Keeping In Touch

The next P&C Meeting for 2015 is on

Monday 17 August at 7pm in the LIBRARY in D Block

All Parents and Carers are welcome.

Principal’s Report

Our year 12 students are passing another milestone with the submission of practical major works for HSC marking. Classes including, Industrial Technology, Design and Technology and Visual Arts will all be submitting their work which is locked away in a secure space in the school awaiting the arrival of Board of Studies markers.

Music and Drama students will soon have their performances examined and other work submitted includes, English Extension and Society and Culture. Good luck to all of our year 12 students. They have been working feverishly all year for these events.

Last Friday the SRC had an out of uniform day so as to raise funds for the “Jeans for Genes” initiative. Almost $500 was contributed by students and staff. Every dollar raised on the day helps scientists at Children’s Medical Research Institute discover treatments and cures, to give every child the opportunity to live a long and healthy life.

All years except year 11 and 12 have recently completed subject selections so that classes can be formed for the 2016 curriculum. Classes are created directly from student choice, and placed on lines and a student’s best fit is created. Students selecting these subjects are encouraged to choose the course based on three fundamental ideas; will they enjoy the course, will they do well in the course, are there any opportunities that may be created from completing this course? Parents are encouraged to discuss their child’s selection and ensure they speak to the teacher responsible for that course so that they make an informed decision.

Finally, a short note on buildings and infrastructure. The staff carpark is complete and will free up some space and hopefully allow for better flow of traffic, and the year 11 and 12 construction classes are on target to complete the bus shelter/walkway by the end of term.

Chris Dibben  Acting Principal
ATTENTION ALL STAFF, PARENTS AND CARERS;

There is a drop off and pick up area, for our disabled students ONLY in the Staff car park off Corriston Cres. Please take care and use caution when driving through our car park to drop your child off OUTSIDE the school gate.

There is a 15km speed limit, for the safety of staff and students in that area.
**E-books**

The library e-book system is operational. We have started with a small selection of e-books for students to enjoy anywhere, anytime. It is easy to access once you have downloaded the wheelers e-platform app from your device provider’s app store (Apple, Google Play, Android, etc.).

Steps for accessing e-books:

- Find your library
- Type in: **Kotara High School**
- Sign in using your username (e.g. janet.smith) and the password: **kotara1** (note every student has the same password)
- That’s it!! 😊

Students have access to these resources for 2 weeks at which point the e-book will automatically be removed from your device and returned to the Kotara High library.
Kotara High School has purchased Mathsonline, which is a very useful tool for revision and for catching up work missed. The expectation from the Mathematics Faculty is that the junior students complete the weekly revision tasks each week. All students would benefit from revising topics they have studied via Mathsonline and attempting the accompanying exercises. If your son/daughter has misplaced their login details please advise them to see their Maths teacher.

Hi all, we are so glad you could check in and see what’s happening at Kotara High in the Music department!

This term marks the last for the Year 12s, who have been working hard towards their final performances. While this time can be stressful, these students have put in the time to complete some excellent performances and during term 3 they will have several events to practice their pieces in front of an audience.

The Kotara High School Soirée, a special night featuring some of the most talented students was moved back from week 2 of this term to week 5, Wednesday 12th of August. The concert began with the Kotara High School Stage Band playing. It was fantastic to see so many students getting to display their talents as well as show parents and peers what their combine efforts have achieved. This concert featured strong representation from the junior years, with Year 10 and Year 9 in particular having a large group of students performing, some for the first time. It was delightful to see these students step up to the occasion and it’s easy to see that the future for performers in Music at Kotara High is strong.

Also performing were many seniors who played some of the best group pieces of the night. Daisy Thompson-Munn’s and Riley Lane’s groups were exceptional and there was also great diversity with Ellen Frolich’s French horn piece and Connor Rayner's piano solo. These students will soon be completing their HSC so we wish them well!

In week 7 there will be a HSC NIGHT in the MPC. This will feature the HSC music class performing all their pieces for the final time before their HSC exam and as well as the major works from the schools Visual Art and Photography students. Please keep an eye on this special date as the creativity and talent on display is outstanding. Please remember to keep an eye on all these events and this space in the future, don’t be a stranger and come support your school!

C Danvers
Soirée Night
On Friday 24th July 2015, Year 11 Visual Arts students from Kotara High School ventured out into Newcastle City to document the best examples of our Street Art Culture. Students travelled from Nobbys Park to Newcastle Mall and foreshore, taking pictures and documenting the latest works.

At Nobbys Park, they had the opportunity to listen to Rodger McFarlane discuss the development of Newcastle’s first Resilience Sculpture. Students heard about his experiences as a sculptor and the beginnings of the project. Students learnt about ways to build resilience skills in a short workshop and they were able to leave a message about resilience on a tree display that will be used at the opening ceremony. You can visit Roger at the site and for a small donation; take a piece of the sculpture home with you. The project is aimed to be finished by the end of August.

http://www.roger-mcfarlane-sculptor.com

Year 12 Photography Guest Speaker-

On Monday 27th July, Year 12 had a guest speaker visit their class and discuss their progress with their major works. Gez Xavier Mansfield, a Professional wedding photographer, worked with them to help resolve their ideas and spoke about his experience working in the industry. A link to his website can be found below.

http://www.gezxaxiermansfielddesign.com
YEAR 8 WELFARE DAY

In week 3, year 8 participated in a Welfare Day where they built upon their understanding of Acceptance, Different Cultures, Respecting Others, Kindness and Identity. During the day students painted their unique ideas of Acceptance onto boards, which will then be displayed as one large mural to be placed in the school grounds. The day went well and some fantastic artworks were created. Kotara High School students are full of creative ideas and inspiration!
YEAR 11 JINDABYNE TRIP

It’s snowing!! Well at least it was when the 79 Year 11 students arrived in Jindabyne on Sunday afternoon. All of a sudden it made the 9 hour bus trip from Kotara seem worthwhile. The excitement continued to grow throughout the afternoon and evening as students were allocated with their skiing and snowboarding equipment, assigned their ski groups and prepped for the days ahead.

Mt. Blue Cow greeted us with ideal conditions on Monday morning, sunshine and a fresh dumping of snow. This enabled students to advance quickly within their lessons and hit the slopes during their free time. Unfortunately a couple of students took the “hitting the snow” literally and ended up at the Perisher medical centre and their week of skiing was over just as it begun.

The weather gods continued to shine on us for most of the week producing frosty nights and sun-filled days. Only Thursday afternoon caught us out with a blizzard blowing in, making the return journey back to the base hut a little troublesome and sometimes scary. The progress in skiing and boarding across the week was pleasing to witness as students advanced quickly from the beginner slopes to basically conquering the whole mountain, Mt Blue Cow summit included. This did, however, result in a higher than normal injury toll but no dampening of the spirits.

Friday again provided a picture perfect day and the students took the opportunity to squeeze in as many runs as possible before our departure. We left the ski fields on Friday afternoon exhausted but extremely satisfied with what we achieved throughout the week. I would like to take this opportunity to compliment the Year 11 students who attended the camp.
They represented Kotara High school well and we received great feedback from the Sport and Rec staff about the way the students conducted themselves.

Many thanks to Mr. Blackmore, Miss Philpott, Ms. Scobie and Mrs Spicer-Worth (as well as some cameo appearances from other staff members on holidays) for their time and support throughout the week to ensure everyone had a memorable and rewarding time.

Tim Pulsford
Organiser
Year 10 Work Experience 2015

Students had a great week and here are a few photos of them in action in various workplaces.
Countdown to Race Day

Kotara High School will be entered in the Hunter Valley Electric Vehicle festival. The team will make and race hub motor and universal motor electric bikes. This is the third year for the EV festival and more schools from across the Hunter region are involved than ever before.

The team works on the bikes in their own time, but it could be possible to include this type of authentic learning in elective classes next year. The festival itself includes a practice day on the 6th of August, the Race day on 13th of August and a show day on the 16th of August. Practice day and race day is at Cameron park raceway and the EV Show is at the Newcastle foreshore park.

The electric motor and battery festival is a fun and interactive family day for all ages. It connects more than 8,000 people to the industry. We anticipate that this year will attract an even larger crowd excited to sponsor an industry with such a bright future. If you would like to sponsor us or get involved go to www.hunterfestival.net

Come to the EV Show at the Newcastle foreshore park.

Do you know a business that would benefit from an electric vehicle?

Who you like to sponsor this event or the school team?

Contact Mrs Gregoratos in Science. Or go to the website www.hunterfestival.net
CANTEEN NEWS

Attention all Parents and Carers.

The Canteen is in urgent need of volunteers if you can spare a few hours a day that would be greatly appreciated.

Please ring 49433044 or 0412557016

The canteen now has EFTPOS available. A minimum of $3.00 needs to be spent.

Katherin Owens
Canteen Manager]
For your newsletter!

Dear School Principal

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation. Applications from students interested in embarking upon a student exchange are closing soon. We are also seeking families interested in welcoming an exchange student into their home.

We have attached a PDF document highlighting the benefits of going overseas and hosting an exchange student. To extend this opportunity to your school community, would you please include the attached in your next school newsletter and/or noticeboard?

The brief paragraph below summarises the WEP experience and can be used as an alternative.

There’s So Much To Gain From A WEP Student Exchange!

A WEP student exchange allows students to exchange their school, culture, family and possibly language for a selected time period in another country. It is far more rewarding than simply being a tourist, as students live like locals and acquire knowledge not available to the general traveller. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel and study at an overseas school with the support of a volunteer host family. Applications are closing soon, so jump on our website for current deadlines: [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au).

When you go overseas on a WEP student exchange program, your family, back at home, has no obligation to host an exchange student in return. However, hosting an exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange
student often endure for generations.

For more information and to request an information pack, head to our website: www.wep.org.au

We appreciate your support and look forward to receiving enquiries from your community.

If you have any questions regarding our programs, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Annie Taylor
Communications

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www.wep.org.au
www.volunteerabroad.com.au

A not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments.

It’s an adventure
WEP Student Exchange – Learn and Discover the World!

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the Education Departments in NSW, QLD and VIC. Applications for short and long-term programs commencing from November 2015 onward are open now. Students can choose from over 25 countries to live with a volunteer WEP host family and attend an overseas high school for a summer, semester or year. To request program information for your family, visit www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733.

We look forward to hearing from students, interested in this wonderful experience. If you have any questions about our programs or would like to request brochures for your school, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Judith Ortmann

Learn and discover the world!

World Education Program Australia Limited

PO Box 260, Black Rock Vic 3193 OR 479 Hampton Street, Hampton Melbourne Vic 3188

Phone: +61 (0) 3 9598 4733 In Australia only: 1300 88 4733

Fax: +61 3 9598 4233

Email: judithortmann@wep.org.au


We are a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments.

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**NSW Health**

**Hunter New England Local Health District**

**Does Your Child Receive Regular, High Quality Dental Care?**

Hunter New England Oral Health provides comprehensive dental care for children under 18 years of age, completely FREE of charge.

**For more information, phone **1300 651 625**

**Our Clinic Locations:**
- Armidale
- Beresfield
- Cessnock
- Forster
- Glen Innes
- Gunnedah
- Inverell
- Maitland
- Moree
- Muswellbrook
- Narrabri
- Nelson Bay
- Newcastle
- Raymond Terrace
- Scone
- Singleton
- Tamworth
- Taree
- Toronto
- Wallsend
- Windale
DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2015

AUGUST –

Friday August 14th     Medieval day MPC
                          Year 7-8 History

Monday August 17th     P&C Meeting 7pm
                          School Library D Block
                          (All Parents and
                          Carers) Welcome

Monday August 17th     Year 12 HSC
                          Assessment

Tuesday August 18th    Year 12 Drama Parent
                          Night- Gold coin entry

Friday August 21st     “Vinnies” SleepOut

Tuesday August 25th    “Awareness” Out of
                          Uniform Day
                          (Gold coin donation)

Tuesday August 25th    “Big Night In”
                          School Dance
                          6.30-9.30pm MPC