KOORINGAL HIGH SCHOOL Newsletter

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Term 1, Week 7 2023

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Respect ~ Responsibility ~ Excellence

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2023 school year has begun in busy fashion with a large range of extracurricular activities and events being held, or at least being well into the planning stage. On the sporting front, we have had numerous successes already, including the Open Girls Softball team winning the CWWHSSA Katrina Powell Shield. Our captains have also been busy out and about in the community including Emily and Jayden representing KHS with distinction at the Rotary Peace Day awards. The entire KHS community came together on 'Superheros Day' to raise \$2060 for the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Paediatric Ward in memory of Nate Lawson – a fantastic effort! Many students are also taking the opportunity to attend the vast array of 'Lunchtime Activities' that staff are offering to provide an alternative to being out in the playground.

During our last assembly I had the privilege of badging our 2023 Peer Mediators, a group of senior students who have received specialist training to be able to mediate friendship and other issues for our junior students. This coming assembly will also see our SRC members badged, yet another leadership opportunity afforded to the students of KHS.

We recently hosted a 'Meet and Greet' afternoon for our Year 7 and 8 Selective students and parents which was a great success, and it was wonderful to be able to build closer connections between the home and school environment. A large number of Year 11 and 12 Parents and Carers took the opportunity to attend Parent-Teacher Interviews and it was wonderful to have the pleasure of greeting many of you as you the came through the library doors.

We are looking forward to hosting the 'Year 7 Meet and Greet', which is an informal opportunity for parents and carers to meet our Year 7 teaching staff and other students in their child's class. This event will conclude with a BBQ tea in the TAS Quad where light refreshments will also be served. On Wednesday March 22nd, we will also be hosting a 'Year 7 2024/25 Information Evening' where we will showcase the wonderful facilities on offer to students who come to study at KHS.

Of course, it would be remiss of me not to mention the work that is already underway for our 2023 school production titled 'Murder on the Dance Floor'. Actors, dancers, musicians, and technical crews are all well into rehearsals and we can't wait to see the final product! Finally, I would like to commend the work that is being undertaken by the 50th Anniversary working party, events such as these take a huge amount of planning and preparation. If you haven't already done so, I would like to urge you to join the 'Kooringal High 50th Anniversary' Facebook page for regular updates and memory joggers of days gone by.

Your Sincerely Helen Schmetzer Principal (Rel.)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 15 Year 7 Meet and Greet

<mark>Mar 16, 17</mark> Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN

Mar 22 Year 7 2024 Information Night

Apr 5 Athletics Carnival

Apr 6 Last Day of Term 1



WELFARE REPORT

Superhero Dress Up Day

On Friday February 10, KHS participated in a Superhero Dress up day to raise money for the Paediatric Ward at Wagga Base Hospital. The fundraiser was celebrated across several Wagga schools and was in honour of local boy Nate Lawson. Nate lost his battle with a rare genetic condition in 2022. Throughout his illness, Nate spent a lot of time in hospital. Nate's mother is a past KHS student. We are very excited to announce that our fabulous school community raised \$2060 towards the fundraiser. Well done to all those who participated.

Harmony Day

Did you know that KHS has over 30 cultures represented within its cohort? Each year we celebrate our diversity at a whole school assembly. Students who wish to showcase something from their culture should see Ms Mattingly in Wellbeing.

Peace Day photos from Facebook?

Recently our senior leaders Emily and Jayden represented KHS at the Rotary Peace Day awards. Wagga was declared the world's first Peace City 30 years ago. We are honoured to have been donated a Peace Pole by Rotary. The pole features the message 'May Peace Prevail' in four languages- English, Wiradyuri, Kumunji (the language of our Yazidi community) and Sinhalese (the language of our Sri Lankan community). These represent the four biggest groups within our school community. The pole will be placed in a garden at school as part of Harmony Week.



Intergenerational Learning

KHS is excited to be participating in a pilot program called Intergenerational Learning. The program was featured recently on ABC television. Each week a group of Year 9 students will link with some of our older residents to discuss topics such as changes in schooling, family structure, food etc. The program is run in conjunction with Baptist Care. It will be initially conducted over video link with the older citizens gathering at a local community centre for the sessions. It is hoped that in the future the two groups will meet up in person. The first session was held this week and was a resounding success for both parties.

More information is available at the following link.

https://intergenerational-learning.com.au/

Lunchtime Activities

Lunchtime Activities are held each day and provide a calm alternative to the busy playground.



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Ziegler Ave, Kooringal, 2650 Ph: 6922 5155 https://kooringal-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Uniform

The uniform is looking fabulous at the moment. We have introduced a navy skort which is proving very popular. As the weather cools down, we would like to remind you that coloured jumpers/ hoodies and tights are not accepted as KHS uniform.

Donations of used uniforms are always welcome and can be left at the front office, library or wellbeing area. Families that are in need of assistance with uniform can contact Ms Mattingly.

#friends

All Year 7 students participated in a program this week called #friends that focuses on forming positive relationships and the impact that social media can have on these. All students had a great day.

Elevate

Earlier this term, all senior students participated in a series of workshops aimed at increasing the effectiveness of their study habits. The interactive workshops were conducted by the Elevate Foundation and examined organisational skills, avoiding procrastination and improving memory. Elevate offer free parent sessions throughout the year. They will be advertised on the school Facebook page.

Year Advisors

Each year group has been assigned a Year advisor to help them with issues that they may encounter at school with friends, organisation or understanding. They are also the first point of call for parents. A Shadow Year Advisor assists them or fills in if they are absent. Below is a current list.

Year Group	Year Advisor	Shadow YA
7	Mr B Angel	Ms G Bathgate
8	Ms B Kennedy	Mr L Greer
9	Mr B Skeers	Ms S Carter
10	Ms L Baker	Mr R Taylor
11	Ms M Brissenden	Mr M Wickham
12	Ms Ang Baker	Ms Ash Baker

Year 7 and 10 Immunisations

If your child is in Year 7 or Year 10 this year, you can now provide consent for their school vaccinations online.

In Year 7, students are offered vaccines for diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) and human papillomavirus (HPV). In Year 10, students are offered the meningococcal ACWY vaccine.

By providing consent for your child's vaccination online, you can:

- easily update your child's details
- get SMS and/or email notifications when your child has received their vaccinations
- more quickly see their vaccination records on the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).

Visit: <u>health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination</u>



Career and Skills Development Scholarship

The application closing date for A Start in Life's Career and Skills Development Scholarship is Friday 17th March 2023.

There is a parent and student zoom Q & A session on Wedbesday 5th March at 6.30pm.

To join the Zoom Q&A sessionsimply click this link <u>Zoom Q&A Session</u>

For more infomation about the scholarship go to:

https://www.astartinlife.org.au/schoolstudents

SCIENCE NEWS

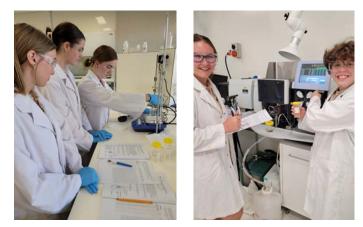
International Day of Women and Girls in Science

On Friday 10th of February, some of our superherofemalesciencestaffMsBathgate, Ms Hargreaves and Mrs Ireland helped our students celebrate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science with sciencebased practical lunch time activities. These activities included DNA extraction from fruit, making a giant wave, and use of the Van De Graaf generator and plasma balls. Twenty eight students from Years 7-11 participated in this event.



HSC Chemistry Study Day

Some of our best and brightest students headed with Mr Ryan to CSU's thoroughly equipped chemistry teaching laboratories for their study day on Tuesday 14th of March. Students performed an acid-base titration, prepared an equilibrium solution dilution series for analysis, operated an atomic absorption spectrophotometer to detect concentrations of iron in Nutrigrain and had some fun with elephant's toothpaste, screaming jelly babies and a dry ice rainbow cylinder.



Year 11 Biology and Investigating Science Excursion

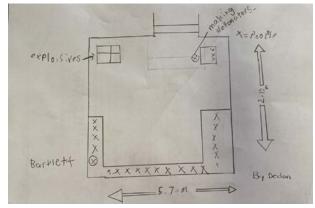
On Wednesday the 22nd of February our Year 11 Biology and Investigating Science students headed to the South Coast for a field study excursion to investigate coastal intertidal ecosystems. The students persevered through trying conditions with enthusiasm and exceptional data collection skills. Mrs Ireland and Ms Williams were accompanied by Mr Taylor and Rashed through rockpools, canoeing, mangroves and surveyed multiple ecosystems.



Year 7 students have been learning to safely operate bunsen burners and other essential equipment, exploring elements and compounds, grasping global cycles and systems and measuring motion. Mr Ryan and the KHS Science team have lots of other excellent opportunities in the works for our students this year, including STEM club and the Science and Engineering Challenge about to get under way. We are all looking forward to an excellent year!

SPECIAL ED NEWS

In HSIE students in the IO/AU class have been learning about significant events in Australian War history. They have investigated the Kapooka Tragedy that occurred on 21st May 1945. The soldiers were at the Kapooka Army Base in an underground bunker learning about explosives when the bunker exploded. 26 soldiers were killed instantly with only one survivor, Sapper Allan Bartlett. The Kapooka Tragedy was the biggest loss of life in a training accident in military history. The soldiers were buried at the Wagga War Cemetery, 7000 people attended the funeral.



Students in the IO/AU class were able to visit the Wagga War Cemetery and investigate the Soldiers names, military number, military position, age, and message on the grave. They drew a detailed diagram of the bunker which showed where the explosives were situated and how the men were positioned before the explosion.



Students in the Support Unit have been visiting the Agriculture plot once a week with Mr Smith. Students are currently growing lettuce and onions. They are learning about growing and caring for plants. Students enjoy feeding the chickens and collecting the eggs. They often visit the Ag plot to collect fresh produce for their lessons in Food Technology.

In Visual Arts students have been investigating the elements of art including colour, line, texture, shape, tone, value, form, pattern and space. They painted a colour wheel depicting primary, secondary and territory colours. Students have experimented with different types of lines and created a continuous line drawing.



Year 12 have been selling chocolates to raise money for the Yr 12 school formal and a year 12 gift to the school. Chocolates are currently on sale for \$1 and can be purchased from any Year 12 student. Both past and present Year 12 members have been selling chocolates both in and outside of the school community.



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TAS NEWS

For week 5 & 6 this term, Year 12 VET students are out on Work Placement, meeting their workplace hours in their specialty areas. It was great to see so many local businesses taking time out of their busy schedules to support our students and enrich their learning experiences. It was also fantastic to see past students working in their studied industries.





Cafe One Nine Five

This term our Hospitality students have been busy catering for a range of events and keeping the display fridge in the cafe stocked, for students and staff to enjoy. We are looking forward to catering for up and coming events, including open nights and this year's School Production to name a few. Miss Powell and Year 12 have been doing a wonderful job inducting Year 11 Food and Beverage students into the cafe.





This term in Agriculture, students have been busily harvesting our summer crops of corn, cucumbers, zucchinis, tomatoes and capsicums whilst also tending to our melon and pumpkin plants. Students will be soon planting our winter vegetables in our glass house in preparation for Autumn and winter sowing. Senior students are currently planning our cropping regime for this year and waiting for the Autumn break to prepare and sow our pasture and cereal crops for the year. Students will be helping with the pouring of concrete slabs in preparation for the completion of our new livestock handling facilities which will improve student and livestock safety whilst replicating industry standards at school.







Design and Technology

Year 11 Design and Technology are developing their creative thinking skills, through the integration of newspaper challenges. These are designed to develop problem solving skills and an ability to be agile within the process.



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ENGLISH NEWS

Term 1 begins with Year 9 students studying the unit: Representations of War. This unit exposes them to a range of texts responding to conflict and its aftermath. Year 10 students are studying a novel; each class has a different text.

Year 11 students in the English Standard course are reading John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" while English Advanced students are studying Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness". Both these courses and the English Studies course also explore a range of texts and text types during the term.

Year 12 has commenced a new module. English Standard and Advanced have begun Module A, each course examining different texts. It is a good time to check in and have a conversation about the interesting content students are exploring.

Stage 4 students are encouraged to read regularly as part of their homework routine. Each student in Years 7 and 8 has access to the Accelerated Reader Program that monitors students' progress in their reading and we encourage families to support students to achieve their reading goals.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL









