



KING'S COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

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From the Principal

26 February 2009

Dear Parents and Friends

It has been encouraging in the last few days to hear the American President and financial leaders beginning to speak more positively about the future of the world economy, and the prospects for recovery. It is a difficult time for us all, as no one likes uncertainty. Our Australian Government is directing a huge sum of money into the country's schools, especially primary schools, for capital works and long term maintenance. Whatever the political and financial merits of the plan, the primary schools around the country badly need this injection of capital, as both state and independent schools have struggled for capital resources over many years, and some schools are plainly sub-standard. This will bring welcome improvement for the nation's children.

"Building the Education Revolution", is designed to help stimulate the economy by maintaining jobs for people at many levels in the community. The building trades have a flow through effect in a lot of areas of life, and in a town like ours, will ensure many jobs and smaller businesses continue in good health for a lengthy period of time.

A total of \$12.4 billion is set aside for refurbishing and large infrastructure projects in primary schools, and P-12 schools like ours. The main government targets are for the building of libraries, school halls, indoor sporting centres or other multipurpose facilities. All primary schools in Australia (7,986 of them!) will receive a funding allocation under the programme.

The government is making an urgent priority of getting the projects under construction as soon as possible, so the funds can begin impacting on the retention of jobs throughout the economy. The Calendar provided to us indicates that some construction is expected to be under way by June of this year.

This is an extraordinarily short lead time, when most schools will have to work their projects up from concept stage, through design and drawing, approvals by local bodies, calling tenders etc. We are already working as quickly as we can to get any possible early planning in place. The School Council has already given consideration to where the greatest needs lie, and what would be feasible within the

guidelines. As yet, a lot of details remain unknown, and of course it is usually the detail that finally determines what can or cannot be done with Government funds. We are exploring all possibilities and getting as far up to speed as the available information allows.

It seems likely that this school may be eligible for up to \$2 million for one or more projects, although with a lack of detail this remains unconfirmed as yet. Still, we consider that substantial projects are possible, including a priority for a purpose built library which has been on our wish list for many years.

A condition of the funding is that the new facilities would be available for community purposes. We want to communicate our ideas, and consult with you about your ideas, and supply as many details as we know a.s.a.p. For that reason you are invited to the Parent's Club meeting on Tuesday 10th March when as well as ordinary business, we will outline proposals and get your input on directions ahead. This will be an important meeting, and you are urged to attend if possible.

We will keep you informed of developments on the whole BEF programme as more information comes to hand.

Yours sincerely
Neil Benfell

PRAYER & PRAISE

- Give thanks for encouraging news on the world economy, and pray for the leaders.
- Give thanks for some funds becoming available and pray for wisdom for wise usage.
- Remember the Halls family who have suffered such loss in the bushfires.
- Pray for every child to find a friend they can trust.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are an ongoing problem in our school with more cases being reported again this week. Girls' hair needs to be tied back in a full pony tail, plaits or pigtails please. It is not satisfactory to have just a small amount of hair tied back. This applies to shoulder length or longer. Please ensure that your daughter's hair is also clipped back away from her face. Headbands (royal blue for primary, maroon for secondary – not white) are good for this. Thank you for your help in this.

Please be vigilant in checking your children's hair. If everyone carefully attends to effective treatment and regular hair checks, we should be able to keep on top of this problem.

PRAYER MEETING

We invite you to join with us on Monday mornings at our school prayer meeting. Feel free to come and go as you are able between 9.00 and 9.30am, as we commit our school, students, staff and families to God in prayer.

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE
ALLOWANCE -
1st SEMESTER, 2009**

This year the Education Maintenance Allowance has been increased to \$221 per year for eligible primary students and \$443 per year for secondary students under 16 years of age. It's payable to parents or guardians who held a valid **Centrelink Pension, Concession or Health Care Benefit Card** on 28 January, 2009. Application forms are available from the school office, and must be completed and returned to the office with your card to be sighted by **27 February**. Please note that **late applications will not be accepted by the Education Department**.

Commencing in 2009, parents are able to have the 50% "parent portion" of the EMA allowance paid directly into a nominated bank account, **or** receive it as a cheque. This can be indicated on the application form.

USED UNIFORM SHOP

The Used Uniform Shop will be open:

Mondays 3:00-3.30pm
Thursdays 8:30-9:00am.

NEW UNIFORM SHOP

The New Uniform Shop will be open:
Fridays 3:00-4:00pm

You are also welcome to complete a new uniform order, available at the front office, and collect your order at a later date.

ART SMOCKS

Waterproof art smocks are available through the New Uniform shop at \$15.00 each

CANTEEN ROSTER

TOMORROW

9.00am N Mclvor, B Ralph, **HELP NEEDED**
11.15am A Horsfall
12.15pm T Brown, M Burleigh, **HELP NEEDED**

MONDAY MARCH 2ND

9.00am N Mclvor, L Sparrow, C Knight
11.15am **HELP NEEDED**
12.15pm G Couch, **HELP NEEDED**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4TH

9.00am R Samrai, A Hannah
11.15am P Armstrong **12.15pm** K Barnes, T Brown

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH

9.00am D Ship, S Speak, **HELP NEEDED**
11.15am C O'Donnell
12.15pm C O'Donnell, M Burleigh, **HELP NEEDED**

As you can see, we are still short on helpers for a number of shifts, especially on Fridays. We have a couple of canteen helper forms which have no contact details. If you have indicated you would be willing to assist and haven't heard from us, please contact the Front Office.

We are currently updating the canteen roster for the remainder of the term. A full roster will be included in next week's newsletter. If you would like to be on the canteen roster, weekly, fortnightly, monthly or occasionally, we would love to hear from you!

PIANIST

Our primary choirs are in need of a pianist to accompany them. If you would be available on Tuesdays from 12.05 – 12.50 each week, we would love to hear from you.

MERIT AWARDS FROM LAST FRIDAY

Prep	Isabelle Spencer	Coming to school with a smile and for completing her work with care.
	Lexie Madden	Always trying to hold her pencil correctly
Gr 1	Melody Greene	Being a good friend
	Kyle Wishart	Very neat work in his books
Gr 2	Hannah Giannes	Very friendly class member
	Dylan Campbell	Great class work
Gr 3	Rhyz Greene-Kelson	Working hard on her tables
	Justin Spinks	Having a wonderful work ethic
Gr 3/4	Kate Rauert	Excellent work habits
	Ethan Couch	Trying to do his best at all times
Gr 4/5	Vienna Smith	15 nights of reading so far this year
	Noah Steel	Noah's bean shoot is the longest in the class
Gr 5/6	Giorgina Maxwell	Working really well all week
	Caleb Gale	Excellent manners
Gr 6	Luke Robertson	High standards of presentation in book work
	Amelia Brooks	High standards of presentation in book work

LEM PHONICS INFORMATION EVENING DATE CHANGE

Please note the change of date for LEM Phonics information evening. The information evening will now be held on Wednesday 11th March at 7:30pm in the Pentagon. If you are wondering what LEM Phonics is all about and how you can help your child with this program, we invite you to attend this session.



JAPANESE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Japanese students are due to arrive on Wednesday 11th March! Thank you to all the host families who have generously opened their homes to these visitors. I hope you will find the experience fun and rewarding.

STAYING SAFE IN CYBERSPACE

Mobile phone, Internet safety and Cyber-bullying for Parents and Teachers

Wednesday 4th March 7.00pm
South west TAFE Lecture
Theatre, F building

Issues relating to internet safety & cyber-bullying:

- How on-line social programs work – Facebook, Myspace, MSN etc
- The dangers associated with using these programs and how to deal with them
- Rights and responsibilities in cyberworld
- Bullying on-line and text messaging with mobile phones

JUNIOR SOCCER

Warrnambool Rangers will begin their Sub-Junior coaching program with "Come and Try Sessions" at Jamieson St. Primary School Oval, on Saturday 14th, and 21st February 2009. Sessions run from 9.30 to 11.00 am. Age groups: 6 to 12 years. Girls and Boys welcome. Cost: Free (for "Come and Try"). For more details phone John on 5561 2397 (after 6.00pm).

PRIMARY CWPSSA TENNIS

Our team of four will compete at this event tomorrow (Friday 27th February). Congratulations to our students who have qualified to represent the school – Jordan Walters, Asha Greene-Kelson, Max Hannah and Sarah Schietroma. We wish them well.

SLC FUNDRAISING

\$2,467.15 has been sent to the Red Cross from the SLC Fundraising BBQ, Out of Uniform day and Parents Club BBQ. Congratulations to the SLC for the successful effort and to all students, staff and parents who kindly helped the effort.

PANCAKE LUNCH ORDER

Tuesday March 3rd we will be selling pancakes (with maple syrup, lemon and sugar or jam) for \$1 per pancake. Money raised will be sent to Plenty Valley Christian School which was affected by the bushfires. Order forms for pancakes were sent home on Wednesday. If you are able to donate eggs, milk, lemons or other ingredients please speak with Kath Russell.

LOST

One of our students has lost a red and black scooter. If anyone knows where this is please see the front office. Thank you.

KOORONG BOOK CLUB

Koorong Book Orders are due on Friday 27th February – **TOMORROW**

EQUESTRIAN INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION

Any students interested in participating in the upcoming competitions please contact Kim Smith for further information on 5593 9274.

WANTED

Egg cartons (dozen size only). Please leave at Front Office.



WDSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Tomorrow our secondary swimming team will compete at the Warrnambool and District Secondary School Swimming Association's Carnival. The team have been training hard under the expertise of Miss Keath. We wish them a very successful day!

PARENTS CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH

7:30pm

**KING'S COLLEGE
STAFF ROOM**

ALL PARENTS WELCOME TO ATTEND

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Proposed building works resulting from funding received from Federal Government
- Changes to the Canteen menu
- Teachers' Wish List for 2009
- Future dates for Parents Club meetings
- Bike shed status update

We welcome your input and ideas and hope that you can attend on this evening.

Refreshments served.