



KALBAR NEWS

Kalbar State School Newsletter • Issue No. 1 (5th February, 2021)

Welcome back to another school year. I hope all families were able to spend some quality time together over the break as we enter what will be another busy and exciting year of teaching and learning at Kalbar. Seeing all the smiling, welcoming faces during the first few days has reinforced what a great school we have. Every class has reported high attendance and all students are in uniform, with the right equipment, ready and eager to learn.

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to our continuing families for the 2021 school year. To all our new Kalbar families, welcome to the Kalbar community. I am sure you will find our great school and broader community a very welcoming and supportive environment for you and your family.

I would also like to welcome our new staff members who have joined the Kalbar team.

Prep/Year 1 Teacher – Miss Rebecca Connell; Year 3/4 Teacher – Miss Meredith Bell; School of Rock – Mr Jarrod Robinson; Guidance Officer – Mr Toby Osborne; Reading Recovery Teacher – Mrs Sue Brown; Year 6 Release – Mr Shaun O’Brien.

Whether our new staff have a role in the classroom or another role within our school I know you will have a fantastic experience at Kalbar State School.

Our staff were back at school during the last week of the school holidays undertaking professional development in preparation for the year. I was once again very impressed with the dedication, professionalism and the obvious care for the students of Kalbar that was demonstrated in all conversations and interactions I witnessed and was a part of. Education expert, Tony Ryan, who has presented on all major continents and worked with over 1000 schools and universities worldwide, commenced his work supporting teachers’ and teacher aides’ implementation of high impact teaching strategies. We are very fortunate to have secured Tony’s services regularly throughout 2021 to ensure Kalbar is at the forefront of best educational practice.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our cleaners and grounds staff for all their hard work to make sure our classrooms and grounds were looking their best for the return of our students last week. With the recent rain, our Schools’ Officer, Phil, is now battling rapidly growing grass and weeds to ensure our amazing school always displays the pride we have in it! Thank you also to our office staff and teacher aides for all the work they have done to ensure a great start to the year.

Parents I have spoken to over the past week have expressed their excitement of once again joining the community of Kalbar State School inside our school grounds in order to share in their children’s educational journey. We hope that 2021 will be a year that is a little more settled and our events such as sports carnivals, camps and in-school activities will return to pre 2020 operations. I believe ‘it takes a village to raise a child’ and for that reason, it is important that there is clear and open communication between school and home. Our staff are committed to improving learning outcomes for all students and we believe for this to occur, we must work in close partnership with parents. Teachers are available throughout the year to discuss any issues relating to your child’s education at a mutually convenient time and should always be the first contact with any issues surrounding your child. After talking with the classroom teacher, if you still feel like you need to discuss the issue further, our Admin team are always here for our parents. Please understand though, that teachers may not be able to meet without a pre-arranged time organised. Mornings in classrooms can be a busy time and teachers often have meetings after school. To ensure your child’s teacher can give the time and attention you require, please contact the teacher to arrange a suitable time.

Date Claimers

February

- 8 Student Leader Investiture 2:30pm
- 16 P&C AGM 5pm E Block
- 26 Swimming begins Yrs 3 - 6

March

- 5 Swimming
- 6 Chappy Challenge
- 12 Swimming
- 19 Swimming
- 26 Swimming Carnival



2021

WELCOME BACK
It's going to be a great year!

Our students have settled into their new school routines very quickly and it has been a very smooth start to the year. I would like to thank our families for ensuring your children were ready for the start of the school year. Our students look great as they wear their school uniforms with pride! As a school community, we value our school uniform and we expect that every child wears the correct uniform every day.

We have commenced the year with 209 students including over 40 new students to Kalbar.

Each year the Department does a total school enrolment data download for funding purposes. This will be finalised today. As I informed the community last year, we will maintain our nine classrooms and we will be eligible for a Head of Department – Curriculum, which will be advertised in the coming week.

I look forward to working with our school community this year to continue to build on the fantastic work we already undertake to best support the needs of every child at Kalbar.

School of Rock

The vast majority of our families would know of, or have heard of, our school rock band under the guidance of Mr Robinson. Last year the band performed at our local Kalbar community events as well as performing at Beaudesert State School. They are wonderful representatives of our school that show the wider community that at Kalbar we value and nurture the creative students as well as the academic and sporting. This year to support our students even further in The Arts, Mr Robinson, each Wednesday, will be teaching Rock School to all of our Years 4 to 6 students. Our students in these years will all have the opportunity to learn different instruments such as electric and bass guitars, drums & keyboards. I cannot wait to see this program evolve throughout the course of the year and highlight to our community the talented students we have.

Adventure Playgrounds

Please be aware that our Adventure Playgrounds are closed before and after school and should not be used by students. The playgrounds are open during school hours only when there are staff scheduled to supervise the safety and interactions in this space. We ask that parents help to support us in this request by moving their children on from here after school and to keep smaller children off the playgrounds whilst waiting for the bell in the afternoon. We thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Thank You P&C Association

Our P&C Association is absolutely vital to the life of our school and I thank them for the wonderful work they did in the difficult year of 2020 in running the activities, events and fundraisers they were able, along with the Tuckshop and the Uniform Shop.

Members of the P&C volunteer their time to support the school life of our students and families while raising much needed funds for our children to ensure they do not miss out on the important aspects of education. Members of the P&C were at school during the holidays painting our toilet blocks in readiness for the commencement of the school year. We are so fortunate to have this group of people.

The P&C's AGM is Tuesday, 16 February, at 5pm in E Block. I would encourage as many interested people as possible to come along and join our active P&C!



Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance at school is expected of all students. (The Education Act states 'A child is of compulsory school age if the child is at least 6 years and less than 16 years' and thus must attend school every day unless there is a valid reason for absence).

Parents are requested to contact the school office either by phone, QParents, text message or written note whenever a child is absent or late.

The parent of any student who is absent or late from school without explanation, will be contacted by SMS text on the same day, requesting an explanation for any absence/lateness. This is to ensure that students are not absent without their parents knowledge or consent. Please reply to the text message.

No student is allowed to leave the school grounds during school hours without a note from their parent or guardian and countersigned by class teacher.

Students, who arrive at school after the school day has commenced must report to the office and collect a late slip before moving to their classroom. When students receive a late slip they will be marked on the roll as present but late.

Parents who are collecting students early should do so from the office and are required to sign their children out in the register.

Before School

A reminder that students should not be dropped to school before 8:30am. There are no formal supervision practices in place for students until 8:30am. Please keep your children home with you until this time to ensure they have plenty of time to eat a healthy breakfast and are ready to start the day.

Parent Information Meetings

In the coming weeks each class will host a parent teacher session which will provide you with information regarding organisational and curriculum aspects for the year level as well as individual teacher organisation. Please keep your eyes open for a note from your child's class teacher.

Even if you have attended these before for other children, I really encourage you to attend each year as information and organisation is adjusted. It is also a great way to connect with other parents in your child's class and/or year level.

Student Leader Investiture

Parents/carers of the newly elected Year 6 Leaders will be invited to a special school assembly at the school hall at 2.30pm next Monday 8 February 2021. We will have special guest Mr Jon Krause MP in attendance to assist with the investiture. This special assembly will be in lieu of our normal assembly.

Our Thoughts

It is with sadness that I inform our community that Kalbar's German teacher, Mrs Rachel Kuiper, lost her husband suddenly last Sunday. During this time of deep grief, I am certain that all of our thoughts and prayers are with her.


Supporting your child to have a great start to 2021!

For most children and teenagers, the experience of worry, nervousness, and fear is a normal part of growing up. For example, starting primary or high school, making new friends, doing assignments, taking tests, presenting in front of the class, participating in sporting competitions, choosing a career, and eventually attending job interviews. Anxiety forms both an adaptive and necessary defensive response in adjusting to school and social environments. It provides the impetus for action within our lives!

✿ Irish Blessing ✿

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.





For some, however, the stress of going to school, the fear of performing and interacting with peers, the pressure of maintaining good grades and choosing career options is so intense that they start to withdraw from everyday activities. Of all difficulties experienced during childhood, anxiety is recognised to be of the most common and significant. A recent Australian study found that about 15% of youth experience severe anxiety. Left untreated, anxiety can negatively influence the way young people think about themselves (leading to poor self-esteem, hopelessness, and depression).

The question is not so much "Does my child experience anxiety?" Rather, "When does the level of anxiety become cause for concern and what are the symptoms?" There are a number of signs to look out for that may indicate concern: (1) the manifestation of physical illness symptoms (e.g., nausea, stomach cramps, headaches, insomnia), and using such reasons for not wanting to attend school, social, or sporting events; (2) constant thoughts and fears about their own and others safety; (3) finding it difficult to meet or talk to new people and needing reassurance to try new things; (4) worrying excessively about things before they happen (e.g., school, social or sporting events); (5) becoming upset about being or sleeping away from home (e.g., panicking or having tantrums when separated from parents); and (6) being preoccupied with cleanliness (e.g., hand washing, arranging things, feeling contaminated).

It is important to discourage avoidance as this only makes the specific issue of concern even more insurmountable next time. Focus on developing positive self-talk in your child, normalising feelings and praising your child for having a go rather than evaluating their level of competency as they try to face their worries, is the key.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, our School Guidance Officer, Toby Osborne, is at the school each Friday and our amazing Chaplain, Karen Turner, is at school every Tuesday (morning) and Friday with a very open ear.

As always, if you have any issues or concerns please come and speak to us directly. You are welcome to drop in and see me, telephone me on 5469 9333 or email me on principal@kalbarss.eq.edu.au.

Take care and have a great weekend Kalbar family!

Chris Richards

Stepping into Prep!!

P Preps are AMAZING!
R Ready to learn!
E Everyone is happy and settled!
P Playing with our friends and having so much fun!
S So many wonderful things happening in our room **EVERY** day!

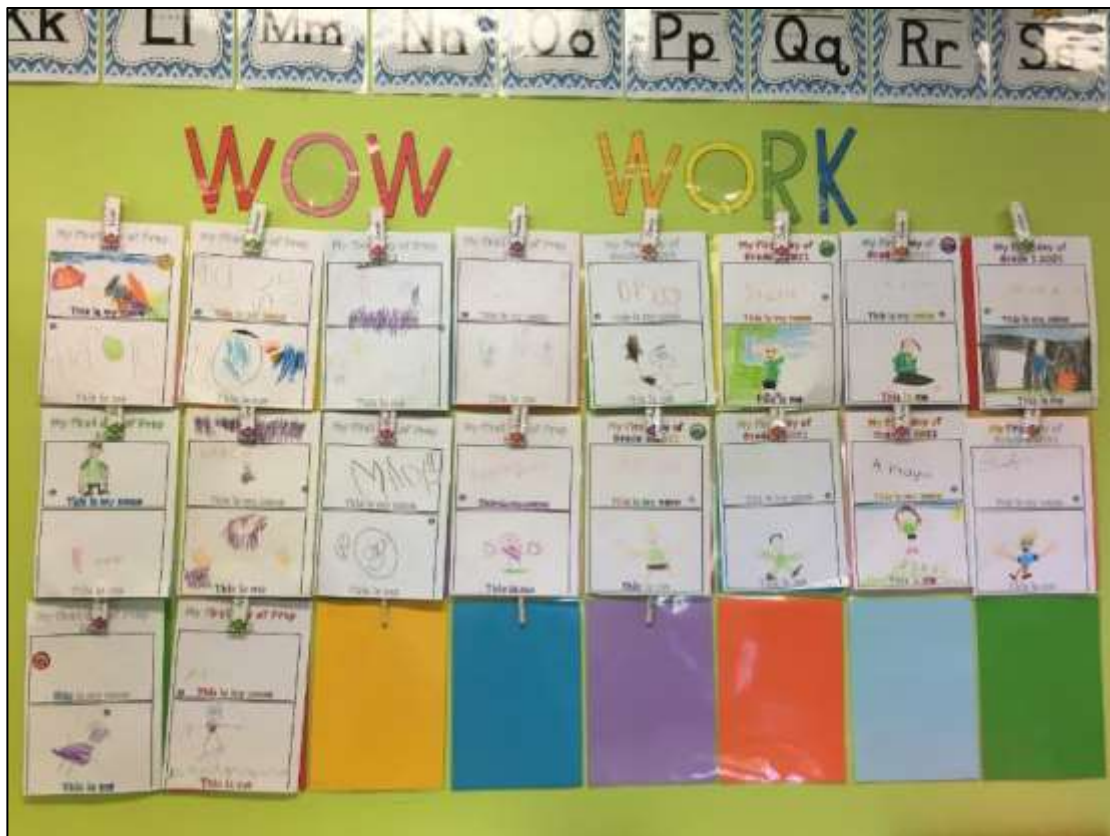
You're off to
GREAT PLACES!
Today is
YOUR DAY!
Your mountain
IS WAITING
So...get on
YOUR WAY!
- DR SEUSS -

We have welcomed such Amazing Little Learners into our Wonderful School. Thanks so much to all of our supportive Parents and Carers...Kalbar State School Prep is a GREAT PLACE to LEARN!!



Prep/1 Class

The Prep/1 class have been working hard on learning classroom routines and it is fantastic to see the Year 1's stepping up to show the new Preps where things are at Kalbar State School. On the first day of school, we created some Wow Work which is displayed in our classroom. Students worked hard to draw a picture of themselves and write their name. We have had a great first two weeks of school!



Year 1 Class

We have been busy as bees....

- Working at our new desks.
- Learning our class routines.
- Learning new things and having fun!
- Meeting our class puppets!



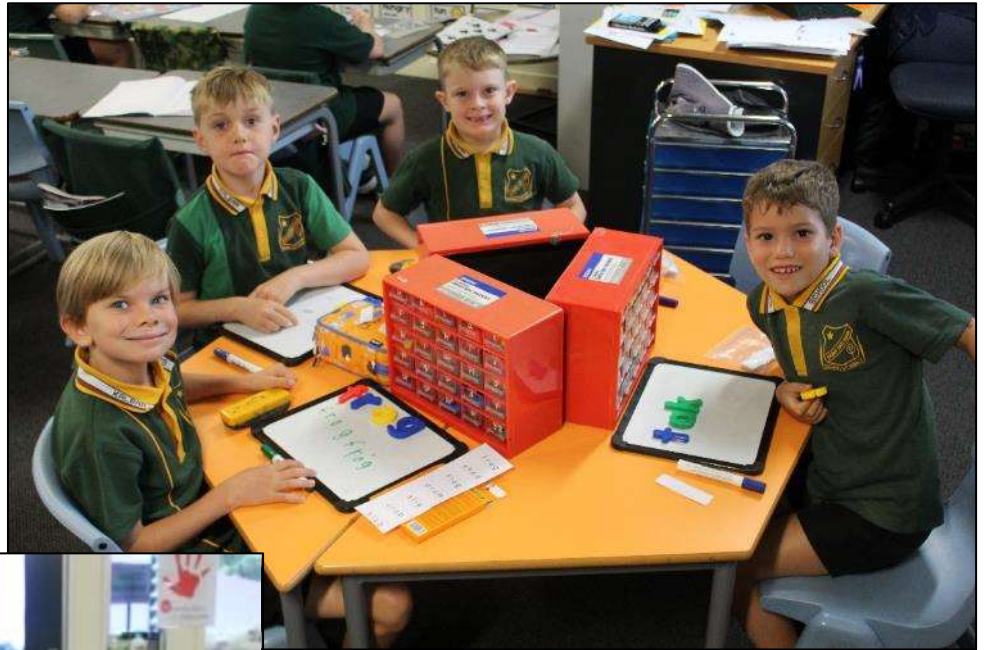
Year 2 Class

2F have been working very hard over the past two weeks. We have been practising being Super Students- learning our new rules, routines and class procedures. This Term 2F are learning about narrative writing and we are SUPER excited to become authors and illustrators!



Year 2/3 Class

Year 2/3 have enjoyed trying out new spelling activities for group rotations. Learning in a multisensory way with friends is effective and fun! Lessons involving technology are always popular.



Year 3/4 Class

In 3/4, students have been working hard to improve their reading and writing stamina. The class tries to beat their record each day in Read to Self, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, Word Work and Work on Writing.



Year 4 Class

On Wednesday this week we made Seed Heads. In Science our class are investigating the life cycles of plants and animals. We are excited to watch our seed heads grow green hair!



Year 5 Class

What a great start to this year so far in 5F. We are all giving our best in everything we do. Our English task this term is to write a Fantasy Narrative. We are currently reading the first of the series of Deltora. This book is The Forest of Silence. We have been enjoying learning about all the interesting characters. We are having a lot of fun.



Year 5/6 Class

Year 5/6

We have had an unbeLEAFable start to the year!

We are looking forward to starting all of our units, especially our perspective drawing, writing our short stories, becoming wildlife warriors in science and of course PE.

We are working hard in class to earn the most points possible to trade in for rewards! The year 6's are excited for their last year at Kalbar.

We all cannot wait to see how 2021 goes.

By 5/6R



Science

Our school is full of amazing scientists and this year I am very excited to question, investigate, experiment and communicate our findings, alongside students in the lower school. This term lower school students are focusing on Biology, the study of living things. We started by using our senses to examine worms and compare real living wriggly worms to non-living sour gummy worms. We even used our sense of taste to examine these worms (only the gummy ones of course).

Prep

Preps identified what their senses are and used them to explore the living and non-living worms. We also talked about the needs of all living things, which we will continue next week.

Year 1

Year 1s examined the worms very closely and drew features of worms. Next week we will be talking about the environments that worms and other animals live in, and how these places meet the animals' needs.

Year 2

Year 2s identified differences and similarities between the living and non-living worms and started to look at the worm's lifecycle. Next week we will be illustrating the lifecycle of worms and other living animals.

Year 3

The Year 3s in 2/3 examined the worms and then completed a comparison between living and non-living worms on a Venn diagram. They also drew the worms very carefully and will be labelling the different parts of the worm next week. Next week we will also be looking into animal families, how animals relate to each other and other animals that they are interested in.

We are in the business of growing scientists that question, predict, explore, examine, experiment and communicate. It is a great time to be a Kalbar State School student enquiring about the world around them.

Jennifer Cowan





Chappy News

Welcome back everyone and welcome to all of our new families! My name is Karen Turner, and it is a joy to be working as the Chaplain at Kalbar School again this year.

The Chaplaincy service provides social, emotional and spiritual support to the school community. The School Chaplain is a safe person for students and parents to connect with at school and provides a listening ear, caring presence, and a message of hope. Chaplains are positive role models who assist in fostering supportive, caring school communities.

I have included some information for parents and carers about an opportunity to participate in some webinars produced by the e-safety commission. This term's topic is - eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama. Please see attached information.

I am at school on Tuesday until lunchtime and Friday each week. Please contact the school office if you would like to arrange a chat.

Kind Regards,
Karen Turner

THOUGHT: 'The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything.' (Theodore Roosevelt)

Christian Religious Instruction

Weekly 30 min classes in Christian Religious Instruction (RI) will once again be offered to all students from Years 1-6 commencing on 16/02/21. The aim of Christian RI is to inform students about the basic beliefs of the Christian faith from a non-denominational perspective.

The material that will be used at our school in 2021 is 'Connect' -<https://cepconnect.com.au/curriculum>. If your child participated in Christian RI last year they will automatically be placed in Christian RI again in 2021. However, if you wish to make any changes to your current preferences, please return the RI Consent form emailed home on Wednesday. During RI, all students who do not participate in RI will be supervised by a staff member in a separate location.

Workbooks have been donated by our local churches. If you have any queries, please contact our school's RI Coordinator – Karen Turner- 54699333.