Principal’s Comments

Junior School Council

Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal

Junior School Council is holding a ‘Pyjama’ day on Wednesday 9th March to support the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Each child who participates is asked to contribute a gold coin for the appeal. This will be a fun day and I am sure most families have some experience with the RCH and value the wonderful care and support that is provided to unwell children and their families.

Easter Egg Raffle

Junior School Council in conjunction with KPA is also striving to support the school and will hold an Easter Egg Raffle to raise funds. Two years ago the students raised money which bought the house flags and a generous family funded the school flag. In 2015 a beautiful chair was purchased for the Library story corner. Some of the money from last year was not spent and that will combine with money raised in 2016. Ideas for purchase will be discussed at JSC meetings and will discuss various options how to use the money to support the school.

If families are able to contribute an Easter egg, basket or item, students will receive house points. Junior School Council with help from class reps and KPA will bundle and wrap the eggs into a number of prizes. Junior School Councillors are collating the raffle tickets this week and you will receive them shortly. We value your support.

Easter Raffle Organisation:

- Students with Easter donations can take them to the JSCs in the courtyard before school or to the Year 5 & 6 Learning Common at lunch eating time (1.30pm).
- Eggs will be placed into boxes and baskets - we hope to have a lot of prizes.
- Junior School Council Representatives will collect the eggs and record points for their houses.
- Weekly tallies will be announced.
- Raffle tickets will cost $1 per ticket and books of 10 tickets will be sent home next week.
- The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 16th March at the Twilight Sports so prizes will be ready for Easter.
- There will be a free dress day on Friday 18th March for the winning house.

Please help us with eggs or Easter items!

School Council and Annual General Meeting

The next meeting of School Council and AGM will be on Monday 21st March at 7:00pm.

Head Lice

Please regularly check your child’s hair for head lice. We have had several cases reported so it is imperative that you keep a constant watch and treat any infected hair. Please notify the school if lice is found so we may send a note home to other students in your child’s class. Attached to this newsletter is our Head Lice Information Flyer. Putting cheap hair conditioner on your child’s hair and using a head lice comb to comb through the hair is our recommended method. We ask that all children with longer hair keep it tied back.

Emergency Management

Karoo Primary School as per all government schools, has an Emergency Management Plan which covers procedures in an emergency situation. As part of the plan we schedule practices to ensure we have safe evacuation and lock down procedures. We had a practice emergency evacuation last week and will have another one this week on Thursday at 1:05pm when we will walk to the Community Reserve. In the future we will have a ‘lock-down’ practice. After each practice we evaluate and alter any processes that may require refinement to ensure a safe and calm environment where staff and students and visitors to the school are aware of roles and duties in a potential emergency.

Irene Harding - Principal

KPA Second hand uniform sale - Donations wanted

KPA will be holding a second hand uniform sale on Wednesday 23rd March from 2.30-3.45pm. If you have any clean, unwanted uniform items that you are willing to donate for the sale, please deliver them to the office as soon as possible. All proceeds will be donated back to the school. Thanks for your support.
**Twilight Sports Carnival**

**Wednesday 16th March**

There's only 2 weeks to go until the Twilight Sports Carnival and excitement is building!

Prep - Year 2 will be participating in 3 events which are a Relay Race, Tunnel Ball, and Egg & Spoon race. Years 3 - 6 will be participating in 4 events which are a Balloon Race (between your knees!), Under/Over Ball, Rob the Nest and Egg & Spoon race.

Each year level will be assigned to a particular event to start and then rotate through their events. This and more information will be communicated via your Class Rep and in the newsletter.

As we mentioned last week, there will be food available for purchasing on the night. We are also giving you the option to pre-order your food. If you would like to pre-order, please complete the form attached to this newsletter and return it to the office by Friday 11th March.

If you have any questions or need anything clarified, please email the KPA at karooparentassociation@karoops.vic.edu.au

Until next week!  

Janelle Toh - KPA President

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**OFFICE NEWS...**

**Year 6 Student VSN details**

Last week all Year 6 students received a letter notifying them of their Victorian School Number (VSN). This number remains assigned to each Victorian student for the remainder of their education. Please retain this letter in a safe place as the VSN will be required for Year 7 transition forms.

Thank you, Office Staff

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**ROWVILLE HAWKS**—Offering a successful pathway program from U8s through to Division 1 Seniors. Looking to find an UB team in 2016 and limited places in U8s to U17s. New UB players receive a welcome pack and discounted fees. For enquiries email registrations@rowvillefc.org.au or call Trevor on 0418 335 245.

**KNOX GYMNASTICS CLUB**—School Holiday Fun! General gymnastic sessions running Wed 30th March & 6th April from 10am-12pm for Primary School children. No experience necessary. $16 per session or $30 for both. Enrolment forms available at Knox Gymnastics office or online at www.knoxgymnastics.org.au.

**GECKO SPORTS**—Knox launch party on Sat 12th March from 8:30-9:30am (5-8yrs) or 9:30-10:30am (9-12yrs) at Eastern Indoor Sports Centre, 1642 Ferntree Gully Rd, Knoxfield. Places limited. Register via email to Andrew@geckosports.com.au or call Andrew on 0422 196 609.

Neither Karoo Primary School nor the Department of Education endorses the product or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by Karoo Primary School or Department of Education for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

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**UNIFORM**

Klad Sport, 8 Macro Court, Rowville Ph: 9763 0266

Open:  
Monday - Friday : 8:30am-4:30pm  
Saturday: 9:00am-1:00pm

Uniform List available from office.

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**UNIFORM**

**LOST PROPERTY—ROOM 7**

Open at the following times:

**Before School:** Mon & Wed 8:45-9am  
**After School:** Mon to Wed 3:30-3:45pm  
**During School:** Mon to Wed 1:30-1:40pm only  
(No Visitors during class time please!)

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**INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AND ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)**

Karoo is again providing the opportunity for students to sit the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS is organised by the University of New South Wales and allows students in Year 2 to 6 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. The subjects for assessment are Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics.

Further details and permission notes are available from the office. If you wish for your child to participate in one or more of the assessments please note that payment and permission notes are due on **Tuesday 15th March**.

Fiona Marker - ICAS Co-ordinator

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**2016 Karoo Primary School**

**Easter Raffle**

Karoo Parent’s Association wish to invite The Karoo Community to support their ‘house’ and support their school.

Donations for the 2016 Easter Raffle now being taken.

* Easter Chocolates  
* Easter Craft  
* Easter decorations  
* Easter storybooks  
* Baskets or gift boxes suitable for packaging

Donations can be made to your ‘house colour box’ in the courtyard before school or in the Year 5&6 Learning Common at lunch eating time (1:30pm). Points will be awarded to each ‘house’. Donations will be received up until Wednesday March 16. All prizes will be drawn at the Twilight Sports evening Wednesday March 16. Raffle tickets will be sent home to families shortly.

Thank you for your support.

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**Happy Easter**
ROWVILLE DISTRICT SWIMMING COMPETITION
On Thursday February 25th, 23 Karoo students participated in the District Swimming Competition held at Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre. This is the first time the event has been held at an outdoor venue and it was a great success. Well done to every student for their wonderful effort in their swimming event. The students represented our school proudly and showed excellent sportsmanship, with participation being their main objective. It was wonderful to see the students and parents encouraging Karoo swimmers as they swam and congratulating them after their event, regardless of their placing. Special mention to those students who were prepared to enter events they had not planned to, when others were not able to attend and those who swam in an age group above their own. Overall Karoo finished in 4th place out of the 8 schools competing. This was an outstanding achievement for this small team of 23 students and our highest placing in the 5 years that the event has been run as a ‘competition’. Well done Karoo!! Thanks to the parents who attended with their children and special thanks to Lisa Aldons and Sandra O’Gorman who ensured that all Karoo swimmers were at the starting blocks for their particular event. Summer M and Will V from Year 4 qualified, with their 1st place results, to compete at the Division Swimming Competition which is being held today. Summer finished first in the 10 year old girls’ freestyle event. Will finished first in his 10 year old boys’ butterfly event. Wishing them both the very best of luck at today’s competition.

Karoo Cross Country on Friday 11th March - Wear Your House Colours
Our annual school cross country will go ahead in just over one week’s time. The students will run in their age and gender group around the 1 lap (8 and 9 year olds), 2 lap (10 year olds) and 3 lap (11 and 12/13 year olds) course. One house is declared the winning cross country house, so the students are representing their school house when they run. The students may wear running clothes eg. a t-shirt, shorts, socks etc. in their house colour for the Cross Country. Hopefully this will help to promote some healthy competition between the houses and allow those students and parents watching the races to cheer for their house’s runners, even if they do not know the runners by name. Further details about the event will be given to the students in PE sessions and next week’s newsletter.

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED FOR KAROO CROSS COUNTRY
Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to assist at the cross country.
To conduct our Cross Country safely and effectively, we need about 15 parents to help out on the day. If you are able to help out around the course between 11:30 am—1:30 pm on Friday March 11th or the backup day, Friday March 18th, please complete the slip and return it to the office. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

TWILIGHT SPORTS — FOOD PRE-ORDER FORM
Parent Name: _______________________________ Contact Number: __________________________
Eldest student’s name: ___________________________ Grade: __________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>SUBTOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausage in Bread</td>
<td>$2.00 each</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft drink/Juice/Water</td>
<td>$1.00 each</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TNT</td>
<td>$1.00 each</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuppa Chups</td>
<td>3 for $1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Meal Deal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x Sausage in bread</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x Soft drink/juice/water</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 x TNT</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x Chuppa Chups</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed forms due back to the office no later than Friday 11th March 2016.

KAROO CROSS COUNTRY
Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Child’s name ___________________________ Class: ___________________________
☐ I am able to assist with the cross country at one of the checkpoints around the course on 11th March
☐ I am also free to assist on backup day of 18th March
About head lice

Head lice have been around for many thousands of years. Anyone can get head lice and given the chance head lice move from head to head without discrimination.

- Head lice are small, wingless, blood sucking insects.
- Their colour varies from whitish-brown to reddish-brown.
- People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who has head lice.
- Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl.

Finding head lice

Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:

**Step 1**
Comb any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.

**Step 2**
Now comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.

**Step 3**
Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.

**Step 4**
Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.

**Step 5**
Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least 4 or 5 times

If lice or eggs are found, the child’s hair should be treated.

Head lice eggs are small (the size of a pinhead) and oval. A live egg will 'pop' when squashed between fingernails. Eggs will not move on a hair shaft – dandruff will.

Treating head lice

- Concentrate on the head - there is no evidence to suggest that you need to clean the house or classroom. Lice will dehydrate when not on the head.
- **No treatment kills all of the eggs** so treatment must involve two applications seven days apart.
- If you are using lotions, apply the product to dry hair.
- There is no need to treat the whole family, unless they also have head lice.
- Only the pillowcase requires specific laundring: either wash it in hot water (at least 60 degrees centigrade) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.
- There is no product available that prevents head lice. Using the conditioner and comb method once a week will help you detect any head lice early and minimise the problem. Tying back long hair can help prevent the spread of head lice.
- Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be use.

Further resources

Further information and resources are provided to help you detect, treat and manage headlice – visit www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/resources.htm.

Pamphlets are also available in hard copy. They are free of charge and can be ordered either on-line or by printing the order form and faxing it to: Communicable Diseases Control, Department of Human Services Facsimile: (61 3) 9096 9174.

Information provided above is contained on the Victorian Government Health Information website – visit www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/about.htm