Good afternoon parents and friends,

We have had lots of exciting activities here at Kenthurst. Our Movie Night held last Friday night was a huge success. Thank you to all the parents who assisted and to the P&C. What a wonderful welcome to KPS.

**Grandparents Day** is Thursday 28 March beginning with a classroom visit at 10.00am. A concert with all students participating will begin at 10.30am with dancing, verse speaking, choir and songs to entertain our much loved grandparents. The school band will be playing during morning tea where art work will be on display for *purchase* and a display of dioramas will be in the School Hall. Our famous Easter Egg baskets will be ready for the raffle too, so please put this date in your diaries.

The Student Representative Council met to discuss issues of concern. The main area tends to be the state of school toilets. All money raised at the Grandparents Day will be going towards upgrading our toilets. Already, the senior boys have brightly coloured doors painted and a new, hygienic urinal. All of the bathrooms now have fresheners to disinfect the air and all doors will be painted bright colours.

On Monday our school captains Jasmine and Oliver attended a Gifted and Talented Course at Galston High School. Called The Amazing Race, students from all of the Galston Community of Schools participated in a variety of activities around the school. It was a competition and challenged thinking processes, but our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Next Monday all of our Year 6 students will be attending *The Halogen Foundation Leadership* presentation at the Entertainment Centre in Sydney. Renowned speakers will inspire and encourage our leaders of tomorrow. Here at Kenthurst we strive to give all of our senior students leadership opportunities.
On Sunday 7\textsuperscript{th} April we will be having a **Working Bee** here at Kenthurst School. We need as many Dad’s as possible with equipment to spread mulch, plant and stack branches etc. Please keep this day free as we can achieve great things in a few hours. A detailed letter will be coming home next week.

Our students continue to thrive in their learning environment with outstanding teachers making the difference.

‘The School of Choice’

Yours, in quality education.

\textit{Caron Dodd}

Principal

### Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28\textsuperscript{th} March, Thursday</td>
<td>Grandparents Day – Program Below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29\textsuperscript{th} March, Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} April, Monday</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>4\textsuperscript{th} April, Thursday</td>
<td>K-2 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>8\textsuperscript{th} April, Monday</td>
<td>S23B &amp; S3N Persuasive Text VC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9\textsuperscript{th} April, Tuesday</td>
<td>Pancake Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10\textsuperscript{th} April, Wednesday</td>
<td>Walkathon</td>
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<tr>
<td>12\textsuperscript{th} April, Friday</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} May, Wednesday</td>
<td>Students return to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8\textsuperscript{th} May, Wednesday</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Breakfast &amp; Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14\textsuperscript{th} May, Tuesday</td>
<td>Naplan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15\textsuperscript{th} May, Wednesday</td>
<td>Naplan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16\textsuperscript{th} May, Thursday</td>
<td>Naplan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Next P & C Meeting - 10\textsuperscript{th} April
School Calendar – Error Message

If you experience the 'error' message when visiting the calendar on our website, please refresh you page and it should appear as normal. IT are working on resolving this issue. Thank you for your understanding.

Students receiving Gold Awards at assembly
Kenthurst Public School App – Skoolbag
Kenthurst Public School now has their own app!!! Check out the features! You’ll also find our newsletters there and parent calendar, flexischool information and announcements.

How to install Skoolbag on your smartphone
**iPhone Users:** Simply search for “Kenthurst Public School” in the App store on your phone, PC or Mac and install. This app is free.
**Android Users:** Tap the applications icon, then tap the internet icon to open your web browser. Type **www.skoolbag.com.au/kpsnsw** into the address bar. Once loaded you can save the Skoolbag icon to your home screen for easy access every day.

Any queries please contact the school.

Kirsty McHugh
Computer Coordinator

**Premier’s Reading Challenge 2013**
Once again our children have taken on the Premiers’ Challenge with great enthusiasm and we have been involved since its inception in 2001. Not content with just completing the PRC we have some students going beyond their age group and reading books from the lists above them. All our classes have taken up the challenge this year. The K-2 Challenge is open to students in ES1 and Stage 1. These students must **experience 30** books. In Stage 2 and 3 students must **read 20** books. This is an amazing effort especially for those children who find reading difficult.

The Challenge ends on 31st August and we are well on the way already in 2013.

The following is a list that I will update in each Newsletter of the students that have completed the challenge.
KA
KC
S1S - Helen
S1O
S1T
S2SR- Alyssa, Jade, Isaac
S23B
S3N – Connor, Christina

**Well done to all those children!**
**Happy Reading**
Kerry Parnaby – Librarian
Grandparent Day – Concert Program

10.00-10.30am Open classrooms
10.30-11.00am Morning Tea while the School Band will be playing under the hall COLA
11.00am Please be seated on the seats in the quad area
11.10am Concert begins out in the quad area

1. Kindergarten dance “Walk the Dinosaur”
2. Stage 2/3 Song “Hello, Hello” & Bush Dance
3. Stage 1- “Granny & the Rat” & The Mexican Hat Dance
4. The Choir – 3 Little Birds & Mountain Music
5. Stage 2/3 Bush Dance
6. The dance group “When I’m 64/Footloose”
7. Easter hat parade, Chicken Dance & Raffle Draw

Conclusion approximately 12.45pm
Lunch at 1.00pm

Vegetable Patch - Volunteers Wanted!

Next term I would like to get our Vegetable Patch up and running again! All students will be given the opportunity to learn about and help grow a variety of vegetables and herbs. The aim is to be able to use the produce to make meals to eat, give to the canteen or sell to the community with the proceeds going towards maintaining the Vegetable Patch.

In order to make this happen I need some volunteers! Please let me know if you would like to help by either working with the students in the garden on a Friday afternoon, working in the garden at another time during the week or donating any vegetable and herb plants, compost or even your knowledge! Please come and see me on a Thursday or a Friday, or you can send an email/note to the office.

Thanking you
Melinda Ristuccia (Environment Coordinator)
Galston High – Mini Amazing Race
On Monday the two school captains went to Galston High School to participate in the mini amazing race.

We had to use clues to find places and objects. One of the clues was “I have no straight sides but I am not a circle” We participated in all sorts of things such as Drama, Music, Science, Maths, Sport and search for the poker chips.

There were 4 clues for the poker chip finding. The four clues were “Step back in time, this really is the pit, Home vs. away, Figures in stone”. Can you guess what they all are?
In the drama activity we had to act from four cards that have the style of the scene the problem of the scene, the characters of the scene and what type of movie. For example I had to act as a part time hairdresser and part time cop.

For the music part we had to answer music questions such as guess the song and also name how many instruments you know. One of the questions was how many cd were on the back wall. (Turns out there were 267) there was a lot.

For the science part we had to find out what powders were what by mixing them with other liquids. One of the powders turned purple and another fizzed up like lemonade. We had to find out the powder but they were named pretty silly. One of the names was Zamm and another name was Treff.

It was very fun and we both had a good time. Thank you.
Oliver and Jasmine

Zone and Regional Swimming Carnivals
The Zone Swimming Carnival was truly a pleasure to attend. The students displayed exemplary behaviour and are to be commended. They swam with enthusiasm, giving their all even in the face of dropping goggles and sagging swimming costumes. Thank you also to all those parents who gave their time and attention to all from Kenthurst not just their own children. It’s great to see support from the sidelines.

Again congratulations to all and especially to those who made it through to Regionals. Below is the list of those whose dedication has taken them that one step further.....

Cole / Sophie / Lillian / Christina / Jared / Amanda.

Regional Swimming
Just happened and here are the results in the words of the swimmers themselves!
“Cole was placed 10th overall in the 50m freestyle, Lillian had a PB of 36 seconds in the relay!
Christina was 24th in the 50m free, 16th in the backstroke, 8th in breast stroke with a PB of 50 seconds, Amanda was 14th in the backstroke, Sophia was 4th in the 50m free and got 2 PBs, a freestyle 35seconds and a fly in 39 seconds. All 4 girls competed in the relay coming 8th out of 24.
Jared was placed 5th in the 50m freestyle.”
Thank You all again,
Sharon O’Reilly
Earn and Learn

Many of you will remember collecting the Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers for us last year. There were over 83,000 stickers collected! I was able to go online to choose an extensive range of resources with the points we received.

Last week 19 boxes arrived containing all of the equipment. It was very exciting. The students were able to view all of the goodies last Friday, with some students exclaiming how lucky we were.

The equipment included a number of maths classroom kits for Money, Volume, Fractions, 3D shapes, Counting & Sorting and Length. Class sets of calculators, stopwatches, sets of multi-faceted dice, playing cards and dominoes.

There is a huge collection of board games including many sets of chess which will be used out in the quiet games area of the playground. Kindergarten have benefitted from some new puzzles and construction toys. Stage 1 classes have some new K’Nex construction sets and Literacy games. All of the children who regularly use the sandpit were delighted with the lovely new buckets, spades and sieves!

I have just received notification from Woolworths that they will be running the program this year again with Modern Teaching Aids. After receiving so much wonderful, top quality equipment for free, Kenthurst will definitely be participating.

We look forward to your support again. From Monday 8th April, you will be able to start collecting your stickers and return the completed sheets to school.

Thanks to Woolworths, Modern Teaching Aids and the Kenthurst community for saving us thousands of dollars in resources.
Making Maths Boxes

A couple of weeks ago a number of fantastic mums gave up their time to help make Maths Boxes for Kindergarten and Stage 1. The Maths Boxes are a great resource for each child, containing some basic equipment used for games and activities, designed to teach number. After a day of laminating, cutting and packing all of our K-2 classes are equipped for the year.

Thank you to these wonderful mums, Cherie, Alison, Vanessa, Sandra, Mom, Wendy, Michelle, Teresa.

Edwina Shaw
Assistant Principal

Stewart House

Well done Stage 3 2012! Stewart house donation $500.

Stewart House has a proud history providing short-term respite care for the public school children in need of a break from their current circumstance. Through the generosity of schools, teachers, individuals, organisations and corporations, Stewart House has been able to cater for over 150,000 children since they opened in 1931.

Stewart House, as a not for profit organisation, must raise $2.9 million annually to cover operating costs and accommodate over 1,800 children. It is only through the commitment of schools that they are able to provide quality care for these children across a twelve day program.

You may like to visit their website www.stewarthouse.org.au, to see more of their work.

We will continue to support Stewart House in 2013 with money raised by Stage 3 throughout the year. Our first fundraiser will be a Pancake Day to be held on Tuesday 9 April. Information on how to order pancakes will be coming home next week.

Thank You
Mrs Kate Barrat
Assistant Principal
Listening Parents Program

I am in the process of finalising the parents who will be participating in the *Listening Parents Program*, listening to students in Stages 2 and 3 read.

These are the students who still need practice to become fluent, expressive readers.

While I understand parents have many commitments within and outside of the school arena, I am seeking additional parents for this program. We have had enough response to provide two of the three classes with listening parents.

To enable all students still developing their skills to read daily, we need an additional three parents. If you are able to spare half an hour a week it would be greatly appreciated. Please consider this request and, if at all possible, fill in the form and send it to the office.

Thanking you in anticipation,

(Mrs) Joan Ghisla
Learning and Support Teacher

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I am able to participate in the Listening Parents Program.

Name:____________________________

Child’s name and class:___________________________________________________________

Days available

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<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
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</thead>
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(Please circle all days available. I will only choose one)
Kenthurst Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is now open on Wednesday Mornings
8:30am to 10:30am
If you wish to swap or try on uniforms, you are most welcome.

For your convenience orders can be placed on Flexi-Schools.

Any problems please feel free to contact Tracey Nelson on 0447874924
Kenthurst Canteen Needs You!

The Canteen would love Helpers.

If you would like to see the smile on your child’s face, please come and volunteer your time.

Volunteers do not have to spend the whole day. We appreciate any amount of time that you can give. Please call or text Tracey on 0405145323.

Please find below our Price List for the Canteen.

Please note that we have had a price increase on Sushi Tuna or Vegetarian
New Price is: $3.50
Australia’s first commemorative $2 coin in colour has been unveiled by the RSL and the Royal Australian Mint. A unique Australian legal tender, this ground breaking $2 coin is simply an outstanding keepsake for every Australian.

The coin depicts the red Flanders Poppy, which is synonymous with Remembrance Day and the sacrifices made by Australians in conflict.

All funds raised go to support our vital RSL programs helping thousands of Veterans’ and serving Defence personnel and their families in homes and communities across Australia.

Available from the RSL National Office at Level 3, 65 Constitution Avenue CAMPBELL ACT
Phone order can also be made through the National Office at 02 6248 7199
Please note there will be a minimum postal charge of $5 per coin
www.rsl.org.au
As the Easter long weekend approaches, thousands of families are set to hit the roads for holiday trips. A concern for everyone across the country is always that of road safety over the long weekend. There are more people using our roads at this time meaning there is a higher risk for accident, injury or even death. Motorists are urged to be extra cautious especially at night and when passing through residential areas, due to the unpredictable actions of pedestrians. Here are some useful road safety tips you can take in to make sure your journey is a safe one:

- Don’t set off on a long trip at the end of a day’s work.
- Sleep well before travelling. Don’t drive at times you would normally be asleep.
- Take a 15 minute break outside your car every two hours. There are almost 100 community driver reviver sites that operate throughout NSW during the holidays.
- Eat well balanced meals at regular times. You need the energy for brain activity and concentration while driving.
- Do not use your mobile phone while driving. Turn off your mobile phone or keep it on silent.
- Pack some quiet activities for the children in the car such as portable DVD players, books, small computer games, portable music player with headphones.

Please remember that children are inexperienced road users and that it’s important they are supervised in the traffic environment. Please remember to:

- Hold your child’s hand while in the car park, on the footpath and when crossing the road.
- Always buckle up in your seatbelt and follow the national child restraint laws for 0-7 year olds.
- Help your children exit the car using the rear passenger door on the footpath side.
- Ensure your child wears a helmet and rides in a safe place away from the road while on a bike, scooter or skateboard.
HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.
Ellbelle’s Preschool and Early Learning Centre
174 Kenthurst Road, Kenthurst 2156
(Opposite Caltex Service Station)
9654 2009

* 7:30am to 6pm
* A “NCAC” Accreditation of “High Quality” in all areas of Early Childhood Education
* Extensive Transition to School/Pre School Program for children aged 3-5 years
  * Children are divided into groups according to age with qualified staff programming for each group
  * All meals provided
  * Licensed for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years
  * Some casual days available
  * Child Care Benefit available
  * 50% Childcare rebate on all pre-school

Kenthurst & District Soccer Club

- It’s not too late to register!
- We can still accommodate **BOYS** and **GIRLS** in most age groups, but would especially like more **U6’s, U7’s, U8’s, U9’s, U10’s & girls** for our **U14Gs** (including **U12G’s & U13G’s**)
- Phone 96541251 or 0409997813 or email cathye@tpg.com.au for further information.
Lion Park’s Tae Kwon Do
And Self-Defence

**Tuesday:** Kenthurst Public School
Cnr Kenthurst Rd & Dural St Kenthurst
Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Classes run for a 1hr period, with a focus on high discipline and moral standards

In this time students will undertake a variety of:

- form techniques
- stretches
- punching and kicking techniques
- engage in one step sparring
- speed training
- free sparring

Classes are conducted in a pleasant and positive atmosphere

Catering for children through to adults

Contact Sa-Bum-Nim Michael 4th **Dan Black Belt** on **0409 928 534**