From the Principal

Our Growing School
As most of you know, our school has been steadily growing for some years now. In the last 5 years, we have gone from an enrolment of 259 students to our current enrolment of 330. Over the past 10 years, the school has grown by almost 100 students. I am often asked why this has happened and to be honest, that is a difficult question to answer as it’s probably due to a number of factors. They would include our excellent reputation in the broader community, our fabulous staff, our great programs and philosophies, our academic performance and a growing trend away from the private sector to the public sector in primary education.

What I do know is it’s not because the school is taking enrolments from outside our school drawing area and there is certainly no intention to deliberately increase our numbers. In 2016, we have 64 new kindergarten students. Of that large number, only 4 students (without a sibling already attending our school) not living in our area were offered a position. Those families were offered those positions because they had very significant reasons for seeking non-local enrolment. There were around 25 other applications for non-local enrolment in kindergarten that were unsuccessful. In the past 5 years, that non-local kindergarten intake has ranged between 4 and 6 students.

Following further expected growth in 2017 due to a small cohort of Yr 6 students leaving at the end of this year, I expect our numbers will plateau from 2018 onwards.

As the school grows, we are presented with various challenges which we aim to meet without compromising the many things that make Keiraville Public School so special. Sometimes that means we need to do things a little differently to what we are all used to but that’s not always a bad thing. Sometimes we need to be patient, as is the case while we wait for our new kindergarten classroom, and I thank you all for the understanding you show in that regard.

I know there are a few parents who have been wondering about our increasing numbers, so I thought this information might clear things up a little.

School Car Park
It has come to my attention that a number of parents (and/or children) are walking through the staff car park in the mornings or afternoons when coming to school or heading home. This may be a result of the temporary construction fence blocking access to the kindergarten rooms from Grey St and the staff car-park seems like a better option than one of the pedestrian gates. Please do not use the car park when entering or leaving the school as it is very dangerous. Staff cars can be entering or leaving the school at any time of the day and we certainly don’t want an accident where parents or children are hit by a car. Please remember that as adults, we are role models for our children and I ask for your cooperation in this matter. Thank you.
District Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all our District Carnival swimmers who swam so well yesterday at Unanderra Pool. Our school had some great individual performances and we placed equal 3rd overall. More details about our results will be included in the sports section of the next newsletter.

Parent Info Sessions
Thank you to the many parents who came along to the class information sessions last week. I trust you found these sessions informative and useful. If you were not able to attend the class information session, your child should have brought home a written version of the topics covered. As always, if you need to see a teacher for any reason, please contact them at school and they will always be happy to make a time to meet. Teachers will meet with parents again formally for parent/teacher interviews at the end of this term. Information about parent/teacher interviews will be sent home closer to the date.

K-2 Camp-Out
Arrangements are all in place for the great K-2 Camp-out tomorrow night. Mr Hailstone is ready for a big night and he’s very excited that so many children and parents will be joining him for this special event. A huge thank you to all the parents who are helping to make this event possible. It should be a great night!

School Photos
Our school photos will be taken on Thursday 3rd March as previously advertised. Please make sure that your children are in full summer school uniform for the photos. This is very important and I thank you for assisting with this.

Schools Clean Up Day
Our students will be participating in Schools Clean Up Day activities on Friday 4th March here at school within our school grounds. Please remember to pack some gloves in your child’s bag for this activity. We will have some spares for those who don’t have any at home but these are limited. Thanks to Ms Harris and Ms Veitch for coordinating this activity.

Staffing News
Ms Musker has been on long service leave this week and returns again on Monday. Mr Hailstone will be taking long service leave from next Monday 29th February and returns on Friday 18th March. Mrs Amy Scott is replacing both Ms Musker and Mr Hailstone while they are away.

EdYOUtopia
The EdYOUtopia anti-bullying program will take place for children in years 1-6 on Monday and Tuesday 7th and 8th March. This has become an integral part of our personal development program here at Keiraville and we look forward to Dr Patty Rose visiting our school again this year. Kindergarten will have their turn next term. The cost of this program was included in the Term 1 school fees.

Crossing Gipps Road Safety Message
I have noticed many parents leading their children across Gipps Rd outside the main gate in the afternoon after school instead of using the pedestrian crossing, or worse still, calling them across the road from their cars. Please remember that as adults, we are role models for young people and we should all take the extra few steps to use the crossing, teaching our children good habits as we go. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Teachers Are Learners Too!
Thursday 18th February: Mrs Wade attended a workshop for School Administrative Managers.
Tuesday 23rd February: Mrs Di Noro attended a workshop for teachers working with children who have English as a second language.

David O’Connor
Principal
**Crunch and Sip at school**
The Crunch and Sip program may be new to some of our families so here is a brief explanation of how it works and what students should bring.
Crunch and Sip happens at about 10am in the morning because the morning session is the longest one in the school day and it is broadly recognised that a small, healthy snack along with hydration contributes to improved learning and good health. Crunch and Sip happens in the classroom and children eat their snack while they are working and learning. Importantly, snacks should only be cut up fresh fruit and/or vegetables. The only drink children can bring into the classroom as part of this program is water, which should be in a plastic bottle (preferably a clear bottle but this is not essential). The water can be there for the whole day as required. Please do not send packaged foods like commercially produced fruit cups or fruit sticks as these often contain additional sugars and preservatives which is not in line with the philosophy of the program. Please also restrict the drink to water for the same reason. Of course, students can bring other foods and drinks to school as part of their lunch and recess which they can eat and drink outside the classroom at break times. All staff have been reminded about the importance of consistency with regard to Crunch and Sip so hopefully that will help to eliminate any confusion students and parents may have from year to year as children have new teachers. For more information about Crunch and Sip, please visit their website at [http://www.crunchandsip.com.au](http://www.crunchandsip.com.au).

---

**Hi Boys and Girls**
Well it is week 5 and there is already a considerable amount of clothing in the lost property down in the hall. Please have all your belongings labelled otherwise I just may claim them for my nest. I also noticed a large number of drink bottles and lunch boxes left lying around. Please be responsible for your belongings.  
Keep safe and keep smiling, Kirrhi

---

**TERM 1 FEES DUE TOMORROW—Friday 26th February**

Parents
Term fees are due this week. Remember that you can pay on-line at home or through the Skoolbag App. Just go to the school website—$Make a Payment and you can pay by credit card. Fees can also be dropped into the office mailbox in a clearly marked envelope—Name, Term fees & class please.
If there are reasons why fees cannot be paid on time, please contact Mr O’Connor or the office so we are aware of your situation. Thank you

---

**TERM 1 FEES DUE TOMORROW—Friday 26th February**

Parents
Term fees are due this week. Remember that you can pay on-line at home or through the Skoolbag App. Just go to the school website—$Make a Payment and you can pay by credit card. Fees can also be dropped into the office mailbox in a clearly marked envelope—Name, Term fees & class please.
If there are reasons why fees cannot be paid on time, please contact Mr O’Connor or the office so we are aware of your situation. Thank you

---

**Hi Boys and Girls**
Well it is week 5 and there is already a considerable amount of clothing in the lost property down in the hall. Please have all your belongings labelled otherwise I just may claim them for my nest. I also noticed a large number of drink bottles and lunch boxes left lying around. Please be responsible for your belongings.  
Keep safe and keep smiling, Kirrhi

---

**Crunch and Sip at school**
The Crunch and Sip program may be new to some of our families so here is a brief explanation of how it works and what students should bring.
Crunch and Sip happens at about 10am in the morning because the morning session is the longest one in the school day and it is broadly recognised that a small, healthy snack along with hydration contributes to improved learning and good health. Crunch and Sip happens in the classroom and children eat their snack while they are working and learning. Importantly, snacks should only be cut up fresh fruit and/or vegetables. The only drink children can bring into the classroom as part of this program is water, which should be in a plastic bottle (preferably a clear bottle but this is not essential). The water can be there for the whole day as required. Please do not send packaged foods like commercially produced fruit cups or fruit sticks as these often contain additional sugars and preservatives which is not in line with the philosophy of the program. Please also restrict the drink to water for the same reason. Of course, students can bring other foods and drinks to school as part of their lunch and recess which they can eat and drink outside the classroom at break times. All staff have been reminded about the importance of consistency with regard to Crunch and Sip so hopefully that will help to eliminate any confusion students and parents may have from year to year as children have new teachers. For more information about Crunch and Sip, please visit their website at [http://www.crunchandsip.com.au](http://www.crunchandsip.com.au).
School Emergency Contacts
It is important that your contact details are correct. If you change your address or phone numbers need to be updated please notify the school office. If there is an emergency involving your child we need to be able to contact you or your emergency contacts listed for your children.

School Website
The school website is a very useful site for all Keiraville parents.

I would encourage you to save this to your favourites so that you can access it quickly when required.

The website has the Canteen menu, uniform order forms, excursion permission notes, P & C information, the newsletter, photos and out of zone applications for new enrolments to name a few. Please have a look around our website and you will see a wealth of information to help you.

Skoolbag App

The school also has a fantastic app to help you on the go. A must for busy parents who want to keep in touch with activities going on in the school.

Skoolbag also has the newsletter & canteen menu. You can send an absence note or change your details on e-forms. Add events to your phone calendar and we regularly send out alert messages about reminders for just about everything. Just new is the Make a Payment tab for quick payment of school fees. Please download the app and have a look at it. We know you will be impressed.

Don’t forget to use the office mailbox for school fees and notes that need to go the office.

Please read the school newsletter each fortnight. It is sent out on Thursdays of the odd week of the school term.
The newsletter keeps you informed of what is going on in your school.

SRC Fundraiser-Odd Sock Day
The first SRC fundraiser for the year is an Odd Sock Day on Wednesday 2nd March. A gold coin donation will be collected if you are wearing odd socks on the day. All funds raised will be donated to Cancer Research. Please remember to wear full school uniform with the exception of your odd socks.

Thank you for your support
The SRC
**Senior Choir**

Thank you to the 34 students in Years 3-6 who came along to try Senior Choir out over the last three Mondays. Senior Choir is a free extra-curriculum program that will teach students how to sing in unison and harmony with others and give students the opportunity to perform at school and local events at least once a term throughout the year. Senior Choir will be on every Monday after eating time at lunch with Miss Olechnowicz and Mr Maxwell in 2MO’s classroom. Students have now received an information note about Senior Choir and will need to sign the ‘Commitment Note’ to be able to continue in the program. This year, the Senior Choir will also be involved in Southern Stars. Students in the choir that wish to be a part of Southern Stars dance will have the opportunity to do so and will simply return to their Senior Choir rehearsals after Southern Stars is complete. A note regarding Southern Stars will be sent home soon. We look forward to showcasing our voices for you this year!

Miss Olechnowicz and Mr Maxwell—Choir Coordinators

**Year 2 Recorder**

Year 2 is very excited about their upcoming recorder lessons which should start before the end of the term. Students will receive a weekly recorder lesson and will also be encouraged to take their book and recorder home to practise. The day for recorders to come to school will be **Tuesdays**. Students will have the opportunity to perform within school events during the year. As this is the first year of recorder at KPS, the school has purchased the ‘Cool Cats, the Red Hot Recorder Course’ book and this will soon be loaned out to each student in Year 2 for the year. As with any school library book loan, it will be the responsibility of families to make sure the book and CD are not lost or damaged throughout the year. Each student will also receive a Yamaha beige recorder and case. The cost of the recorder is a discounted $8 and this amount has been added to Term 1 invoices. Let the wonderful sounds of recorder fill our classroom and your living rooms!

Miss Olechnowicz
Schools Clean Up Day!

On Friday 4th March, 2016, Keiraville Public School will be participating in Clean Up Schools Day by cleaning up the school playground. It is a national event coming out of Clean Up Australia Day. This is a great way for your child to work collaboratively in a team but also helps to make a difference to our environment. ‘Clean Up Australia inspires and empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment’ (Clean Up Australia Day website).

The children will be cleaning up allocated areas of the playground in their class groups with teacher supervision. On the day children must bring a school hat and gloves with them to wear. We ask that you please provide your child with gloves from home on that day.

If you do not wish your child to participate in the event please inform your child’s class teacher in writing by Wednesday 2nd March 2016. We look forward to a great day where everyone can make a difference!

Clean Up Schools Day!

When: Friday 4th March, 2016
Where: Keiraville Public School
What to bring: Gardening gloves and a hat
Participants: Students of Keiraville Public School

We look forward to a great day where everyone can make a difference!

Please note that in the case of inclement weather Schools Clean Up Day will be held on Friday 11th March 2016

Lunch Time Tennis

Tennis lessons with Ian Goodyear will begin next week, Monday 29th February. Due to the overwhelming response at this time we will only be able to offer the lessons to Year 2 - 6 students. These group lessons will be held after eating time from 11:10 - 11:40am. The cost is $2.00 and is paid directly to Ian on the day of their lesson.

Monday lunch - 2H and 2MO
Wednesday lunch - 3M and 3/4Y
Friday lunch - 4/5D, 5/6B and 5/6P

If you have any questions please see Renee Whitehead or Michelle Pigram.

Expression of Interest in Islamic SRE and Greek Orthodox SRE

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from those families who would like their children to attend Islamic or Greek orthodox SRE if it were offered at school. Please contact the school office if you would like to consider this as an option for your child. Remember that this is an expression of interest only and is not guaranteed at this stage.
Canteen News…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>26/2</td>
<td>Ruth, Belinda, Marnie, Lea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Catherine, Tracey J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>3/3</td>
<td>Kristy, Jodie, Phuong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>4/3</td>
<td>Ainsley, Elicia, Trish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Karen T, Corinne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>Irit, Ashley, Jenny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Virginia, Melissa, Sanja, Vidiya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are having a **Sushi Day** on **Wednesday 2nd March**. Notes have been sent home and all orders must be placed in the canteen box no later than **9am Tuesday 1st March**. Thank you to all our new volunteers who have joined the team and to all previous volunteers. Kirrih’s Kitchen has got off to a great start. We have been very busy, especially on hot days with the children loving the frozen snacks. We could not provide this service without the help of our parents. We still have a vacant shift to fill on a Wednesday. Shifts are only twice a term.

Contact Elicia at eliciabrook@bigpond.com

Regards,
The Canteen Committee

Uniform Shop…..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>26-Feb</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>4-Mar</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>11-Mar</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>18-Mar</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25-Mar</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>FRIDAY MORN</td>
<td>Katherine, Kelley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>THURSDAY NIGHT</td>
<td>Ann</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Uniform shop will be using credit card facilities only on Friday mornings. Thursday nights, we will still accept cash. Orders can also be placed via the front office and it normally takes 5 working days to fill your order.

If you would like to volunteer once a term or even once a year at the uniform shop, please contact Kimberley Humphries on 0417473842.

Thank you

P & C News……

Dear Parents and Carers

The KPS P & C will hold its AGM (Annual General Meeting) and committee meeting at 7.00pm on Tuesday 8 March in the Staff room. At the AGM, the executive positions (including President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary) will be elected. We welcome everyone to join us at this special meeting.
Advertisements are placed in this newsletter at a small donation to help pay for the expense of issuing the newsletter. Advertisements are not necessarily school endorsed.

EGTC Theatre School

2016 Enrolments still open

Term 1 Dates
Monday 1 Feb – Sat 9 April

Enrolment forms and details on www.egtc.com.au and www.trybooking.com/IPOR via email info@egtc.com.au or call us on 4283 3000 for more information
Shop 1 502 Princes Hwy Woonona

WOLLONGONG JUNIOR CHESS CLUB- JNR CHESS TOURNAMENT

2016 SUMMER SUNDAY  (Under 18 Year Olds)
7 ROUND SWISS

WHEN: Sunday 28-Feb-2016  (10:00am to 4:00pm)
WHERE: FAIRY MEADOW COMMUNITY CENTRE - KEIRA ROOM
Guest Park - Cnr Cambridge Ave and Prince Hwy Fairy Meadow (Opposite Woolworth)

Trophy Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd + Age Groups
Games will be rated by NSWJCL
Results will influence qualification to NSWJCL Country Championship
Entry Fee: $10

Lunch: Players should bring their own lunch and refreshments.
Arbiter and Information: JOHN MAZZIERI  Phone: (02) 4283 3080
  e-mail: mazzieri@exemail.com.au

Falcons Illawarra Hockey are holding a “come & try hockey” day for kids 7-15
Mar 4th 4:30pm at the Uni of Wollongong hockey field
Free drink & lolly bag included

No cost, no obligation, just for fun.
Join a group of amazing kids learning team skills, hand/eye coordination, and leadership - while getting fit!

Register now
http://www.falconsillawarrahockey.com