Stage 1 teachers and their classes. We have studied the quality text 'Big Rain Coming' - closely analysing the text structure and features, the vocabulary used to describe events, the visual images and personification techniques as well as the grammatical features used throughout the text. Using the structure and time connectives of the book, Stage 1 students have created their own text called 'Big Holiday Coming'. Here are some photos of students in 1/2E and 1/2MC creating their own texts. I am very proud of their finished products – Have a read of some of them in the paragraph below.



Big Holiday Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at the calendar and said to my mum and dad 'big holidays are coming'. On Monday I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge preparing our class Christmas Tree. That night my school had a Christmas disco in the hall. After that I wrapped my wrapping paper for my Secret Santa person. On Tuesday my Secret Santa person unwrapped their present and I unwrapped mine. That afternoon, I helped my mum make reindeer food. Wednesday came and I couldn't wait until the last day of school. By Thursday night I felt like a plane finally coming in to land after a long journey. Finally, after the exhausting year it was the very last day of school. It was so FUN! We had a last day fun day, out of uniform day and we sadly said goodbye to Year 6. At last, it was Saturday, the very first day of the holidays! I was so happy because it was nearly Christmas. **By Finn**

Big Holiday Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at the calendar and I said to my Mum and dad 'big holidays coming'. On Monday, I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge preparing our class Christmas tree. That night Mum gave me the wrapping and sticky tape to wrap my Secret Santa present. On Tuesday our class went to the hall to listen the Christmas carols. That afternoon I made some Christmas decorations for our tree. Wednesday came and there was two more days until the holidays. Today, we had a class party and everyone gave their Secret Santa present. By Thursday night, I was thinking about what to wear for out of uniform. Finally, on Friday it was the last day of school and out of uniform day. We also said goodbye to year six. On Saturday I wake up to happy days of Mr Eldridge. **By Christian**

Big Holiday Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at my calendar and said to myself 'big holidays are coming'. On Monday I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge setting up the class Christmas tree. That night I looked up how to make Reindeer food. Reindeer food contains: oats and glitter. On Tuesday I gave Mr Eldridge the recipe on how to make Reindeer food. That afternoon I bought my Secret Santa their gift. On Wednesday we did Christmas craft. We made Reindeer food! Later that day K-2 had a dance off! (year 2 boys won). On Thursday we opened our Secret Santa gifts. I was so excited for the holidays, it was also out of uniform day. Later that day we had a disco!!!! Finally, it was the holidays (yay) I'm going to miss Mrs Foot. **By Maverick**

Big Holidays Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at the calendar and said to my Mum and Dad, 'big holidays are coming!'. On Monday, I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge preparing our class Christmas tree. That night I picked out my clothes to wear to the disco. On Tuesday our class decorated the classroom with baubles and a Christmas tree. That afternoon I went to the shop to get a new dress for the disco. Wednesday came, I was excited for the disco tonight. Today I gave my present for Secret Santa to put under the tree. By Thursday night, I was feeling tired. Finally, on Friday it was the clap out for year six. It was out of uniform day. On Saturday I was excited for Christmas I was very, very happy I was asking my mum and dad to open my sisters and my presents so it was amazing. Yay! **By Natalia**

Big Holidays Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at the calendar and I said to my mum and dad, "big holidays are coming!". On Monday, I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge preparing our class Christmas tree. That night, Mum gave me the sticky tape and wrapping paper for my Secret Santa and then I went to get my clothes ready for tomorrow. On Tuesday our class unwrapped our Secret Santa presents. That afternoon I looked up how to make Christmas food. Wednesday came, and still haven't had the disc, it feels like ages. I can't wait for the Christmas art. By Thursday night, I was on the lounge watching TV slowly falling asleep and just one more day to go, I couldn't wait. Then on Friday we said good bye to Year Six and had a last day fun day I brought food for the class party too. And in the hall, we had a dance off. On Saturday I was so excited for Christmas and my birthday. **By Isabella**

Big Holidays Coming

On Sunday afternoon I looked at the calendar and said "big holidays are coming"! On Monday I arrived at school to see Mr Eldridge preparing our class Christmas tree. That afternoon I went shopping for a Christmas decoration for the class Christmas tree. Wednesday came and still two days to go! By Thursday night, I felt like a car with no petrol. Only one day to go! At last it was Friday, it was time to play a Kick It game it was Year 6 Vs the teachers! On Saturday I woke from a much deserved sleep in. It was the holidays at last! I don't get to see a cranky teacher for 6 weeks! **By Coby**

Catherine Ward – INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER/STAGE 3 PRINCIPAL

KSPS GIVING TREE

2020 has been a tough year for all of us, so we are putting together the Giving Tree for those who are going without this year. The tree is going to be located in the front office for people to put non-perishable things such as canned and packaged food, new toys, new Christmas decoration etc. We are starting today 25th November and running through till Friday 11th December. Items will be given to a local charity in the last week of school

Year 6 Ministers



Assembly Awards

WEEK 5&6

<p>K'OR</p> <p>Layne Alexander Sarah Andresen Silas Dorman Makai Green Cruz Johnston India Luppi</p>	<p>1/2A</p> <p>Annabelle Lemon Joshua Pinchen Keira Wallace Jackson Horscroft-Smith Blake Mitchison Gemma Green</p>	<p>3/4G</p> <p>Eleanor West-Sooby Zander Peters Hannah Simpson Sophie Willis Flynn Ward Haylee Kokkin</p>	<p>5/6J</p> <p>Nate Ward Adam Cowie Linnea Zentner Stela Vyslysel Cooper Sturgeon Oliver Ellis</p>
<p>KG</p> <p>Ruth O'Keefe Abby Kearns Amber Tynan Flynn McDermott Levi Rigby Harry Ferris</p>	<p>1/2C</p> <p>Madeleine Smith Steffen Herkentrup-Albi Lexi Sullivan Rio Cristaudo Pippa O'Brien Charlotte Burton</p>	<p>3/4M</p> <p>Eleanor West-Sooby Zander Peters Hannah Simpson Sophie Willis Flynn Ward Haylee Kokkin</p>	<p>5/6M</p> <p>Rose King Oliver Playdon Bella Turner Toby Beker Jeremiah Lonergan Lexie Morrison Clara Hodge</p>
<p>K1/P</p> <p>Aiden Bland Lilly O'Brien Marcus Lee Braden Clarke Scarlett Migus Ayda Solis</p>	<p>1/2E</p> <p>Willow Langi Edward King Christian Moyle Zumkar Thinley Pheobe Westacott Imogen Moran</p>	<p>3/4B</p> <p>Peter Jago Gabriel Rigby Zahli Hac Cienna Perry Nina Thomson Caleb Smith</p>	<p>5/6P</p> <p>Jack Thomas Zayleigh Taaffe Max Vincent Cooper Holmes Yulanda Thompson Charli Hodgson</p>
	<p>1/2MC</p> <p>Cameron Menzies Alexander Postol Xanthe Vickerman Hayley Jago William Maddern-Richard Josie Horvath</p>	<p>3/4W</p> <p>Cameron Belcher Noah Tam Yam Cooper Hill Holly Brock Juliette Creamer Max Hodgson</p>	<p>HSU</p> <p>Edie Kavanagh</p>

P&C Association

“BUY FROM THE BUSH” THIS CHRISTMAS

For a limited time, the P&C will be selling Christmas gifts via the Uniform Shop online store, in support of the "Buy From the Bush" initiative. We have artisan soaps from Wax&Lye in Clarendetown, lip balm keyring holders from Gone Camo in Singleton, resin earrings from Seroa Pretties in Calliope Qld, and goats milk lip balms from TheMilkMaid101 in Forest Reefs NSW.

These items were originally purchased for our (cancelled) Mother's Day stall, but we'd love to give you the opportunity to purchase a lovely Christmas gift for your friends or family at a low cost (\$3-\$5 each). The small profit made on each item will support the P&C's fundraising efforts.

We only have very limited stock (around 200 items in total), so please get in quick! If you miss out or would like to buy more, these businesses would love your additional support:

- Wax&Lye: <https://www.waxlye.com.au/> (use discount code JINGLE10, valid until Dec 11, 2020)
- Gone Camo: <https://gonecamo.com.au/>
- Seroa Pretties: <https://seraopretties.com.au/>

(TheMilkmaid101 goats milk lip balm website is offline for now).

To see and purchase these items, please visit our online store: <http://kotara-south-public-school-pc-association.square.site/>

Items will be sent home on via school classrooms, as per our usual uniform order deliveries. Please remember to write your child's name and class in the "Notes to Seller" during the checkout process, so we can send your purchase home with your child.

Thank you for supporting small businesses, Buy from the Bush, and KSPS P&C.

CANTEEN

The canteen will soon be wrapping up for the year, with the last opening day at the end of Week 9 (the second-last week of school) on Friday 11 December. In these last couple of weeks of operation, we still need your help if you have time to spare, particularly on Thursdays and Fridays (**we still need a helper for this Friday 27 November**). If you are available to help, please sign up on the online roster or call the school office to pass a message to Mrs Best. You can find the online roster here: [Online Canteen Roster](#).

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Did you know that the Entertainment Book is now Digital Only? This means that no matter when you purchase your membership, it is valid for 12 months from the date of purchase. Offers and vouchers are updated regularly via the Entertainment app on your phone. Thinking about the lead up to Christmas, you could purchase eGift cards for Woolworths (4% discount), Dan Murphy's (5% discount) or Big W (5% discount) – it all adds up! For every Entertainment Membership purchased, our school receives 20% of the purchase price. Please use this link to make your purchase while supporting KSPS, thank you! <https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/346s62>

UNIFORM SHOP

Our online store is at: <https://kotara-south-public-school-pc-association.square.site/>.

Orders are usually filled on Tuesday mornings – if you would like to receive your order that day, we need to receive it prior to 8.30am. **Please write your child's name and class in the “Notes to Seller”** during the checkout process so we can send your order home with your child. Thank you for supporting KSPS P&C!

We will be opening during the summer holidays (in the last two weeks of January) for people to pick up online orders, and for new kindy/new student parents to bring their children in to try on items if required. We will share opening dates and times as soon as they are locked in.

DECEMBER P&C MEETING/CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's P&C Christmas party (Wednesday 9 December 7pm) will be held in the school hall to give us plenty of room to spread out. If you're a P&C member and are interested in attending, please email the P&C ASAP, as numbers are limited due to restrictions. Thank you for your support!



Next Meeting: 9 December
7pm at KSPS

✉ kspspandc@gmail.com

Find us on 

[Kotara South Public School P&C](#)

Skoolbag 