# Term 3 Week 8 September 8, 2023

### NEWSIETTER









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To the fabulous SASS staff at KMHS, for all the amazing and invaluable work you do!

#### **CURRENT HOUSE POINTS**













#### CALENDAR

MONDAY
11 September
Year 11 Exams
HSC Music 1 Performance
Day

TUESDAY 12 September Year 11 Exams WEDNESDAY 13 September Year 11 Exams THURSDAY
14 September
Year 11 Exams
Driving Digital Skills
White Card Course
P-Tech Crossmuller Work

FRIDAY
15 September
Year 12 Luna Park
Didgeridoo lessons

MONDAY 18 September Year 11 Exams

TUESDAY 19 September Year 11 Exams WEDNESDAY
20 September
Poetry in Action
P-Tech Year 10

THURSDAY
21 September
Year 12 Graduation
Ceremony 12pm

FRIDAY 22 September Last Day of Term



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### FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

#### SHINING BRIGHT AT KMHS!!

### Superstars on the digital platform.

#### Congratulations, to two Year 11 students, Braith and



Tahmana, on their recent recognition by Elm Professional Services of the boys contribution to the Gosford business in digital media and marketing. Braith and Tahmana are currently completing a Certificate III in Business and through this school-based apprenticeship, the boys have been instrumental in growing the company's social media following by a whopping 600%!

Please see the full article, published in The Daily Telegraph below:

School based apprentices Braith and Tahmana run Elm Professional Service's social media department

Congratulations, to both students for their application and achievement in this field. The school looks forward to seeing what the future holds for you both.

### PSA SCHOOLS RECOGNITION WEEK - ENHANCING PUBLIC EDUCATION

This week is significant for recognising the invaluable work our support staff complete daily to enhance public education in schools, ensuring the school community achieves its best. The KMHS support staff are one in a million – dedicated to improving outcomes for our students and families daily. Combined with this, their support of teaching staff and executive to ensure our school runs smoothly is appreciated on every level.

If you enter our school, on any occasion, please recognise and thank our SASS staff for their tireless efforts. They are truly invaluable and appreciated in every way.



#### YEAR II AND YEAR 12 ARE FULL STEAM AHEAD

As we enter the final weeks of Term 3, both year groups are extremely busy preparing for final assessments and HSC examinations.

Year 11 examinations begin on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September and conclude Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Students have been emailed their examination timetable in the past week.

### HSC EXAMINATIONS BEGIN WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER AND CONCLUDE FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER.

As students navigate this stressful period, please be mindful there is support here at the school and through the department to assist students. Whilst the link below is targeted towards HSC support, there are resources in the link also of benefit to Year 11:

https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/ stay-healthy-hsc

Supports here at school include Mr White, myself, year advisors, Miss Thompson (Year 12) and Ms Milne (Year 11) and the students' dedicated staff. Please contact us should you have any queries or concerns in the weeks ahead.

#### JERSEY DAY

Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> September was Jersey Day in recognition of raising awareness for organ donation. Thank you, to all students and staff, who wore a jersey and contributed to this worthwhile cause.







Raising school community awareness is another way we promote our core values of unity, knowledge, and respect.

Mrs Donna James Principal



#### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### **Compass Portal**

Our Compass Parent Portal is a very useful platform to keep abreast of how your child is performing at school. Parents

have access to records of positive behaviour, negative behaviour, N-warnings and attendance. If ever you have a query regarding a Compass entry, please feel free to contact me.

Compass also has critical information such as parent contacts, emergency contacts and medical conditions. Please check that these are current and accurate and let the office know of any required amendments.

### Get ready for changes to mobile phone usage at school in Term 4!

As you know, in Term 4, we will have a new policy in place around mobile phone usage.

This mandatory policy is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interactions in the playground.

Information has been forwarded around details of how devices will be managed at school from the beginning of Term 4. An email was recently sent, and an information session is being organised for parents and caregivers. Students will be informed of processes and expectations by the end of term.

We are excited to make our school a 'mobile phone free' space to improve learning and engagement, however, we will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. There will also be further information posted on the school website and via letters to parents and caregivers.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Mr Scott White Deputy Principal



#### VAPING AWARENESS

#### Hello KMHS families,

I am one of the very proud year advisors at KMHS. In newsletters from now on, I will be writing articles to help equip families to have the tough conversations around vapes and vaping. I am very passionate about this topic and how dangerous it is for our young people. With the growing rate in young people taking up vaping in social situations, my goal for this article is to help open up conversations around this issue.

I have been attending professional learning, liaising with outside sources, and conducting my own research around the topic to better understand how to best support our students.

Recently, I attended a webinar that discussed 'The Generation Vape Project'. They are conducting a study on students, parents and teachers across Australia, to better understand the impact that vaping will have on young people. I have included their link at the bottom of the article if you wish to learn more.



Next newsletter, I will be discussing the laws around vaping.

**Have a wonderful week** and if you wish to request specific information around vaping, please reach out to the school and ask for me.

Miss Steph Richmond

If you are concerned that your child might be vaping or are struggling to quit vaping, you are encouraged to seek GP support.

https://www.cancercouncil.com.au/cancer-prevention/smoking/generation-vape/

## Science Faculty NEWS

TERM 3 IS ALWAYS AN EXCITING TERM FOR THE SCIENCE FACULTY AND THIS YEAR IS NO EXCEPTION. Here is a summary of what we have been doing in science this term.

#### SCIENCE WEEK AND EXPO EVENING

What an exciting **Science Week** we had this year. Once again, KMHS welcomed nearly 100 students (Years 4-6) from the learning community primary schools. The students engaged with the Science Week theme **'NNOVATION'** and were reminded of the contribution of Earth's first innovators, the Aboriginal people.





Students were taught by the Year 9 accelerated class and learnt about catapults, binary coding, water fountains, pepper's ghost and applications of magnetism and electricity.

The expo evening was well attended by the community and showcased the **Young Scientist Award** projects presented by the Year 8 and Year 9 students, and displays from the primary schools.

A special treat was KMHS principal Donna James' encounter with the Van De Graaff generator giving her a wonderful hair day.



#### TARONGA ZOO - YEAR 7 EXCURSION

It was an exciting day for Year 7 students to visit the Taronga Zoo and get a good understanding of concepts taught in their *'Classification of Living Things'* topic. Students enjoyed a ferry ride across to the zoo and then immersed themselves in a specially designed habitat room featuring a couple of very curious Bilbies.

Students were keen to see the red pandas and were delighted to see them quite active. Of course, the lions, elephants and giraffes are always exciting to see. A visit to the zoo is always an opportunity for students to engage in real science and observe real scientists interacting with and learning from the many animals and habitats on display.

#### YEAR II BIOLOGY FIELD STUDY EXCURSION

In Week 4 Term 3, our Year 11 Biology class conducted a field study in Wyrabalong National Park (Bateau Bay Beach to Crackneck Lookout).

This excursion is an integral part of the Biology course and provided a valuable experience for our students, who were able to apply their knowledge and develop their skills in species-sampling, abundance and distribution techniques. The highlight for our students was our exploration on the rock platform in search of sea anemone.





### SCIENCE CONTINUED...



**VALID TEST** 

The Validation of Assessment for Learning and Individual Development (VALID) program provides end-of-stage assessments for the science key learning area. The test is linked to the science syllabus and assesses what students know and can do in science. The data collected can be used as a diagnostic tool to assist in improving student outcomes in science and as a tool for program evaluation.

This term, Year 10 completed their VALID test for Stage 5. The students demonstrated a mature approach to the exam process and are to be commended for their efforts. **WELL DONE!** 

Year 8 will complete the mandatory Stage 4 VALID exam in Week 3 of Term 4.

#### FROM OUR STUDENT TEACHER - MR SUTTON:

Over the past four weeks, my time as a practical teacher at Kariong Mountains High School has been incredibly rewarding with many notable experiences standing out.

One of the most gratifying aspects has been in witnessing the gradual development of relationships, with each class, progress on a weekly basis. Seeing the rapport grow stronger each day has really reinforced my understanding of the value of fostering meaningful interactions in the students' learning process. The students at KMHS have helped immensely in allowing this process to smoothly transpire.

This placement has provided the opportunity to appreciate the various ways in which students absorb information. Adapting my teaching methods to accommodate their unique abilities and characteristics has underscored the importance of using students' strengths to their advantage.

The school's positive staff culture has been a significant factor for me in getting the most out of this practical experience. The easy-going social dynamics amongst colleagues have facilitated a sense of camaraderie in the work place. Collaborating with like-minded colleagues, who share a commitment to education, has created an environment conducive to idea-sharing and has, without a doubt, enriched my teaching journey so far.

### THE SCIENCE TEAM ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL AND EXCITING TERM 4.

Jamie Cartner, Kylie Peters, Josh Baumgart, Simone Dunn, Scott White and Riley Sutton.









# BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS *some* of the amazing costumes seen around kmhs on friday...



### COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS



SEPTEMBER 2023

Kariong . NSW . Australia



40+ Exhibitors offering plants for collectors and garden lovers

Entry: \$15

Under 18s Free

2 Day Pass = \$22

Pay Online or at the Gate EFTPOS available

### **Opening Times**

Saturday: 8am - 4pm

Sunday: 9am - 3pm









