

26 March 2021

KCPS Literacy Open Sessions

It has been so wonderful to welcome parents back into the classrooms for our Open Literacy Sessions this week. From seeing parents engage in 'read-alouds' with the teacher to playing different literacy games it has been wonderful to welcome you all in. I hope you have enjoyed getting a small insight into literacy at KCPS.

**IB LEARNER
PROFILE
ATTRIBUTES**

- INQUIRERS
- KNOWLEDGEABLE
- THINKERS
- COMMUNICATORS
- PRINCIPLED
- OPEN-MINDED
- CARING
- RISK-TAKERS
- BALANCED
- REFLECTIVE



Parking

Please ensure that you are parking and driving safely at all times.

We work in partnership with Victoria Police and the Melton Council. If you witness unsafe driving, erratic driving or illegal parking please feel free to contact either of these organisations.

Both Victoria Police and Melton Council have contacted me recently with concerns about unsafe driving around school times. I had a meeting with a representative from the Melton Council earlier this week, he will be coming out to the school during peak times regularly to assess my concerns.

Victoria Police have also contacted us regarding their concerns around vehicles double-parking in Leichhardt Avenue and vehicles parking illegally in the joint driveway in Stanthorpe Street in Burnside Heights. This has caused major concerns from residents who have been unable to leave their house.

We continue to receive complaints from local residents, particularly in Stanthorpe Street, who have been unable to access their properties because of illegally parked vehicles. Please be respectful of our neighbours and be mindful of where you are parking.

Birthday celebrations at school

We are more than happy to help celebrate children's birthdays at school as this is a special day for them.

We ask that if you choose to bring in something for your child to share with their class that you bring **cupcakes only** as they are easy to share amongst a class of children.

Please ensure that there are enough cupcakes for each child in the grade and, of course, one for the teacher!

As some children will not be able to participate for dietary, medical or personal reasons, cupcakes must be given to the classroom teacher to distribute. **PLEASE ENSURE ALL FOOD BROUGHT TO SCHOOL IS NUT FREE AS WE HAVE SEVERAL CHILDREN WITH SEVERE ALLERGIES TO NUTS AND NUT PRODUCTS.**

Importance of students being at school

It is incredibly important that students are attending school each day unless of course, they are unwell. In a recent newsletter, I included some important information around the importance of coming to school in the 'Everyday Counts' fact sheet. This was designed to give you, as parents, an insight into the impact that missing one or two days of school can have on a child over time. This week, I have included some information that could be useful to refer to when discussing with your child/ren the importance of coming to school.

Particularly on those days when they may be feeling less motivated or ask to stay at home.

We will be tracking attendance closely and will be in contact with families as necessary to determine if there are any supports that might need to be put in place. Please remember that if for some reason you are having trouble getting your child/ren to school each day, reach out to either myself or one of my Assistant Principals so that we can support you.

School Photos 2021

Annual school photos and sibling photos have been taken by Arthur Reed Photos.

To view the images of your child and order photos, you will need to first register online.

1. Go to <https://order.arphotos.com.au> and enter the 2021 image code for your child *(from their personalised flyer)*
2. Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings
3. Fill in your email and mobile details and then review all details before confirming your registration

That's it! When 2021 photos are ready, you will be notified by email and SMS.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do it again each year using your child's new image code to link their photos for the current year with your contact details.

To ensure you are ordering school photos for the current year, please wait for notifications that 2021 images are online before placing orders.

In the webshop you can view photos and customize your photo package; choose ANY layout, ANY image and purchase multiple digital image downloads.

All photo orders will be sent directly to the address you provide when ordering.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW to be notified when 2021 school photos can be viewed and ordered.

Reminder: 2:30pm finish on the last day of term, Thursday 1st April

At the end of this term and all future terms, students will be dismissed at 2:30pm to align with the 40km/h school speed zone times. Thank-you for your understanding and please remember to always drive safely around the school.

Please note, due to the 2:30pm finish time on Thursday, the schedule for the day will run slightly differently. Children will be outside for lunch between 1:30 – 2:00pm. Please avoid any early pick-ups during this time.

Canteen on the last day of term

The Canteen will be open and lunch orders will be accepted on Thursday, as usual.

As this will be the last newsletter for Term 1, I would like to wish you all the best for the upcoming holiday break. Thank-you for your continued support of KCPS.

Bethany

DATES TO REMEMBER

1 April – Last Day of Term 1. Students finish at 2:30pm

19 April – First Day of Term 2

17 May – Curriculum Day. Students do not attend school



Please check our website for camp dates, current specialist/swimming timetables and community notices <https://kororoitcreekps.vic.edu.au/parents/>



Want to keep the kids entertained and active these School Holidays?

There's still time to get the kids into YMCA's School Holiday Programs!

Programs are running from **Tuesday 6 April – Friday 16 April** and bookings are filling up fast.

Head to:

www.childrensprogramms.ymca.org.au/school-holiday-programs/locations



AiA Update

Students at KCPS have been very busy over the last few weeks earning lots of AiA cards by demonstrating our Learner Profile attributes.

The student leadership group also spent some time working with classes to design a list of prizes or rewards that students can save up for, and then trade in their cards. There is a range of personal rewards and whole class rewards available.

Some of the personal rewards include things such as; borrowing an extra Library book, being the line leader, being served at the Canteen first, having lunch with a teacher of your choice or choosing the music for the recess bell.

Some of the whole class rewards include things such as; having a picnic outside to eat lunch, visiting the playground across the road or playing a class Vs class game outside.

Here is what some of our students are saying about our AiA initiative.....



“If you show the learner profile attributes, you will get lots of AiA cards. The best part about them is that you get rewards”. Elena H07

“I think I am going to use 10 points on bringing something in for show and tell”. Chloe H07

“I like earning class rewards”. Hamish H08

“AiA is fun because you can earn rewards. You can earn a card for being Principled or a good Communicator or some of the others”. Shanaya H12

“So basically, you can get certain rewards for doing great things but you have to earn the rewards. You have to be one of the Learner Profile attributes to get cards. My favourite part is the rewards, I am actually very excited because tomorrow we are having a class reward because our class earned so many cards.” River H11

We encourage you to ask your children about AiA at home and if they have received a card. You can discuss with them the action they were doing and attribute they were showing to earn the card.

Throughout the Term One implementation of our AiA initiative, we have been working closely with Behavioural Analyst, Dan Petro. Dan has been providing professional development to our staff and leadership team and we are excited to announce that next term we will be inviting families to participate in some parent sessions with Dan. As Dan is based in the USA, these sessions will be conducted virtually, via Zoom. Please stay tuned for the dates and times of these sessions.

- Allira Wallis, Assistant Principal

SPECIALIST UPDATE!

All the specialist news!

ART This term the Grade Five students have been creating mixed media mask artworks. They have been focusing on their ability to use shapes, colours and layering to create a detailed abstract artwork inspired by Picasso. During this inquiry Grade Five students were able to use a range of media including cardboard, paint and textured materials such as beads, buttons and feathers. Students used their current knowledge from the testing and experimenting phase in order to inform the correct adhesive and material selections for their artwork.



PE This term in Physical Education, students in Years 2 to 6 have been inquiring into different athletic events. These students have explored Shot Put, Discus, Triple Jump, High Jump and Long Jump in preparation for the Athletics Carnival. Students in grade 5 and 6 have had a specific focus on learning to give and apply feedback from peers, their teacher and by using ICT in order to improve their techniques. Students in Grade Prep and One have been developing their fundamental motor skills of running, leaping, jumping and hopping and have begun work on combining these in different scenarios such as obstacle courses. These students will soon be progressing to developing their skills of throwing and catching.

FRENCH *Des histoires en français !*

This term the Grade 1 and 6 have been writing bilingual stories about various subjects such as their likes and dislikes ("j'aime" and "je n'aime pas"), their routines and hobbies, their families, and descriptions of themselves or a fictional character. At the end of this term, the Grade 6 students will visit the Grade 1 in their classroom and exchange their stories. The Grade 6 are very excited to teach some new words through their stories to the Grade 1, and the Grade 1 to show what they learned during this term!



MUSIC

The Grade 2 students have begun inquiring into a new central idea of, 'Musicians need a repertoire to perform'

The students have focussed on learning repertoire that uses only C and F chords to support their ukulele skills and repertoire development.

With a focus on the concept of 'Communication', students were able to choose a song from their repertoire based on what they would like their audience to feel.

The students collaboratively practised their song and performed to an audience.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

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ATTENDANCE FACT SHEET FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

School is better when you're here

DO I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing 4 whole weeks of school a year.

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

WHY IS IMPORTANT THAT I GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Right now, being at school is the most important thing you need to do for your future. School helps you build good habits for later on in life. You might think school is just about Maths and English but you're also learning about how to work with other people and how to solve problems.

Being at school every day also means you are becoming more independent as a learner and interacting with your friends and teachers. If you are at school you can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to try to learn things in your own time.

Being an adult probably seems far away but we know that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too. This means they earn more money, have better job opportunities and are generally healthier. So being at school really does make a difference!

DO MY PARENTS NEED TO LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF I'M GOING TO BE AWAY?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

ARE THERE ANY GOOD REASONS TO BE AWAY FROM SCHOOL?

No. Unless you are sick or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

If you do have to be away for some reason, your parents need to contact the school and let them know what's going on. Depending on the situation, the school might provide schoolwork for you to complete.

IF I'M NOT AT SCHOOL WHAT DO I MISS OUT ON?

You miss out on all the big stuff – class discussions and all the interaction that happens in a classroom, the chance to get help from teachers and the opportunity to practice skills and gain knowledge.

Being away means you might miss out on a lot of learning or that you need to catch up in your time.

If all of that isn't enough to convince you to be at school every day, being away also means you also miss out on playing with your friends. Being away from school a lot can be lonely. It has a big impact on relationships and social connections.

Believe it or not, everyone wants you at school and it really is better when you attend.

WHAT IF I'M HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING TO SCHOOL?

Getting to school on time everyday can be about having a good routine.

If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- Asking your parents for help getting ready
- Having a set time to go to bed
- Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- Having a set time for breakfast
- Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.

Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school.

You might feel overwhelmed by the work or things might be tough with your friends. Maybe you don't feel safe at school or you really dislike a teacher or things at home aren't great. Perhaps you're feeling down or anxious and don't even really know why.

Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you. Try talking to:

- Your parents or another adult family member
- A trusted teacher
- Wellbeing Coordinator or the school counsellor
- Another trusted adult like your coach

USEFUL WEBSITES/CONTACTS

Kids Matter - www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Youth Beyond Blue - www.youthbeyondblue.com.au

Headspace - www.headspace.org.au
or e-headspace
www.eheadspace.org.au/ for online
counselling & support

Reach Out – www.reachout.com

Kids helpline - 1800 55 1800 24 hours
a day, 7 days a week or [web
counselling](http://www.kidsmatters.org.au/web-counselling)