



# Kootingal Public School STAR NEWSLETTER

"Caring, Learning and Achieving Together."

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Term 4 Week 8

Thursday 26th November 2015



## Echidna Gully and Lake Keepit Excursions



**Merit**  
(3 Golds)  
Jaeda Symons



**Gold Awards**  
Beau Robertson,  
Lochlan Muller and  
Reba Ramage



**Silver Awards**  
Reba Ramage,  
Braidy Cork, Hope Clark  
and Jessica Wheatley



**Uniform Awards**  
Deakan Keven-Faulkner,  
Braidy Cork,  
Emma Jarrett,  
Beau Robertson,  
Tianna Urquhart,  
Toby Keven-Faulkner,  
Byron Lees and  
Ashley Simmonds



## Important Dates to Remember Term 3 2015

23rd to 4th December - School Swimming Scheme  
Tuesday 1st December - Presentation Night, starting 6:30pm  
Friday 4th December - Moonby House Christmas Carols  
Wednesday 9th December - Year 6 Farewell  
Monday 14th December - Kinder and Year 1 - Kids Zone  
Monday 14th December - Years 2, 3 and 4 - Movies  
Monday 14th December - Years 5 and 6 - Bowling  
Tuesday 15th December - P & C Meeting, 6pm School Library

**Executive Team** - Principal - Cara Cracknell  
Assistant Principal - (Kinder to Year 2) - Nicole Chegwyn (Mon - Wed)  
and Kirsty Lawrence (Thur - Fri)  
Assistant Principal (Yr 3 to 6) - Anne Doak

### P & C Executive

President: Lauren Witten Vice President - Cath Bubb  
Secretary: Vanessa Johnson  
Treasurer: Scott Cracknell and Jelka Schurink (Canteen)



## Student of the Month

### Student of the Month Ryan Hobden

Ryan is a capable student who demonstrates a broad general knowledge and a curious mind. He has shown great confidence and resilience throughout Year 6, and is learning to persist and do his best. He is organised in class, and he is easy to get along with due to his cooperative nature.



Ryan shows outstanding initiative when he sees the opportunity to help staff and students across the school. He takes on many roles and responsibilities, including being a House Captain and being a 'Sound System Technician' in our school hall for special events like assemblies.

Ryan has been an asset to Kootingal Public School throughout 2015. Congratulations Ryan.

### Student of the Month Damien Nicholls

Damien is a friendly boy to all. He is well respected and liked among his peers and by all teachers. He is always willing to work alongside any child and co-operates well with all his peers. Damien is a caring, thoughtful and responsible class member.



Damien has a positive attitude to learning. He is always attentive and works very hard in class. He has received excellent yearly results and has really grown this year in confidence. He displays our school values and is a role model to others. Congratulations Damien.

## Library Happenings

Borrowing books from the library for home use has finished. Students must return all books by Friday 27th November. With thanks, Mrs Anne Doak.

## Koolangarra 2015

Our yearly magazine Koolangarra, is available through pre-orders with payment. We will only print the number of magazines for which we have received money. **The cost of the magazine this year is \$20.** It is in full colour and will include Presentation Night. Families will receive their magazine commencing Monday 14th December 2015. Orders and payment are taken prior to Presentation Night and at Presentation Night. There are no late orders after Presentation Night. **Payments can be made at the front office.**

## BANKING - Thursdays

Banking Co-Ordinators  
Cath Bubb and Karen Hobden



## Silver Awards - Monday 23rd N

Tahnae Roberts - Always aiming to please and striving to do his best

Xavier Wadwell - His participation and effort during French lessons

Jackson Burton - Improved knowledge of sight words and for becoming a more confident reader

Meika Haak - Increased confidence towards learning in all areas

Jessie Johnson - Having an excellent work ethic

Coby Hobden - Excellent commitment to art and craft

Lilly Thomas - Commitment to singing and choir

Mikyla Phillpott - Fantastic commitment to learning

Cody Turner-Bourke - A positive attitude towards learning

Zac Hyson and Brenden Thompson - Effort in Mathematics

Codie Hogan - Attempting classwork without assistance

Megan Johnson - Demonstrating great leadership qualities

Brianna-Maree Goman - Being an effective worker, always attempting her best

Xander Murray - Improved writing skills

Beau Robertson - Working well at Echidna Gully, willing to do his best at all tasks

Janeen Wadwell - Improved efforts to complete work

Crystal Van Maanen - A positive attitude to learning

Keira Madden - Working hard to improve her reading skills

Jainah Grant - General citizenship

Savannah Barber - Being an effective learner

Zachary Parkes - Improved effort in literacy and leadership skills

Kelsey Burrell and Finley Wallace - Fantastic commitment to learning

Ashton Haak - Being a confident learner; showing independent work habits

Darcy Simpson-Craig - Showing pride in her book presentation, independent work

Ella Howard - Working well to develop writing skills

Jasmine Hogan - Showing initiative when learning; effort in problem solving tasks

Georgia Madden, Reign Howarth, Chenoa Siemsen and Dyllan Thomas - Maturity, cooperation and participation at 'Lake Keepit'



## Weekly Bonus Awards



Sophie Hogg - Excellent yearly Mathematics test results  
 William Jones - Improved results in number and knowledge of sight words  
 Damien Nicholls and Raymond Sydenham - Excellent knowledge of sight words.  
 Angus Frewen - Working well in dance unit  
 Naomi Maybury - Detailed recount of Food and Fibre excursion  
 Mikyla Phillpott - Independent work on computers  
 Robert Hazard - Improved application to handwriting  
 Zac Hyson - Helpful and hard work  
 Taela McCahon and Shania Coppola-Smith - Working well on the snake theme  
 Jack Chapple - Leadership skills and lending a hand  
 Daniel Worth - Excellent outdoor and hands on skills  
 Harrison Witten - Great enthusiasm, patience and determination  
 Sophie Butorac, Cohen Parkes, Joshua Deasey, Isabelle Price and Erika Kamminga - Excellent behaviour and participation on the Echidna Gully Excursion  
 James Grant - Leadership skills  
 Tahlia Tull-Watkins - Stepping outside her comfort zone  
 Louise Smith - Persistence and determination  
 Zachary Parkes - Leadership skills  
 Isabella Johnston and Ryan Hobden - Dedication as Dwyer house captains in 2015  
 Charmaine Grant and Chloe Bayes - Dedication as Dwyer vice captains in 2015

## Mrs Cracknell's Message

As we approach the end of the school year, one would think that it is a time for settling and joyous Christmas craft. In our school, it couldn't be more different. At times it feels like we have so much yet to still accomplish as a school for 2015. Planning for 2016 is a daily activity as well as being in the midst of yearly reports, the School Swimming Scheme, swimming for sport, excursions, year 6 farewell activities, compilation of the Koolangara, professional learning for staff in Focus on Reading and preparations for Presentation Night. At the moment, it is a pure juggling act.

Over the last three weeks, Mrs Chegwyn has been working with staff on their implementation of Focus on Reading in classrooms. Staff have been released from their classrooms and are working closely on the aspects of Focus on Reading they have identified as needing assistance. In some cases, Mrs Chegwyn is assisting the development of a rich study of text through the design of a unit of work based on the principles of Focus on Reading. This week, Mrs Doak commenced working with staff from her Stage. This time is valuable professional learning that we are conducting onsite. This negates

time away from school where teachers can then go back onto class and assume their normal routines, thus minimising the impact on our students.

Bleary eyed and tired bodies dragged themselves into the school grounds on Friday afternoon, returning from jam packed days at both Lake Keepit and Echidna Gully. Overnight excursions are wonderful experiences for our students and they are an experience that takes months of preparation by our staff. Thank you to Mrs Ward and Ms Cook for their organisation of the Lake Keepit and Echidna Gully excursions in the absence of Mrs Doak this term. Your preparations ensured our students had a wonderful experience. As a parent, I know my child slept soundly Friday evening so I hope all parents enjoyed another quiet night.

While Miss Magann assisted at the Echidna Gully excursion, Mrs Morrish assumed the duty of teaching 2M in her absence. The students had a wonderful time exploring the world of snakes. Aaleyah Atkins and Emma Jarrett of 2M thoroughly enjoyed showing me their wonderful snake-like specimens. Both girls even look like expert snake handlers. 2M's snakes were amazing, not just in colour but in length. Some curled around the necks of their handlers and were draped over the shoulders of others. Great work 2M and Mrs Morrish!



Kindergarten has been at it again with wonderful examples of recount writing. Mrs Walsh was particularly impressed with the writing of Lily Shiels, Meika Haak, Raymond Sydenham and Damien Nicholls. Their smiles beamed as they got their Principal stickers and posed for their photo. Great work students!



This week in our French lessons, I took some photos for our Koolangarra magazine. In 2/3G, we were practising our counting in French and learnt the words for up (en haut) and down (vers le bas) to play Snakes and Ladders. Students formed pairs counting the spaces in French, stating the number on which they landed in French and then going up a ladder or down a snake in French. Students were delighted in the chance to play a game using another language. In 1S, students practised conversations in French. We pretended we were actors using a script. 1S performed magnificently!



Last, but most certainly not least, our Presentation Night is next Tuesday evening commencing at 6.30pm. Our P&C are hosting a BBQ with a raffle to offer prior to the ceremony. Our Student Representative Council is also conducting a Giving Tree with donations of Christmas items, toys and non-perishable food greatly appreciated. All proceeds are going to the Salvation Army. Our Presentation Night promises to be a wonderful evening with student performances and awards galore. We have sourced additional chairs, but you may like to bring one just in case. I am looking forward to sharing this evening with our community.



### Stage 3 - Lake Keepit Excursion

We had a fantastic three days at the Sport and Recreation Centre last week, despite the heat. The children cooperated well and participated in a range of activities including rock climbing, kayaking, the giant swing and archery. The students represented Kootingal Public School proudly and the staff at the centre commented that they were one of the best groups to attend. A very big thank you to Craig Johnston for attending and giving his assistance to everyone.

Mrs Sharon Ward and Ms Claudette Ross

Years 5 and 6 teachers

### Christmas Carols Service - Moonby House

An invitation is extended to all students, parents, grandparents and other family members to attend the annual 'Christmas Carols Service' at Moonby House on Friday 4th December starting at 6pm for dinner and 7pm for carols. Our students are learning two songs to perform on this evening, as well as a skit from SUPA Club. If your child/children would like to attend and perform on this evening, please ask them to see Mrs Chegwyn or Mrs Cracknell to register their name. We would love to see as many students as possible attending.

### Sherpa Kids Kootingal



Before and After School Care is GREAT! Handball Championships, Dance Offs, Twister Tumbles and Breakfast on the 'Balcony' are just a few of the fun things that we have been doing in the Hall, at Before and After School Care.



The kids love the space we have, with a lot more room for all of the fun games and activities.

For enrolment information and bookings please call Natalie on 0435 535 205 or drop into the centre Monday to Friday, 7am – 9am and 3.30pm-6pm.

**NEW ENROLMENTS ALWAYS WELCOME!**



### ZooWhiz Learning Community Subscription

Our school is participating in the ZooWhiz Learning Community Subscription Plan. Through the Community Subscription Plan our school now has FREE access to ZooWhiz Learning ([www.zoowhiz.com](http://www.zoowhiz.com)) during school hours. Parents are able to access ZooWhiz at home at a very special price by using the Home Access Discount Card. ZooWhiz is the new, intelligent, automated online learning system that enables you to support your child's progress in Mathematics, Spelling, word skills and reading.

Please note: The ZooWhiz Learning Home Access Discount Card must be used to activate a subscription by 30th December 2015 (this has been extended) as it will expire after this date.

The ZooWhiz Home Access Discount Cards have recently been distributed to children. If you are unable to locate yours then please contact the school office.

### SRC Giving Tree

All children from Kootingal Public School and the wider community are asked to spread some goodwill and give to those less fortunate for the Christmas season. Non-perishable food items and newly purchased gifts (unwrapped) can be placed under the Christmas tree in the front office until Friday 11th December or under the tree on Presentation Night. Goods will be donated to the Salvation Army during the last week of school.

### The Star Cafe

Due to the end of term approaching, there are some items that are unavailable on the menu. So far, large pies, Ham and Pineapple Pizza and Twisties are no longer available. Other items will be added to this list as the term continues.

**Red Food Day - Friday 12th December**

### Volunteer Roster for Term 4

Friday 20th November - Marta Shiels

Friday 27th November - Sarah Maybury

Friday 4th December - Natasha Jacobson

Friday 11th December - Sallie Vernon and Vicky Loftus

Canteen Coordinator, Noni Kasch

Thank you to the families that have return the below slip. **For those families that haven't filled in the slip below please do so as soon as possible and return to the front office.**

### Newsletter Distribution for 2016

Next year our weekly newsletter will only be provided by the following methods:

1. Email
2. Website - [www.kootingal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.kootingal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)
3. Paper copy (only printed if requested for in writing to the front office)

**Please provide an email address below and return to the front office urgently.** Newsletter will be emailed to you each Thursday.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_