The Principal - Mr Hunter

I would like to welcome the many new students and their families to our school. Our school has a proud tradition of meeting the needs of students in the local area and more recently a growing number of students living outside of our local area. This year marks the 60th anniversary of our school operating from this site. During this time our facilities have grown and transformed to keep pace with the needs of 21st Century learners.

Technology is one way to support this need and as a school we are well resourced with electronic whiteboards throughout the school, 240 laptops and 100 iPads for student use. Students can print to the Library photocopier from anywhere in the school and the Library can stream audio-visual materials throughout the school. The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty has a recording studio and a keyboard laboratory for student use. We pride ourselves on offering a broad curriculum that caters for the needs of all our students, including the HSC extension courses in English and Mathematics. The establishment of a staffed Learning Centre in our Library has been a key strategy to support students with their studies, particularly when they encounter difficulties with their homework and assignments.

Literacy and numeracy skills are critical to educational success and as a school we have implemented programs for students and professional learning for staff to ensure these skills receive the attention they deserve. Such programs include Focus on Reading, Focus on Writing, QuickSmart and The Real Game. Our Year 10 Authentic Assessment Program requires students to present their work and discuss their learning to a panel consisting of a staff member, a community representative and a Year 9 student, and through our Business Breakfast we foster links with businesses in our local community to increase educational opportunities for our students.

We have strong student leadership in our school with an SRC and Junior AECG. Our student leaders for 2016 are:

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Captains: Caprice Woolley and Daniel Eyington
Vice Captains: Stephanie Eades and Reid Alchin
Prefects: Angela Fleming, Chloe Myers and Hayley Sim

The Junior AECG (Aboriginal Education Consultative Group) meets regularly and provides a forum for our Aboriginal students. Our leaders for this group are:

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Emillie King — President
Emily Lloyd — Vice-President
Boden Hallett — Secretary
Dylan Andrews — Vice-Secretary

In addition to classroom teachers, there are many staff who provide support to students.

Our Advisers for 2016 are:

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Ms Knox, Year 7
Ms Douglas, Year 8
Mrs L’Green, Year 9
Mr Morgan, Year 10
Mr Davis, Year 11
Mr Krause, Year 12.
Mrs Phillips, Girls Adviser

Our School Counsellor is Ms Toni Falk.

Mrs Weir (HT Welfare relieving), Mr Berry and Mrs Gibbs are Learning & Support Teachers who provide additional support to students who may be having difficulties with their learning in mainstream classes.

Additional support for Aboriginal students is provided by Mrs Field and Mr Bailey.

Weekly sport for Years 7-10 is organised by Mr Berry.

To help our school community keep informed we have a KKHS app for smartphones that provides alerts to school events, explanation of student absences and update of contact details. A new school website is about to be launched and is another valuable information source.

Finally I encourage parents and caregivers to support their child’s education by attending information nights and other events that are scheduled throughout the year.

Farewells

Congratulations to Mr Clarke who was promoted to Head Teacher Science at Chatham HS from the start of this year. Mr Clarke was Year 12 Adviser in 2015, a key member of our Science Faculty and has supported many representative sporting teams.

Our Careers Adviser, Mrs Dwyer is retiring. Mrs Dwyer was appointed to our school in 2000 and has seen many changes in the way schools support students into the world of work and further training. The provision of TVE courses to senior students enabled them to attend TAFE as part of their HSC program, and the introduction of school based apprenticeships and traineeships provided other valuable options for students. Many of our students have benefitted from these programs which were managed by Mrs Dwyer, as well as the careers advice and education she has provided. We thank her for her contribution and wish her enjoyment in this new phase of her life.

Mrs Andrews, our Deputy Principal, is retiring on 18th February. Mrs Andrews has a long history with our school and is an outstanding educator, leader and administrator. She was here as a classroom teacher from 1982 to 1990 and returned in 1998 to take on the role of HT Administration and responsibility for the support classes. In 2010 Mrs Andrews became Deputy Principal. It has been a highlight of my career to work with such a talented, committed and loyal member of staff who has always sought to improve the educational success of students. She has been a support to many members of our school community and promoted the school in a most positive way. Her work with the Junior AECG, Kurri Kurri Learning Community and outside groups has been of real benefit to the students in our school. Thank you for your outstanding contribution Mrs Andrews and enjoy your well-earned retirement.

This will be my last newsletter as Principal as I am retiring on 25th February. The role of principal is challenging but also very rewarding and I have thoroughly enjoyed being at Kurri Kurri HS and have not sought to go elsewhere. I would like to thank the many people who have supported the school during my time as Principal, particularly the P&C and thanks to Mrs Glasson who has been relieving as Principal while I have been on leave. I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their work and to our students—remember our motto, Making the best of ourselves. All the best.

Please see the back page of the newsletter for a list of IMPORTANT DATES.
Deputy Principal Stage 4 - Mr Hope

Firstly, welcome to Kurri Kurri High School to our new year 7, 2016 students and also a big welcome back to students returning for year 8. I would also like to welcome all our new enrolments who have joined the KKHS school community. I trust that all students and their families had enjoyable and relaxing holidays and are prepared for another busy and successful year at Kurri Kurri High School. I would also like to welcome Ms Knox to the role of Year Advisor for our new Year 7 students and welcome back Mrs Douglas who continues to support Year 8 as their Year Advisor. As always Year Advisors are a great contact for parents and students for any issues or concerns.

We have many exciting programs and events running for students in stage 4 starting with Peer Support for students in year 7. This program is now in its 3rd year at Kurri Kurri High School, under the guidance of Ms Dagg, Mrs Gavenlock and Mrs Weir. Peer Support has gone from strength to strength and offers very useful sessions for year 7 and excellent leadership opportunities for our year 10 students. We have an enthusiastic, confident and excellent group of Peer Support Leaders who are well prepared to ensure that all students in year 7 are building essential skills for high school such as problem solving and resilience. I am sure that all students are going to enjoy meeting new friends in their year group, getting to know some of our older students and hopefully having some fun at the same time. Congratulations to all involved for another successful start to the Peer Support program!

I would also like to let parents and students know about our year 7 Camp which has been organised for Term 2. The camp, which is run in association with Active Education, takes place at their Morisset site and offers students an excellent opportunity to take on some very challenging experiences such as the Giant Swing, High Wire Ropes and the now infamous Mud World. All students (and teachers) who attended the camp last year had an amazing time and I would really encourage all students in year 7 to attend. More information about the camp can be obtained from Ms Knox.

Our school also has a successful Learning and Support Team for stage 4, led by Mrs Weir and includes Mrs O’Halloran, and new staff Ms Governatore and Miss Kermode. These Learning and Support Teachers assist students achieve their potential in all subjects with a focus on increasing student’s basic skills in literacy and numeracy. The Learning and Support Team oversee a variety of initiatives including Quicksmart and Multi-Lit Group withdrawal (assisted by Mrs Benic and Mrs Harmon), 1:1 support and also work with classroom teachers to assist students. The Learning and Support Team had some fantastic results assisting year 7 & 8 students in 2015 and hopefully 2016 is another successful year. Please contact Mrs Weir if you would like more information.

Mr Hope Cont’d...

All students in years 7 & 8 have been issued with their new 2016 School Diaries. These diaries provide some excellent resources for students including space to write their timetable, strategies to improve their writing skills, and important information about bell times, uniform, book work to name a few things. Also, this year Kurri Kurri High School has begun to implement the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program and is introducing the core values of Respect, Safety and Excellence to ensure that all students attending our school have the opportunity to achieve success in their education in a supportive learning environment. More information about PBL can be found in later in the newsletter and in student diaries.

Finally, a very warm welcome back to all our existing students and their families and I look forward to a very exciting, productive, successful and enjoyable year at Kurri Kurri High School for everyone in our school community.

Deputy Principal Stage 5 - Mrs James-Cliff (Relieving)

Welcome back to 2016! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday break. We have had a very busy start to the year with Year 9 and 10 students. There have been quite a few new students, as well as students requiring changes to timetables, particularly electives, and these have all now been processed. If any students are still unsure of any matters pertaining to their timetable they are encouraged to pop in to my office for clarification.

We have a Beauty Course commencing in Week 4 this term, which will be delivered by TAFE teachers on site at Kurri Kurri High School. This provides an excellent opportunity for students who may be interested in a career in this field. This course will run each Thursday for the duration of the year. We have 16 Year 10 students who have nominated to take advantage of this exciting curriculum initiative.

At this point in the year, I would like to remind students that Stage 5 studies are fundamental to the development of skills and knowledge which are crucial for success in the senior years of schooling. Consequently, a concerted effort should be made by all students to maintain a high attendance rate and ensure that all classwork is completed, so that they have the best chance of performing well in assessment tasks. Students are also encouraged to ask for help if they are struggling with classwork or assessment tasks, as there are many avenues of support available in the school to ensure that each student has the opportunity to maximise their academic potential.

Please feel free to contact me in regards to any matters concerning Years 9 and 10 students or the Junior Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, which will be holding its first meeting of the year in the near future.
Deputy Principal Stage 6 - Mrs Andrews

Welcome back to all students and families and I hope that 2016 is a successful year. Senior students have had a busy start to the term with Year 11 finalising their subjects for the Preliminary Course and Year 12 students making final adjustments to their pattern of study.

Congratulations to all Year 12 students of 2015, their families and their teachers for all the hard work and commitment to the Higher School Certificate course and its requirements.

Students have been provided with a diary that contains valuable information and provides opportunity for students to record important notes and reminders. The diaries are an important part of a study program, assisting with organisation, and I encourage all students to use and maintain their diaries effectively.

Due to a variety of patterns of study, senior students do not have timetabled lessons continuously from 9.00am to 3.20pm each day. Students who wish to apply for early leave on the days when they do not have timetabled lessons all day must return a permission note signed by parents/carers. When leaving the school grounds students must have their timetable with them to show staff on duty. This note is not a pass out for lunch.

The information evenings for senior students and parents scheduled for 9th/15th February has been postponed. A new date will be advised as soon as possible.

Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximise their potential. It is important that senior students are attending all subjects in order to participate effectively in courses. It is also important for students to be arriving at class on time as students entering the room after a lesson has commenced, create disruption to teaching and learning.

The Study Skills Workshop presented by Learn for Life for Year 11 on the 10th February highlighted the importance of effective organisation, summarising and good habits for success with study. Thank you to Mrs Weir and Mrs Sutherland for organising this worthwhile event.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to the school community for the future as I will commence retirement on the 19th February. Over the years I have worked in this school as a teacher, a Head Teacher and as Deputy Principal and have been very proud to be a member of the Kurri Kurri Learning Community. I will certainly miss working with young people of this area and will look forward to hearing great things about our students in the future. I would like to thank teachers, students, parents, local businesses and community organisations for their support and cooperation. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work of the Kurri Kurri High School P&C. This small group of dedicated people have been a delight to work with and they show a strong commitment to the school. The P&C has generously donated many items and money to all areas of the school. Also I would like to thank the schools of Kurri Kurri Learning Community for the excellent partnerships that exist between our schools. The Cessnock AECG, under the leadership of Sonia Sharpe, is also an active supporter of the students of Kurri Kurri High school and it has been a pleasure to work with this group.

Finally, best wishes and good luck to all at Kurri Kurri High School.

Year 12 class of 2015 - students who were eligible for an ATAR and their plans for the future*:

- BAINBRIDGE, James
  - Bach. Chemical Eng, Uni.of Newc.
  - GAP year, working at Crowne Plaza and TAFE
- BURGESS, Matthew
  - GAP year, working at Crowne Plaza and TAFE
- CLARK, Matthew
  - GAP year, Manager at Dominoes
- COLLINS, Samuel
  - Army, Heavy Vehicle Engineer
- COOK, Keia
  - Apprentice Chef
- CRICH, Alex
- DAVIES, Zigmund
  - TAFE & Hospitality for now
- DAVISON, Rachel
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- EDWARDS, Abby
  - Sports Development Cricket NSW
- HAWKINS, Jasmine
  - Real Estate
- HYLAND, Heidii
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- JEFFRIES, Cain
  - McDonalds Management Course/Apprentice Mechanic
- JONES, Abbie
  - TAFE Certificate III Outdoor Recreation and Fitness
- LANTRY, Dale
  - Carpentry apprenticeship
- LATHAN, Meg
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- LE-LEU, Stephanie
  - Bach. Primary Teaching Uni.of New.
- LUTTON, Jacob
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- MADDEN, Samuel
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- MCDONALD, Emmajayne
  - TAFE Certificate III in Captive Animals, volunteer at HV Zoo
- MEYN, Liam
  - University of Newcastle – Course to be decided
  - Considering University
- MOYLE, Blake
  - Gap Year
- NICHOLS, Kiera-Lee
  - Bach. Primary Teaching Uni.of Newc.
- O’DRISCOLL, Aaron
  - Plumbing Apprenticeship, Cert III TAFE
- PERRY, Samuel
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- PETERS, Sarah
  - Bach. Criminology, Uni of New Eng
- PORTER, Ryan
  - Electrical Apprenticeship, Port Waratah Coal
- SCOTT, Joshua
  - Newstep Uni.of Newcastle
- SHARP, Rebecca
  - Newstep – Engineering Uni of Newc.
- SIMON, Aimee
  - Aged Care or Veterinary Nurse
- SOMERVILLE, Kali
  - Communications, Uni of New Eng
- STOLTENBERG, Zac
  - Bach. Arts – Film, Media and Cultural Studies Uni.of Newcastle
- WATERS, Bethany
  - GAP year hopefully Camp America
- WELDON, Ned
  - Building portfolio for Aust. Film, Television and Radio school in 2017
- WILCOX, Holly
  - GAP year working and travelling then University
- WYBORN, Aden
  - Bach. Primary Teaching Honours, Uni.of Newcastle
- WYBORN, Teneille
  - Certificate III Floristry

* We have attempted to contact all students and if we have missed anyone, our apologies.
Farewell to Mrs Andrews

Saying goodbye to a friend is never easy. Mrs Andrews, Deputy Principal Stage 6, is certainly a friend to us all. Later this month she leaves us to retire. We will be saying goodbye to a mentor, a sounding board, a peace keeper, a teacher, a dedicated colleague and as has been said a few times, a legend. There is rarely a moment when there isn’t a person at her door and the greeting is always with a smile and a patient ear.

As Mr Hunter reflects, Mrs Andrews’ extensive career began as a Home Economics teacher at Dunedoo Central School. Mrs Andrews’ dedication to students, their learning and their wellbeing is unsurpassable. Her presence in so many aspects of school life also is to be applauded; from the committees that run behind the scenes to linking the high school to our local primary schools and working with the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group in our local area.

In her role as Deputy Principal Stage 6, Mrs Andrews has overseen the senior years of school for countless students. Her support for each individual has not just been seen as a job but has been something in which she has had a personal commitment. She has worked tirelessly to find pathways for students in their final years of schooling. Working with teaching staff and students’ families when she has ensured that these young adults are as prepared as possible to step out into the world.

And now, we will say goodbye and wish her all the very best for what lies ahead as she steps out into the world beyond Kurri Kurri High School.

Thank you for everything Mrs Andrews, it is possible that you have already made the best of yourself helping others to be the best that they can be.

Farewell to Mr Hunter

David Hunter’s impact as Principal of Kurri Kurri High School (2010—2016) has been enormous. Mr Hunter’s leadership during his time at Kurri Kurri High School is characterised by commitment, compassion and genuine belief that all students and staff can achieve success.

In 2005 he was appointed to Kurri Kurri High School, as Deputy Principal. In 2010 he gained merit selection to lead the school as Principal. During this time, he led a number of programs and initiatives to bring about change and innovative classroom practices. In particular he was responsible for the installation of Smartboards in all teaching classrooms, improvements in teacher professional learning and unwavering commitment to Focus on Reading and Focus on Writing literacy programs. This leadership has ensured that Kurri Kurri HS in an enviable position of being highly equipped to give our students the very best of opportunities as 21st Century learners.

Mr Hunter’s belief in public education has been central to the relationships he has forged between the High School and local public schools, local businesses and the Kurri Kurri and broader communities. He has promoted how essential it is for us to work together and as a result has earned himself nothing but respect and high regard from all these areas. The support and education opportunities that now exist are a testament to his belief in making – as the school motto says “the best of ourselves.”

Mr Hunter leaves after a teaching career spanning 37 years. He began as a Science Teacher at Marsden High School, and then taught in Narrabri and Newcastle High Schools, before taking on a Head Teaching position at Waratah Technology High School. He returned to Newcastle High School as HT Science and relieving Deputy Principal. It is from this position that he then joined our staff. During his years as an educator, Mr Hunter has gathered an enviable wealth of knowledge, shown undisputed commitment and professionalism. His dedication is unquestionable. There is a belief that you should never ask someone to do something that you are not prepared to do yourself, and Mr Hunter certainly demonstrated this during his time at our school. We all wish Mr Hunter all the very best for his upcoming retirement and thank him for what he has done for Kurri Kurri High School.

DO YOU LIVE IN HEDDON GRETA AND WITHIN THE RADIUS TO RECEIVE A FREE PASS FOR BUS TRAVEL?

With the Hunter Express Way cutting through the route to school, parents/care givers are advised that they can apply for an exemption to receive a pass to avoid their children walking over the Express Way exit roundabout for safety reasons.

Simply go to www.transportnsw.info/school-students.com.au and complete the online application for subsidised travel. You will be able to include a statement in the form which states the reason why you need to make the application.
2016 FREE vaccines for all Year 7 students

Teams of specially trained registered nurses will be visiting your child’s school during Year 7 to offer free vaccinations against serious preventable diseases.

Vaccines include:
1. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (3 doses)
2. Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) (dTpa) vaccine (1 dose)
3. Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine 1 dose

What do you need to do?
- Year 7 Parent Information Kit will be distributed by your school at the beginning of 1st term
- Read the information included in the Kit (translated copies are available on the website below)
- ENSURE FORM IS COMPLETED CORRECTLY, AND SIGN FOR EACH VACCINE REQUIRED
- ensure your child has eaten breakfast the morning of the clinic
- ensure your child is wearing clothing that enables the upper arm to be exposed
- COMPLETE CONSENT FORMS IN BLUE OR BLACK PEN ONLY

Ask your child for the record of vaccination when they arrive home on the day of the clinic – keep this record in a safe place (eg. baby’s’ blue book), ideally notify your GP for their records.

What if your child misses a vaccine?
You won’t need to do anything, every effort will be made to catch-up missed vaccines at other clinics at your child’s school during the year or the following year when they are in year 8.

More questions?
Please contact Hunter New England Local Health District, Immunisation Unit on 49246477 or visit http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/schoolvaccination.aspx

2016 Vaccination Dates
- Tuesday 22nd March
- Tuesday 24th May
- Tuesday 18th October

Positive Behaviour for Learning - Mr Derry PBL Co-ordinator

Kurri Kurri High School is implementing a whole school program in 2016 known as PBL which stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning. This is a rewards based framework that reinforces positive behaviour amongst students and encourages high expectations of behaviour and application to work.

Our three key elements are EXCELLENCE, RESPECT & SAFETY. These three core values apply to all settings within the school and the main goal of the program is for students to achieve greater educational outcomes through embracing excellence, respect and safety.

PBL will be replacing our Step-Up sessions on the timetable. Each week, students will be spending time focusing on how they can achieve these values. When a student follows these guidelines and displays positive behaviour and does the right thing, they will be rewarded. In the classroom and in the playground staff can issue special PBL merits. Students can then give these merits to their Year Advisor to go into the draw to receive greater rewards, from Canteen Vouchers, Principals Awards and some great prizes that we are putting together as this newsletter goes to print.

Through PBL the following is what we will come to expect across all areas of the school:

RESPECT
- Treat everyone fairly
- Be proud of yourself and school
- Use appropriate language

SAFETY
- Take responsibility for your actions
- Act Safely
- Care for yourself and others

EXCELLENCE
- Be prepared to learn
- Be in the right place at the right time
- Aspire and strive to be your best

These behaviours extend to not just students, but to teachers and other people who come into our school. It is for everyone, everywhere in the school, at every time.
What am I learning about???

Ms Tucker HT Teaching & Learning

To help you stay in touch with the what your child will be learning about in their core subjects, the following tables have been put together for your reference. Please note that some dates may change.

### Assessment Alerts

Did you know you can get a list of assessment tasks your child has due straight to your phone?

The Assessment Alert app is available in the App Store and on Google Play and will let you stay up to date with assessment due dates. Go to [http://assessmentalert.com](http://assessmentalert.com) for more information.

#### Year 7

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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
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<td>What makes a good story? Making the reader believe</td>
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<td>French</td>
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<td>Geography</td>
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<td>Computation with Positive Integers</td>
<td>Angle Relationships</td>
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<td>Integer Illusion</td>
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<td>Show me the Money!</td>
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<td>PDHPE (Theory)</td>
<td>Your Friends, Your Relationships</td>
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<td>PDHPE (Prac)</td>
<td>Social Dance and Multi Stage Fitness Test</td>
<td>Athletics: Field Events</td>
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<td>History of Rock and Roll</td>
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**Year 9**

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<td>Indices and Surds</td>
<td>Algebraic Techniques</td>
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**Year 10**

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<td>Issues in Australia's Environments</td>
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**Special Education Unit**

The Special Education Unit scope and sequence will be discussed with students during their Individual Education Plan meetings in Week 5.
**Kurri Kurri High School Newsletter**  
**February 12 2016**

**STEM in Science - Mr Krause**

The Science Faculty at Kurri Kurri High School are continuing their delivery of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities in 2016, in response to a government initiative to boost such skills in students. NSW Premier Mike Baird explained the value of STEM by stating that:

"Employers are demanding these skills so it is vital we improve the quality of science, technology, engineering and mathematics teaching".

Not only this, the National Government has described STEM enterprise as the solution to maintaining economic prosperity and the Australian way of life following the end of the mining boom.

The Science faculty has received a 2016 STEM grant from the Hunter Regional Development Office for five LEGO robotics kits, a 3D printer and a power anchor device (electric aeroplane attached to an anchor point used for testing wing designs). This new equipment will be used alongside other existing STEM resources such as wind and water turbines, electrical testing boards, solar panels, multimeters, NXT and EV3 robotics kits to assist in the development of STEM education.

KKHS students will put their STEM skills to the test this year by competing in the RoboCUP competition, Science and Engineering Challenge, Seed 3D completion, as well as the inaugural Aeronautical Velocity Challenge.

It is shaping up to be a great year for STEM at KKHS and a promising future as well. A dedicated Year 9/10 STEM elective is in development for 2017 which will compliment an existing Year 8 Robotics elective. These new and exciting opportunities will provide a foundation for students to succeed in STEM career pathways, and on a final note regarding careers, the Australian Business Insider ‘10 best paying jobs in Australia’ article listed 9/10 of these best paid jobs as STEM career pathways.

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**CAPA News - Ms Dunlevie HT**

Welcome back! It’s great to see so many students getting back into the swing of school and our new students, particularly year 7, settling in. The year is already shaping up to be very busy and exciting in the Creative and Performing Arts. A lot of activities, workshops and excursions have already been organised for students. These are designed to supplement course work taught within the classroom and extend students interests in their chosen Art. Notes and information will be sent home with students. Keep an eye out for these!

We have introduced a CAPA class in year 8 this year, which will provide students with opportunities to participate in performing arts workshops during sport, as well as attend special excursions and workshops with professional artists.

I would like to welcome two new staff members to the CAPA department. This year Ms P Raikadroka will be teaching Drama and Dance and Ms S Norton will be teaching Visual Arts, on Thursday and Friday. Also, welcome back to Mr Wakewood.

Students are already preparing and learning their dances and songs for Star Struck auditions, which are due on 26th February. Music students will be attending a series of concerts by the Sydney Symphony at the Sydney Opera House throughout the year, the first concert Wynton Marsalis and the Swing Symphony is on 25th February. Visual Arts students have submitted works for the Maitland Show.

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Year 12 Drama started the year with an inspirational excursion to view “On Stage”. The show showcases the best works from last year’s HSC examinations. It was a valuable and inspirational experience for students. The hard work begins NOW! Year 12 Dance and Music students will also attend showcases of 2015’s best work later this term. Students can achieve their best if they work consistently, complete tasks on time, rehearse and take advantage of all the additional time teachers’ offer to students to prepare for their HSC exams, such as lunch times and after school workshops. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate last year HSC students who achieved some outstanding results in CAPA, in particular Emily O’Brien who achieved a band 6 for Visual Arts.

Most students have settled into the year very well and are doing excellent work. However, some students are attending lessons without books. It is important for student to have their equipment in order to participate in the learning activities. If any students have any problems with equipment, please let the teacher know and we can arrange equipment. Dance students MUST bring dance clothes. Dance t-shirts can be purchased for $15 at school. Don’t forget to check out all the latest news on the CAPA Facebook page. There are many great opportunities to look forward to throughout the year. Get involved and achieve your best!

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**P & C Meetings**

are held each month in the Staff Common room.

**Next meeting’s:**

**Tuesday February 23rd**  
6pm AGM 6.30pm Meeting

**Tuesday March 22nd 6.30pm**
Mathematics - Mrs O'Neill HT

A calculator is a vital piece of equipment in every Mathematics lesson. Students in all years who are studying Mathematics need to own a calculator and ensure they have it each lesson.

The school recommends the Casio fx82AU PLUS II, which is being sold this year as usual from the front office for $21. The retail price on this model is $38.95, so the school is offering parents a substantial discount on this piece mandatory equipment.

Students in Year 7 and Year 9 who will complete NAPLAN this year will need their own calculator for the Numeracy test. The school cannot guarantee a calculator will be provided for students.

The Mathematics faculty would like to request that all families check at home for any Mathematics textbooks that have not been returned to school. Many resources disappeared throughout last year and we would like them to find their way back to KKHS.

These resources are required by other students this year and it would be appreciated if any outstanding borrowed books were returned promptly to either the front office or preferably the Mathematics staffroom.

For the next two weeks there will be a textbook amnesty allowing for the safe return of books without question or punishment!

Breakfast Club - Mrs Owen

“Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Breakfast provides the energy and nutrients that lead to increased concentration in the classroom”

(http://www.jhsph.edu/offices-and-services/student-affairs/documents/Breakfast)

The main aim of Breakfast club is to give students the opportunity to have a substantial breakfast in a relaxed, friendly environment before class. Breakfast Club is organised and run by volunteer teachers Mrs Hughes, Ms Crooks and Mrs Owen. Breakfast is provided on Thursday mornings between 7:50am to 8:50 normally from week 2 to week 9 of the school term.

On the menu most weeks are hot cups of Milo, fruit juice and toast. Croissants and pancakes may also be prepared and offered throughout the term. We hold a much anticipated end of year Christmas party in Term 4 with bacon and egg rolls, fruit and the regular breakfast items usually offered.

This year a parent kindly donated additional items such as muesli bars, cereal and milk poppers to give out to students during breakfast club. A heartfelt thank you to Natalie Eades for her donated breakfast items, we genuinely appreciated this gesture.

FAQ regarding Special Religious Education

1. Does Special Religious Education (SRE) happen at KKHS?
Yes. Section 32 of the Education Act requires that 'in every government school, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion."

2. Do all students participate in SRE?
Parents/caregivers have the right to choose whether or not to have their children attend SRE. You would have received an information brochure and participation letter in term 1.

At the time of enrolment, parent/caregivers are given the option of enrolling their child SRE. A parent/caregiver may notify the school at anytime if they wish to change their preference for their child to receive SRE. If you did not receive this then your child can still participate in SRE. Simply send in a written letter stating that you wish for your child to participate.

If your child does not participate in SRE they will be doing suitable activities such as reading, private study and/or completing homework during the time that SRE is on.

3. Who delivers SRE and who is responsible for the content given?
SRE is delivered by religious persuasions that have the approval of the Minister for Education for that purpose and only persons authorised by the approved religious persuasion teach SRE. Please note that the principal is not responsible for the lesson content for SRE.

4. When is SRE delivered and for how long does it go for?
SRE is provided to students in KKHS in a 1 hour lesson each week. Week A - Friday period 2, Week B - Friday period 1. Classes commence Friday February 26th 2016.

5. Who is the SRE Coordinator at KKHS?
SRE is coordinated by Mr Hope and Ms Knox. The SRE teacher is Vosa and the Kurri area coordinator is Merle Cozens.
**Year 7 Year Advisor - Miss Knox**

Year 7 have made a successful transition and have settled into high school very well. I am very excited about undertaking the role of Year Advisor. My role is to ensure that Year 7 students feel supported and have a successful start to High School. That they have every opportunity to excel academically, experience new things and represent Kurri Kurri High School successfully.

This Term students will have the opportunity to experience the swimming and athletics carnival and also earn points for their sporting houses by participating on the day and getting out there, being active and having a go.

Just as a reminder the Year 7 Camp is Term 2, 8th, 9th and 10th June, week 7. I have included information and a suggested payment plan for parents to consider. A deposit is needed by the end of week 4 to secure a place for the students and ensure that the camp can go ahead. The camp is Morisset Outdoor Active Education Camp. The aim of the camp is for students to make new friends, develop their interpersonal skills and self-confidence through participation in a range of activities.

As this is a huge transition year for both students and their families, I encourage parents who may have any questions or concerns regarding their child to contact Mr Hope, Mrs Owen or myself directly here at Kurri Kurri High School. I am looking forward to the year and will strive to ensure that all year 7 students are achieving academically and socially as to prepare them for their years ahead at Kurri Kurri High School.

**Peer Support - Ms Dagg, Ms Gavenlock, Mrs Weir**

During Term 1, Year 7 students will be involved in the Peer Support Program on Fridays. Small groups of students meet with Peer Leaders from Year 10 and work through a range of activities that focus on resilience. Meeting in small groups allows meaningful connections to form, assisting students with the transition to secondary school. Over a period of 8 weeks students will acknowledge their strengths and achievements, identify people who support them and learn how to view challenges as opportunity for growth.

For additional reading and resources to support your child please visit the parent tab on the Peer Support Australia Website. [www.peersupport.edu.au](http://www.peersupport.edu.au)

In week 2 students explored the idea that how they view themselves and their challenges can affect the outcomes of these situations. Students discussed helpful ways to view challenges. They considered keeping things in perspective, separating emotions and ascertaining facts to accurately identify the problem to be addressed.

Your child may, at times, feel overwhelmed by the expectations of secondary school. Encourage them to make a list or write a plan to help identify smaller tasks to make a large workload more manageable. It is important they feel supported while being encouraged to independently prioritise their responsibilities.

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**2016 Year 7 Active Education Camp Experience**

As a result of previous successful ‘Getting Along and Team Building’ camps, the school is planning another Educational Experience for the Year 7 students in 2016. The Morisset Outdoor Education Camp programs are designed to be:

- Fun – through experiential learning and getting to know new friends
- Challenging – stepping out of your comfort zone and doing things you have never done before
- Diverse – not everyone excels at the same things, through diversity you can achieve outcomes that you never thought were possible.
- Relevant – our programs are designed in partnership with schools to achieve quality educational outcomes.
- Memorable – we create our programs to include activities and experiences that students will remember for years to come.

The program gives students the opportunity to begin developing friendships whilst learning about respect and conflict resolution that will support and guide them throughout high school and life.

**Proposed date:** Wednesday 8th June till Friday 10th June 2016.

**Cost and Inclusions:** $260 (dependant on group size). The cost includes all transport, activities, accommodation and all meals. The Active Education program is developed and coordinated by their highly trained and enthusiastic team.

If you have any questions or your child has any special needs, please contact Kim Knox on ph.02 49371877 as soon as possible so that I can contact the camp staff and make adjustments as needed, as I would like all of our Year 7 students to be involved.

As I understand paying for numerous excursions can get quite expensive, we have opened an account at Kurri Kurri High School Office, enabling deposits and instalments to be paid when funds become available. A deposit of $60.00 will secure your child’s place.

**Suggested Payment Plan:**

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<td>Deposit $60.00</td>
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<td>1st installment of $50</td>
<td>Term 1 Week 7</td>
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<td>2nd installment of $100</td>
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<td>Final payment of $50.00</td>
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This is only a suggestion; payments can be made at your convenience.
Sports News - Mrs Gavenlock

SPORTS HOUSES
We have 4 sporting houses within our school, the following will tell you which house your child is in:

If your child/s surname falls between:

A-D. They are in Allunga House and should be dressed in Red.

E-K. They are in Kyeema House and should be dressed in Green

L-R. They are in Lutana House and should be dressed in White

S-Z. They are in Neewarra House and should be dressed in Blue.

For 2016 our Sporting House Captains are:

Allunga: Jasmine Bacon & Brayden Bean

Kyeema: Brittany Hunt & Emillie King

Vice Captains Will Forbes & Sam Hunt

Lutana: Amy Pryor & Macaila Page

Newarra: Sienna Smith & Sam Tranter

Mark this date on your calendar: Athletics Carnival: 11th March 2016 at Glendale Sports Centre.

Kurri Kurri High School has a range of sporting opportunities available for students who wish to represent our school at a Coalfields, Zone, Regional, State and National level. The aims of the Representative Sports program are to provide students with the opportunity to:

✔ Develop a sense of personal achievement and self-worth.

✔ To provide students with enrichment opportunities to better pursue interest or talent identification areas

✔ To present to the community a set of school values involving respect, responsibility, courtesy and pride in school and to showcase the quality and depth of our school’s curriculum.

Please note that Representative Sport updates will be regularly posted on the school’s official Facebook page.

Leaders 2017

Careers - Mrs Dwyer

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY MYDAY PROGRAM

CSU once again has an event filled calendar planned for MyDay events in 2016

MyDay events are interactive days targeting Year 11 & 12 students interested in an area of university study. These days aim to give students a taste of living and learning on campus at CSU and the opportunity to find out more about their chosen course and career. Students will also receive key information about opportunities and support available to make their goals achievable.

MyDay events are offered at each campus of CSU and study areas offered include:


MyDay events also include sessions for parents.

A calendar of these events and registration of your interest can be found on:

futurestudents.csu.edu.au/myday
Important Dates

17 February 2016  
Year 12 REACH Program

18 February 2016  
Year 10 Motivational Speaker  
- Lorin Nicholson

19 February 2016  
Year 11/12 Music Conservatorium  
University of Newcastle

22 February 2016  
Year 10 Parent Info. Evening 6pm

23 February 2016  
P&C Meeting & AGM 6pm

1 March 2016  
Legal Aid Presentation - Yrs 11&12

3 March 2016  
Business Breakfast

10 March 2016  
Aboriginal Performance  
- Aboriginal Students & Year 7

11 March 2016  
School Athletics Carnival

16 March 2016  
Year 7, 11, 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews 3.30pm-6pm

18 March 2016  
Nostalgia High Tea 1pm - 3pm

18 March 2016  
Shortland Wetland Excursion  
Yr 11 Biology/Yr 12 Snr Science

22 March 2016  
Year 7 Immunisations

22 March 2016  
P&C Meeting 6.30pm

25—28 March 2016  
Easter Break

30 March 2016  
SRC Leadership Workshop

31 March 2016  
MADD Night

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Kurri Kurri High School Newsletter
Deakin and Stanford Streets  
Kurri Kurri 2327