



KARIONG MOUNTAINS

HIGH SCHOOL UNITY 🖌 KNOWLEDGE 🖌 RESPECT

Term 1 Week 2 February 11, 2022



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KMHS

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PHOTO ENVELOPES SENT HOME **FRIDAY 4 FEBRUARY** SIBLING ENVELOPES CAN BE **COLLECTED FROM FRONT OFFICE**

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In our first newsletter of the year, I would like to recognise the continuing efforts of our health care workers in caring for those most in need in our community. To our many parents and alumni, now in these positions, thank you. We appreciate you.

P&C Meeting: Monday 14 February 7pm - Via Zoom

Links and Resources:

Learning Resources on KMHS website Wellbeing Resources on KMHS website **NSW DoE Home page DoE Learning From Home Support** Department of Education COVID-19 Advice

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MONDAY February 14	TUESDAY February 15 Year 7 Immunisation Smashed - Year 8	WEDNESDAY February 16	 FRIDAY February 18	MONDAY February 21	TUESDAY February 22	WEDNESDAY February 23	THURSDAY February 24	FRIDAY February 25 Photo Make-Up Day

From our Principal



Welcome back to all our families and a particular welcome to all those joining our school for the first time. Throughout the year, the newsletter will provide you with information about the activities and successes of our students. It

complements the information provided on our website, on social media and that which we provide to you through Compass notifications. The newsletter

is published every second Friday so please look for it in your emails.

I always enjoy seeing Year 7 losing the hesitancy of their first few days of high school and then quickly acclimatising to moving around the school, accessing the canteen and finding their favourite place to sit and chat with their friends during breaks. Each year, a lot of work goes into providing a calm and confident start for our new students. Please remember, that we are here to work with you in making the transition to high school successful. If you have any concerns, do not hesitate to call the school sooner rather than later. A small problem is easier to solve than a large problem and a problem shared is a problem halved – trite, but true statements.

Senior Students

Likewise, seeing our Year 11 students, in their senior uniforms, step up to begin their final stage of schooling is also a great experience. I have no doubt that they have already seen the difference between junior and senior school workload and the expectation of a higher level of personal responsibility. There is a lot of help available for students to achieve success and that early contact between parents and the school, again, leads to successful outcomes. Our Year 12 students have just picked up their learning from where they left off and are continuing to work in a consistent and studious matter.

We have our fingers crossed that our Year 12 students will finally be able to go on the postponed Year 10 camp towards the end of Term 1. The mottos of **'never give up'** and **'seek to attain new heights'** is certainly in tune with the destination of Mount Kosciuszko. Thank you, Mrs Miller for not giving up on them having this experience even though you have had to change plans many times over the last few years.

HSC Results

Congratulations, to our Year 12 students on achieving their HSC after having their learning impacted by two years of COVID. As I have said in the past, to do so under these conditions is a reflection of the resilience of the students and their capacity to continue achieving in the years after school. A number of our students achieved Bands 5-6 across all their subjects. What an achievement! Our highest performing subjects were: Mathematics, Music, Physics and English Advanced. A really eclectic range, but reinforcing that we are a school building potential, for the individual. I will announce the Dux in the next newsletter.

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Swimming Carnival

The weather has been crazy of late, but luckily the day of the swimming carnival turned out to be quite mild and rain free. Although we could not have house groups, students still enjoyed the spirit of competition and involvement in the non-competitive events. Year 12 once again showed just how creative they can be with their swimming attire and pool floats. Thank you, to our organisers for coordinating this event so early in the year and well done, students, on joining in and having fun.

Employment pathways program

Towards the end of last year, I indicated how lucky we were to be included in this program, designed to increase the opportunities for students to access a range of employment pathways with the help of experienced careers staff. Based at our school, we now have Mrs Cutting leading the team as Head Teacher Careers, supported by Mrs Hawker as careers adviser and joined by a school-based apprenticeship coordinator in the near future. This new program will run alongside our existing P-tech program, which has already seen students gain apprenticeships. Our students are now even better placed to gain successful careers through the skills and opportunities that they will attain whilst attending Kariong Mountains High School.

COVID Guidelines

Once again, we are operating with some COVID restrictions in place. Unlike last year, however, schools are operating more closely aligned with the general restrictions out in the community. We are no longer contact tracing and will send out email notifications, no more than twice a week, in the event of a COVID positive case in the school community. This is a reminder for our families and staff to more closely monitor for symptoms and use RAT tests as appropriate. I am hopeful that we will be able to run most of our planned excursions and camps, but I ask for your understanding as the situation can change in a very short time frame.

Unfortunately, there are presently restrictions on visitors to the school and two of the early events that we look forward to; the Year 7 parent evening and the Stage 6 information evening, will presently have to be held in an online environment. When restrictions are relaxed, we will seek out an opportunity to meet personally with our new Year 7 parents.

Vaccinations

Our usual vaccination program will occur throughout the year, but will **not include** the COVID vaccine or booster shots. There has been some anxiety over the last few years associated with misinformation about students and vaccinations. I very strongly want to assure all parents, that for any vaccination program, parental permission must be provided for it to be administered to a student. This has always been the case and has not changed. Year 7 students should already have a vaccination permission note that needs to be returned by the 12th February.

Ms Anne Vine Principal

Deputy Principal's Report



Welcome back to all

students. As always, the new scholastic year is shaping up to be as busy as ever with quality learning and many other extracurricula opportunities. Let's make this a positive year by setting goals and focussing on achieving them.

Following are a few short organisational reminders:

We are a uniform school and this sits within our value of *Unity*. All students are expected to wear full school uniform every day. On rare occasions, where this is not possible, students need to see me before 8.50am to get a uniform pass. A note from home is also required.

School starts at 8.50am each day (9.05am for seniors on most days, depending on their timetable, 8.50am on Wednesdays) and students are expected to arrive on time. When a lateness is expected a note for the front office is required.

Attendance is key to student achievement. When students are absent from school, a notification from parents / caregivers is required on or before the day of return. This can be done via a note, email or phone call. As everybody understands, compliance with government COVID regulations is expected.

Please check your Compass information to

ensure all contact details are accurate. This is essential if we need to make contact with families, sometimes during emergency circumstances.

Swimming Carnival

The Swimming Carnival, held last week was another great success. The atmosphere and participation were excellent. Well done to Ms Searle and her team for their hard work to ensure it went ahead in a COVID-safe manner.

Assessment Booklets

Years 10 and 11 received their assessment booklets on Wednesday. These are important documents that need to be signed for. Hub teachers will explain the expectations of students during Hub lessons. Any queries can be directed to myself.

I am looking forward to another positive year at our fine school. With students embracing our values of *Unity, Knowledge, Respect* - great outcomes can be had by all.

Mr Scott White Deputy Principal



LATEST CAREERS NEWS:

Visit the school website's <u>Careers Page</u> for updates, news and tertiary study information.

If you need further assistance or clarification, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

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Kariong Mountains High School Newsletter - Term 1 - Week 2 - 2022

4340 0246 | 10 Festival Drive, Mt Penang Parklands Kariong NSW 2250 | kariongmtn-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au | kariongmountains-high.com.au

Updated Process: Students Driving to and From School

In previous years we have had a process to ensure that parents and the school were aware of which students were driving to and from school and who they would have as passengers. From this year, we will only be collecting parent permission for students needing to drive to an excursion/activity venue because other transport is not readily available and this has been approved by the principal.

This is the new Student Drivers' Statement commencing from February 2022:

It is student and parent choice as to whether they drive to and from school or not. The school does not require a permission note for a student to drive to and from school at the start and end of their school day. These arrangements are a conversation between the parent/carer and child.

The school is also aware that students, who drive to and from school, may have other students as passengers. The school asks that the parents/carers of these student drivers have a conversation with their child about driving safely and legally and to speak with the other parents/ carers to ensure that all agree to such an arrangement.

The school will no longer require permission notes for passengers as the parents/carers of the students involved have discussed and agreed to such an arrangement.



Discover a love of reading at KMHS Library:



YEAR 7 - WELCOME TO KMHS

Well Done, Year 7 students on tackling your new high school journey with energy, charisma, and enthusiasm.

Year 7 students have embarked on their lessons with amazing concentration and have absorbed so much in such a short time. I am so proud of the dedication the students have shown in turning up to class on time and showing respect to all their teachers across the school.

The participation and team spirit displayed at the school swimming carnival proved the students are ready for a challenge and enjoy a laugh as they all swam down the pool with vigorous spirit. Year 7 is off to a superb start and Mrs Sayal couldn't be any prouder.



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KMHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Well done to all our students who attended and competed in the 2022 KMHS Swimming Carnival on February 3. It was a beautiful way to start our school year with lots of achievements made by our students.





COMMUNITY NOTICES

Information & Events

