Dear Parents,

Welcome back to 2013. A huge Kororo Public School welcome to our new students and their families! With only three days of school in their repertoire, our Kindergarten new recruits are old hands at this school thing! Just a few nervous tears from the parents and seven years of primary schooling commences.

Almost on the last day of last term, Ms Blevin was successful in gaining a promotions position as Deputy Principal to Narranga Public School. We wish Di all the best in her new career direction and thank her for her few years at KPS. As a consequence of the vacancy this move created, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Elizabeth Spoehr to our team as Assistant Principal Stage 1. Liz comes to us with a wealth of experience in supporting Reading Recovery and the Literacy needs of students across the District.

Our Newsletter is distributed each Wednesday to the eldest child in the school so please look out for this each week. If for some unforeseen reason your newsletter bypasses a school bag, you can always check online for the latest information and dates. The school encourages our families to use the internet to reduce paper waste, so if you would like the Newsletter emailed, please forward the email address to the office and this will be arranged. The office is open from 8.30am until 3.30pm each school day for any questions and queries.

The beginning of any school year is always very busy but this year we have really hit the ground running. Due to unforeseen changes in our enrolment distribution, it has been necessary to rework our plans in our class arrangement. All students have been placed in their 2013 class and by the end of the week it is hoped that everyone is settled into their class routines. The student composition of classes is given a great deal of thought and consideration balancing academic needs, social, behaviour, previous classes and teachers, with the new placement of each student. Many thanks for your patience in this process.

Welcome to a great year at KPS,
Sue Mackay
Principal

**THIS WEEK’S QUOTE**
Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.
Maria Robinson
**Important Dates:**
Friday 8th Feb: Captain and Prefect Induction 1.50pm
Monday 18th Feb: School Swimming Carnival
First P & C Meeting for 2013 – 7.30pm in the staffroom.
Friday 22nd Feb: Assembly 2GH at 11.40am

**Arrival Times at School**
We have a number of children arriving at school well before the 8.40am bell. Those students who arrive at around 8.30am due to bus times know to follow the usual protocol of sitting in the small COLA and waiting for playground supervision to commence. Students should not be arriving at school as early as 7.30am. There are no staff to supervise and we have the OOSH facilities to cater for working parents. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

**Phones/Ipods at School**
Students should not be carrying phones in their school bags. We have facilities in the school for Year 6 students to have a post box should it be deemed necessary for them to have a phone for after school contact. A note to this effect will be out in the next couple of days. If there are circumstances in which you believe it is necessary for your child to have a phone at school, each case outside of Year 6, will need to be discussed with Mrs Mackay. Students with phones at school without permission will have the phone placed in the office and a parent will be asked to collect it from school.

Some parents are happy for their children to carrying Ipods/MP4 players for the bus trip. Whilst this is a parent decision, students run the risk of their property being lost or in the worse case, stolen. We cannot accept responsibility for such equipment at school and it should not be used at school unless there are extenuating circumstances eg. Talent Quest music. There are serious legal issues around bag searches at school and more often than not the fact that an item is missing is discovered on the bell. It would be great to try to avoid the tears before they occur.

**School Swimming Carnival**
The School Swimming Carnival is on Monday 18th February at the Coffs Harbour Pool. All students who are eight years old or older during 2013 are eligible to attend. We do ask that Stage 1 students who may be eligible to attend only do so if they are competitive swimmers. It is a very long and tedious day for little people who are not in races, with novelty events occurring only if there is adequate time. We are unable to take any student without written confirmation of their child's swimming abilities. Please forward your notes and money as soon as you can. The deadline is Friday 22nd February, with no money accepted on the morning of the carnival.

For swimmers who do progress to the next level of competitive swimming, the District carnival is on Wednesday 20th February. Please be aware that transport to this event is a parent responsibility.

**Make Online Payments**
It will shortly be possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments will be made using either a Visa or Mastercard credit or debit card. The payment page will be accessed through the front page of the schools website. Stay tune for more information next week.

**Yr 3/4 Girls Basketball**
Calling for all interested girls from Yr 3/4 wishing to play for Kororo School in Saturday competition at Sportz Central.

**DEPUTY’S REPORT**
A special welcome to all our new parents and students.

The first two weeks of school is a very busy time whilst students settle into their new classes and get used to new routines. It is also a very exciting time as they make new friendships, face new challenges and become more independent. Whether it is Kindergarten or Year 6 each year is a very important part of their school life.

**Photos:** Many parents have requested copies of the photos taken throughout last year. It is hoped our web site will be updated by the end of this month and then I will be able to download them. That means everyone can access and copy the photos they want. (If you have requested that your child's photo is not put on the school web site then of course it will not.)

**Book Club:** Last week three Year 4 students came to my office to ask about starting a Stage 2 Book Club. It is wonderful to see our young students taking this initiative. They put their ‘7 Habits’ training to good use to ‘Begin With the End in Mind’. They had already put together a recommended reading list, brought in books to share and had had a meeting together to brainstorm ideas. We hope this will start in Week 3 for Stage 2 students. They are now very busy organising resources and making a wish list of must have books. Our multi-purpose room will be open two lunch times a week and students will be able to share and discuss books.

Some Stage 3 students have also come on board and want to extend it further to include the older students.

June O'dell
Deputy Principal
STAFF LIST for 2013

The staff and the classes for this year is as follows:

Principal - Mrs Sue Mackay.
Deputy Principal - Mrs June O’dell.

Kindergarten -
KA - Mrs Carolyn Burns (AP), KB - Mrs Leanne Bourke,
KCR - Mrs Abby Campbell and Mrs Leonie Randall,
KG - Miss Shari Genoli.

Year 1 -
1AN - Mrs Anja Neal, 1GS - Miss Gurleen Sangha,
1MW - Mrs Mary White, 1RP - Mrs Ruth Powley / Mrs Lisa Bowen.

Year 2 -
2DD - Ms Denise Dodd, 2GH - Mrs Gemma Hogan,
2JB - Mrs Jane Bridgman, 2SC - Ms Sharon Cameron.

Year 3 -
3BY - Miss Belinda Yeomans, 3LM - Mrs Lynda Martyn,
3/4MS - Ms Melissa Stevens / Mrs Lisa Bowen.

Year 4 -
4LS - Mrs Leanne Stacey (AP) / Mr Josh Chapman,
4VW - Mrs Vickie Wood.

Year 5 -
5HG - Mrs Heidi Gough, 5LF - Mr Louis Fredericks.

Year 6 -
5/6BT - Mrs Bev Tristram, 6CA - Mrs Carissa Attwood (AP),
6DH - Mrs Di Hartmann.

Teacher/Librarian - Miss Monique O’Shea (AP relieving)
Reading Recovery - Mrs Liz Spoehr (AP), Miss Corinne Williams.
RFF - Mrs Kaye Campbell, Mrs Nicole O’Brien, Ms Vicki Horton.
SLSO - Mrs Barb Williams, Mrs Julie Aleman, Mrs Julie Howarth, Mrs Jenny Campbell, Ms Karen Stoker, Mrs Tandy Arnold, Mrs Shell Crawley.
Office Staff - Mrs Annette Campbell, Mrs Nydean Kelly, Mrs Leonie Wright.

General Assistant - Mr Greg Allen.

P&C NEWS

Park Beach Plaza Shop for School Promotion

The Plaza is once again running a promotion which will see a Coffs Coast school winning a $10,000 prize. This amount of money could really benefit the students of Kororo Public School and the P&C would like as many families as possible to contribute receipts so we have the best chance of claiming a prize. All you need to do is either take all receipts from Park Beach Plaza stores to the Customer Service. Desk which is located outside of Noni B or drop your receipts into the box on the school verandah and the P&C will take these to the Plaza. Receipts from Woolworths petrol at the Plaza also qualify for this promotion. Start collecting now.

P&C Meeting

The first 2013 meeting of the Kororo School P&C will be held on Monday, 18th February at 7.30pm in the staffroom (the demountable to the right of the main gates). All parents, grandparents, carers and community members are welcome to come along and meet other school families.

Welcome back to School Banking for 2013!

School Banking resumes Thursday, 14th February 2013 and will continue every following Thursday.

Remember to drop your yellow bankbook into the banking box held in the school hall Thursday morning before the morning assembly starts. Please ensure the money is secured and unable to fall out and your deposit slip completed.

Every time your child makes a deposit at school, regardless of how much, they receive a Dollarmite token. These tokens can be redeemed for rewards with each reward worth only 10 tokens. Don’t forget that your tokens from last year can be used this year towards your reward redemption.

For those who were bankers last year, please ensure that your yellow banking wallet is updated with your new class for 2013 so that they can be returned in the lunch order boxes to the correct classroom.

If your child does not already have a Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite Account, please open one at your nearest branch (you will require I.D.) prior to banking with school. School Banking is a great fundraiser for our school. For each new account opened the school receives $5.00 and then a commission of up to $10 for each deposit made. Please note that none of the Commonwealth Bank donation comes out of your child’s deposit. This money will assist in buying equipment for the school by the P&C Committee.

School Banking is run by parent volunteers who donate their time to process the weekly banking. To continue school banking at Kororo, which promotes vital saving skills, we require volunteers who are available Thursday mornings for approximately 1 ½ hours on a rostered basis.

If you are available to assist or have any further queries, please contact Fi Sodeau (School Banking Co-ordinator) on 0424 448 897 or come to the school hall on Thursday, 14th February 8.45am.

Uniform Shop News

Unfortunately there are no size 8 or size 10 shirts available at the moment. The next delivery is in 3 weeks from now.

We will put a notice in the newsletter when the new stock is in.

Medium hats are now in stock. Thank you for your patience.

PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

An information evening for Stage 1 parents only (Years 1 & 2) will be held on Wednesday, 20th February, 6.30pm-7pm in your child’s classroom.

This is purely an information meeting about the class and what will be happening this year. Your child’s progress will not be discussed at this time. Looking forward to meeting you.

Stage 1 Teachers