

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1

APRIL

TUTORING K-2 EASTER HAT PARADE CROSS COUNTRY LAST DAY TERM 1

1ST

Term 2

APRIL

 19TH STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – NO STUDENTS
20TH STUDENTS FIRST DAY TERM 2
21ST KOTARA HIGH SCHOOL PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
23RD ZONE PSSA CROSS COUNTRY
28TH YEAR 2 ART GALLERY

FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK

YEAR 7 INTERVIEWS

This week staff had the opportunity to visit Kotara High School and speak with some of last year's students who have now transitioned into year 7. We wanted to know how we could better assist students with the change to high school. It was great to catch up with these students and get their valuable insights into how to improve our transition processes. Some of the big things that were discussed were

- Homework
- Time management
- Being more responsible
- Having to write more.

We will be incorporating these things into our transitions for year 6 as the year progresses.



ATTENDANCE...

Our school has been set an attendance target of having greater

than 88% of students attend school for greater than 90% of the time.

The overall % of students attending school attendance over 90% this week is: 87.4 %



School success starts with attendance



KINDER TO YEAR 2 EASTER HAT PARADE & CROSS COUNTRY

K-2 are very excited to be able to participate in an Easter Hat Parade this year! The parade will **commence at 9.45am**. Fingers crossed for sunny weather so our infants students can showcase their wonderful creations.

Students can either make the hat at home, or make the structure of it at home and bring it to school to decorate during the last week of term 1. We will have some extra decoration supplies but as usual, families are welcome to send in hat decorations from home as well.

Due to COVID guidelines we will only be permitting one parent per student on site to be an audience for the parade, which will be held on the concrete area on the infants side of the school. Visitors will be required to sign in at the office as a visitor to the school along with scanning the QR code.

The Cross Country Carnival is on the same day and is being held at Alder Park. **Students turning 8 years old this year are welcome to participate in the competitive event if they would like.** See separate information on the Cross country carnival further in the Principals Blog. All other infants students will have fun on an obstacle course set up in the middle of the field.

PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY

The annual School Cross Country event will be held on Thursday 1st April at Alder Park. The event is used to select the team who will represent our school at the Newcastle City PSSA Zone Cross Country Carnival which is to be held on Friday 23rd April.

The students will be walking to Alder Park for their event and then return to school upon completion.

Parents are welcome to attend Alder Park and support their child. In line with COVID guidelines, those in attendance will be required to practice social distancing, sign in with the QR Code that will be displayed on the Alder Park change room facility at the field and remain apart from the students.

Competitive students wishing to be considered for Newcastle City PSSA Zone Cross Country will be required to run the below distances, at the approximate start times:

Year Group	Approximate Start Time	Distance
Year 5 and 6 (Age Event: 11, 12, 13) * Stage 3 students in the 10 years category will compete in the 2kn event at 10.30am	9.45am	3km
Year 3 and 4 (Age Event: 8, 9, 10)	10.30am	2km
Kindy, Year 1 and 2	11.15am This will coincide with the completion of the Infants Easter Hat Parade	8 year old – 2km 5, 6, 7 years – Obstacle Course Activity

JUNIOR SWIM CHAMPIONS

Our junior swimming champions were announced yesterday at the stage 2 assembly. Well done to our junior champions and ribbon receivers.



DA VINCI DECATHLON

Next week a number of our students will be travelling to Bishop Tyrell Anglican College to participate in the Da Vinci Decathlon. The da Vinci Decathlon is an academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of school students. Students compete in teams of 8 across 10 disciplines: engineering, mathematics, chess, code breaking, art and poetry, science, English, Ideation, Creative producers, cartography and legacy. We wish our students attending this event all the best and look forward to hearing how they went.

PSSA SCHOOL SPORT

One of the best restrictions being lifted after COVID was interschool sport. We are excited to be back playing sport against other local schools. Best of luck to our open cricket team who will take on New Lambton Public School at Regent Park next week. Weather permitting it should be a fantastic game!





THE RESILIENCE PROJECT



Part 1: Introducing The Resilience Project – Parent and Carer video series.

We are excited to have commenced The Resilience Project's online wellbeing curriculum in our classrooms starting last week.

Students are really enjoying their work with "The Resilience Project" Almost all of our student journals have been purchased and we ill be ordering more shortly. It would be great if every child had their own journal. Please make payment as soon as possible to guarantee your child's journal arrives with the next order!

<u>The Resilience Project</u> *delivers emotionally engaging programs and provides evidence-based, practical strategies to build resilience.*

The Digital Program consists of online presentations and lessons for students, professional development for staff, and **a video series for our parent and carer community.**

Over the coming weeks, we'll be sharing the Parent and Carer Program with you. The videos are 5-10 minutes long and will walk through the key pillars of resilience: Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. You'll hear stories and be introduced to activities to show how these strategies can support our kids learning and development, and also support you as parents and carers.

This program is an important part of our school's effort to look after the mental health of our community.

View the first presentation of the series here: Part 1: Meet Martin and learn about The Resilience Project: <u>https://theresilienceproject.com.au/parent-and-carer-hub/</u>

We will be in touch weekly to share the remainder of the program, including research and wellbeing activities to integrate into day to day life.

For mental health resources and support information, visit The Resilience Project's Support Page.

STAGE ASSEMBLIES

This week we conducted the assemblies for Early Stage 1, Stage 1 and Stage 2. It was lovely to celebrate the successes of our students at the assemblies. The assemblies were live streamed via zoom with significant numbers of parents joining in to watch the children perform some songs and be recognised for their achievements this term. Well done to all our award recipients!













SRC MEMBERS

Our school SRC members have now all received their badges and have already held their first meeting of the year. Student Representative Council members have come up with some great ideas for improvements and fundraising around the school.

2021 SRC members include:

2/3C	Tom Mc and Addy C	3/4M	Immy V and Ivy L
3/4H	Liam R and Erin B	3/40	Gus C and Zali P
3/4D	Tayah C and Dom McB	5/6A	Adelaide D and Zoe A
5/6T	Miley T and Oyu B	5/6C	Ned C-S and Arher B
5/6L	Martha McC and Jackson S	5/6H	Isla R and Harry P

MRS WILSON RETURNING

Next term we will welcome Mrs Wilson back after her maternity leave. Mrs Wilson will be working on Year 1 on a Thursday and Friday.

2022 KOTARA HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

The first parent information session to support the transition from Year 6 to Year 7 (2022) of students attending Kotara High School will take place on **Wednesday 21st April (Week 1, Term 2)**. This information session will involve introducing the KHS staff involved in the KHS Transition Team to all parents and carers and also discuss the major initiatives that are taking place throughout the year to support transition.

This information session will take place in the **MPC at Kotara High School** from **6pm** running for approximately 30 minutes.



RETURNING OF OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS

All library books need to be returned to the library before the end of next week. Students have received a reminder note today.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

This week students in stage 3 have had the opportunity to host zoom conferences with their parents. Highlighting the work that they have completed through the term. By all accounts this has been a great experience for the kids and the parents. We will continue to grow and develop this process over the year.





Have a great weekend everyone ...

Mr Pryce Principal



APRIL 15th - 16th 2021 8:30am - 3:00pm

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