



Class of 2020



Koondrook Primary School respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay respects to the Barapa Barapa Elders past, present and future.

Koondrook Primary School

KPS: Respect, Responsibility, Resilience

December 16th, 2020

Issue no: 40

Principal's Report

As the end of Term 4 is nearing (and this is the last newsletter for 2020) it gives me time to reflect on the year. We have had a very unusual year. Looking back to the start of the year we would never have dreamed that we would have to undergo two shutdowns and teachers and students would be working and learning remotely, the border between our two towns would be closed and we would require a permit to drive over the bridge, that there would be restrictions and we would not be able to spend time with family and friends. That parents were not able to come onto the school site and we would have to wear face masks! Thank you to the dedicated team of teachers and support staff here at Koondrook that did their best to make this year work for all students. Thank you to all the parents who supported the children and the teachers during this time. I think everyone is looking forward to the holidays to have a break and recharge our batteries. We have been a part of history this year and we have learnt a lot, but I hope 2021 will be a year where we can get on with our lives in a normal way.

Thank you to everyone in our community for your support and the interest that you take in our school. Your involvement with our school and students certainly helps to make school a special time and place for all of our children.

Thank you to the School Council for their outstanding work and support of our school again this year. It was a little different this year with the majority of our meetings held on WebEx. Their willingness to give their time, effort and care are vital in helping to make our school an exciting place to be. The School Council play a fundamental role in the running of our school, and their time and input is very much appreciated. It is fantastic to have such strong, vibrant people as part of our school community.

Continued Overleaf...



Dates to Remember

Term Dates 2020

Term 4 ~ October 5th – December 18th

Term Dates 2021

Term 1 ~ January 28th – April 1st

Term 2 ~ April 19th – June 25th

Term 3 ~ July 12th – September 17th

Term 4 ~ October 4th – December 17th

School Dates to Remember

December 17th – Swimming

December 17th – Assembly on the Green

December 18th – Last Day, Early Dismissal @ 1:30pm

January 28th – School Starts all Students



Continued...

As a school community, I would like to thank Cassie Altimari for all she has done for the students, families and staff at Koondrook Primary School over the last 4 years. Thank you, Cassie, for the commitment, passion and dedication that you have shown to all the children whom you have taught. I wish you all the best in 2021; the school that picks you up will certainly be getting a gem! I wish all families a Merry Christmas and hope you have a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing all your bright smiling faces in 2021. School resumes in 2021 on Thursday 28th January for all students in Prep - Year 6. Teachers commence on Wednesday 27th January and will be involved in professional learning on this day.

Graduation

On Monday night the Year 6 students celebrated completing their Primary School education at Koondrook Primary with family and teachers at a dinner at Tudor Tavern. They had a lovely night and we were so glad that parents were able to join us on the night.

Goodbye

It is the end of the road at KPS for Ella, Emersyn, Isabella, Ruby, Max, Thomas, Charlie, Riley and Harri who are leaving us to head off to either Kerang Tech High or Barham High School for their Secondary Education. Four of these families are leaving for good after many years of association with KPS. The Whelan, den Houting, Davis and Parsons families have had children through Koondrook PS for many years and the families have helped out in various ways along the way. Thank you very much for all you have contributed to our school and our best wishes go with you all.

Working with Children Checks

There are often activities and excursions where we rely on parent help. As you are aware, in order to help out with any activities, all volunteers must have a current Working with Children Check. It is free to get one and you can apply online or go to the Post Office and apply there. They do take several weeks to process, so now is the perfect time to get one if you would like to help out next year. We will be asking for parents to help with our reading and swimming program, which will continue in Term 1.

Assembly on the Green

Please remember that due to restrictions we are asking you to have a quick tea at home. Only parents of the children and siblings are able to attend. Everyone will need to sign in and there will be people on the gate to help with that. Please remember to bring your own chair.

Order of the night

6:40pm – Prep – Christmas Carols x 2

Year 1/2 R – Dance Item

Year 1/2 B – Musical Item

Award Presentations

Year 3/4 – Play – Maggon the Dragon

Year 5/6 - Play – Bruce and the Beanstalk





End of Term

We finish at **1:30pm** on Friday.



Reports

Our hard-working teachers have been very busy over the last several weeks rebuilding achievement data sets for each student in preparation for end of year student reports. Whilst these upcoming reports won't provide achievement data/commentary across all curriculum areas due to the periods of remote learning this year, progression points have been re-established to show progress in the key areas of Literacy, Numeracy and P.E. Reports have been sent home with students today.

Watering Roster

Attached to this newsletter is the watering roster for the holidays. It will be posted on our Facebook page as well. The tap connections will be able to be returned and collected from the Post Office. Thank you so much to the families who have volunteered to help keep our gardens thriving over the holidays.

Amanda Bradford



NDCH

Northern District Community Health

NDCH-your first port of call in the pursuit of good health!

5 Ways for Happy Holidays



As we near the end of the year NDCH want to extend our best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday. We encourage you to spend time with loved ones, in ways that are safe, and to take the time to relax and recover after what has been a big year for all. We are so proud of our community and cannot wait to be back working with you all next year. In the meantime here are some tips from the 5 Ways to Wellbeing to ensure you all have happy holidays.

CONNECT

Spend time with loved ones (in a COVID safe way) and be present with them. Enjoy the meals together, the laughter and catch ups and all that comes with gathering together. These are the times your children will have memories of forever.

BE ACTIVE

Walk, swim if it is hot, play backyard cricket. Find ways to keep your body moving during the holiday period and encourage your children to join in with you.

TAKE NOTICE

Take the time to notice the joy around you this Christmas and share it with your children. It might be the lights and decorations around the towns or the excitement of children as they share and receive gifts. Being in the moment helps us stay positive and happy.

DISCOVER OR KEEP LEARNING

Support your child to read that new book they got from Santa, or to learn to play their new instrument. You might do a crossword puzzle or even travel somewhere and learn about another town. Challenging our brains helps to keep them strong no matter what age we are.

GIVE OR VOLUNTEER

Holidays are a time of giving not just receiving. Show your children that you can give in the form of gifts, perhaps donate new or used toys to those less fortunate. Or you could volunteer your time to help out many of the much needed services over the holiday period.

www.ndch.org.au



Koondrook Primary School Holiday Watering Roster

Week	Dates	Family Name/s
1	December 20 th – 26 th	Danielle Tuck & Deb Pengelly
2	December 27 th – January 2 nd	Sarah Turvey & Teisha Hill
3	January 3 rd – 9 th	Courtney Dean & Emily Wood
4	January 10 th – 16 th	Fulton family & McInerney family
5	January 17 th – 23 rd	Karen and Michael Reid
6	January 24 th – 26 th	Karen Naismith

Could volunteers please water the pot plants, the peace garden (around the paved area), the vegie garden and the succulent garden in front of the portables.

Thank you