Assembly Merit Awards

The following awards were presented at the last assembly:

**K/1** – Felix and Elissa  
**1/2** – Mikaela and Tristan  
**3/4** – Brooklyn and Tom  
**5/6** – Jack and Elizabeth

**K/1** – Dylan, Hayley, Tiffany and Kaylan.  
**1/2** – Indy, Charlotte, Shaylee and Charlotte.  
**3/4** – Garry, Brooklyn, Kayden and Lachlan J  
**5/6** – Charli, Wil

Heads & Shoulders Award Winners

Class Award

1/2
From the Principal’s Desk

Dear Parents and caregivers

On Wednesday 13th February 2008, Kevin Rudd, as Prime Minister of Australia, made an important speech in Parliament. He made this speech in recognition of the past mistreatment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people, with the hope that together we can create a better future. We have shared this speech with students from Yrs. 3-6, discussing why this speech was so important and how we can be part of creating a future we can all be proud of.

Below is the speech transcript. Please take the opportunity to speak with your children about how they can make a difference in the lives of others through tolerance and experiencing the amazing things all the cultures of Australia have to offer.

I move:

That today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations - this blemished chapter in our nation’s history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia’s history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.
A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia.

**Travel Arrangements**
If there has been any change to your home travel routines, be sure to let us know. This can save you and the school a lot of heartache.

**NSW Syllabuses for the Australian Curriculum**
The NSW Board of Studies has developed information for parents regarding the curriculum changes being implemented over the next 4 years. The parent guide can be accessed at the website below.


Over the next 3 years, staff at Kurrajong East PS will be working closely with regional staff and schools in the local area to plan and develop teaching and learning programs that follow the new curriculum.

**IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Familiarisation and planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>English – start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics – optional to start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Science and Technology – optional to start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Mathematics – start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Science and Technology – start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History – optional to start teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>History – start teaching</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Christopher Herbert**
Principal
WHAT’S HAPPENING

2013
Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 1</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival – Windsor OASIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 27</td>
<td>Leadership Camp – School Captains and Prefects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 28</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leadership Camp – School Captains and Prefects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 29</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday April 1</td>
<td>EASTER MONDY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday April 5</td>
<td>School Cross Country carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday April 12</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of children interacting with tablet devices is growing daily. Whether it is playing on their parent’s mobile phone or using their own device. We would like to use this space to share “Apps” that are enjoyable, educational and free.

**ABC Lite** is an Apple App that uses single sound and uses fine motor skills to trace letters. It’s a great place for younger students to start.

**Mathletics** has an app out that the students can use to log into their account from a mobile device.
AFTER SCHOOL DISMISSAL PLAN

Car Park - Mornings and Afternoons
It would be appreciated if parents could park either in the street, along the neighbouring fence (rear to fence) or the rear car park when dropping off or collecting children. Parking in the bus area and along the school fence restricts access and creates a safety hazard. Parking signs are in place and should be observed. Please do not park in front of staff cars when leaving your vehicle.

It is essential that all parents observe the Bus Zone and No Stopping signs. This is essential to ensure the safety of our students. Parents are asked to leave the access at the front of the school for bus travellers only and parents to come and leave the school grounds via the back gate.

We ask all parents to leave the area between the front gate and the seating area free so movement to and from buses is free of parents and children not catching a bus.

We ask drivers to think about the speed in which they enter and leave the crown land we use as a car park.

Parents and carers are reminded that children are not allowed to leave the school grounds by themselves after school. We ask all adults to come into the school and collect their children and escort them safety to the car park.

Please slow down and care for our kids!
STUDENT ABSENCE

It is a legal requirement that your child attends school every day unless an illness or other important matter prevents this.

When your child is absent from school a note of explanation should be sent on the day your child returns.

The note must indicate the specific reason for the absence. This information is required for Departmental records. Please notify the school if your child is going to be away from school for more than two days.

LIBRARY 2013

2013 Library days are as follows:

K/1 Monday
1/2 Wednesday
3/4 Thursday
5/6 Tuesday

A waterproof library bag is required to borrow/return books from the library. Alternatively a library bag with the school logo can be purchased from the school office.

SMALL SCHOOLS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Hawkesbury Small Schools Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 14 February at the OASIS Swimming Centre at Windsor.

Congratulations to the following students who participated on Tuesday:

Ike, Daniel, Rohan, Wil, Jack D, Sam, Jack G, Tom, Lachlan J, Katherine, Elizabeth, Tegan, Sarah, Georgia P, Alexandra, Jacinta, Brooklyn, Breanna, Tenielle, Paula and Georgia M.

A very special congratulations goes to Daniel L for being named the Small Schools Senior Boy Champion. Well done Daniel!!

Congratulations also to the following swimmers who will be representing KEPS and the Small Schools Team at the District Carnival to be held on Friday 1 March 2013 at the OASIS Swimming Centre at Windsor:

Daniel L, Ike and Elizabeth.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

Parents are reminded that they can pay all school payments by Electronic Funds transfer. You must include your child’s name with payment, then send in the permission note with your receipt number and total amount paid. When this shows on our bank statement a receipt will be issued.

Please note the following details:

BSB: 032-001
Account: 142 461

Please note that the school cannot accept P & C payments by transfer.

All P & C payments (OOSH, Canteen, etc) need to be paid directly to the Kurrajong East P & C Association or directly to their account as follows

CBA BSB: 062 622
Account: 1007 1958
O’Connell Public School will again be hosting the Evans Crown Horse Sports Day. The event will be held on Monday 11th March, 2013, at Lithgow Pony Club grounds and will be run under the guidelines for Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in schools and the Pony Club Association of NSW Regulations.

The attached forms provide all the necessary information and entry requirements.

All nominations must be signed by the child’s parent and approved by the participating schools’ principal. Entries will not be accepted without both signatures.

For further information contact our Team Manager, Georgina Donaldson or KEPS school office.

Entries close Friday 1st March 2013.

We remind all parents that it is a NSW Department of Education and Training policy that animals (dogs, cats, rabbits etc) are not allowed on school grounds.

If your child would like to bring a pet to school for news, this has to be prearranged with the Principal at least a week prior to the animal coming onto school grounds. We cannot guarantee that your pet will be able to come to school. Many children suffer allergies and this has to be taken into consideration. Thank you for your understanding in complying with this regulation.

We have a number of items in surplus from 2012 and would like to offer them to families preparing for 2013.

Items for sale at the school office are as follows:

- **Pencil cases** $1.70
- **Faber Castel School set**
  - 2 pencils $2.50
  - 2 erasers
  - 3 pens
  - 1 sharpener
- **My Useful Word Book** (Year 1) $4.50
- **Oxford Dictionary** (Years 2 & 3) $18.90
- **Australian School Dictionary** (Years 4, 5 & 6) $13.30
- **Protractor Set** (Years 4, 5 & 6) $4.45
- **Canon calculator** (Years 5 & 6) $4.45
- **A4 96 pages Exercise Book** $0.55
- **A4 128 pages Exercise Book** $0.65

While stocks last – no reordering possible at these prices.
**P & C NEWS**

**Canteen**
The canteen roster for February is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 18 Feb</th>
<th>Thurs 21 Feb</th>
<th>Thurs 28 Feb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olivia</td>
<td>Cherie</td>
<td>Noeline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sylvana</td>
<td>and Paul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 25 Feb</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo P</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canteen**
Term 1 menu will continue to be the same as last term's summer menu until further notice.

Please remember that all lunch orders must be pre-ordered on a brown paper bag and handed in at the canteen before 9:30am each Monday and Thursday mornings, with child's name, class, and order clearly written and money enclosed inside the bag.

**Missing from the School Swimming Carnival**
1 x sports shirt size 10
1 x school girls shorts size 10
Can you please check your child's uniforms. A Year 4 girl had her uniforms mistakenly taken home by another student. Their return would be appreciated.

**You are invited to be part of our Paving Fundraiser**
Kurrajong East Public School P&C invites you, your child or your family to become a permanent part of our school's history. If you decide to take advantage of our offer, your paver will become a part of our school which will provide an enduring link between the past, present and future that includes the essential partnerships that make our school what it is - students, parents, school and community.

For more information please see the attached order form.

**Stuck on You Labels**
Don't forget if you need labels for clothing/lunchbox etc order directly with Stuck on You, nominate our school and we receive a commission.