



**KARIONG MOUNTAINS
HIGH SCHOOL**

NEWSLETTER

Unity ✨ Knowledge ✨ Respect

**Week 2
Term 4**
25 October, 2024

PHONE: 4340 0246

IN THIS ISSUE:

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL	PAGE 2
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	PAGE 4
PBL FOCUS	PAGE 4
MRS DWYER'S GROUP	PAGE 4
ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS	PAGE 5
LIBRARY NEWS	PAGE 6
COMMUNITY NEWS	PAGE 8

SCHOOL NEWS:

**KMHS
STAR
ATTENDER**

Congratulations!
WINNER of a \$10 Canteen Voucher

**Noah - Year 9
Keanu - Year 10**

Sponsored by the P&C

**GOOD LUCK
IN THE
HSC**

**WEAR YOUR
SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH PRIDE!**

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
TUES & FRI 8-9AM

BBQ Breakfast

**Celebrating Our Amazing
KMHS Teachers**

25th October
2024

WORLD
TEACHERS'
DAY

R.O.S.E.

Recognition Of School Excellence

Congratulations, Mrs Miller, our KMHS 2024 WTD award recipient! Well done, to all involved in making the Science Expo such a success!

CURRENT HOUSE POINTS

BOUDDI 13703	DHARUG 12917	GIRRAKOOL 13616	POPAN 12607
------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------

**Let's Celebrate:
AWESOME MUSIC PERFORMANCE BY STUDENTS**



CALENDAR	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	28 October HSC Exams	29 October HSC Exams	30 October HSC Exams Outdoor Rec Fishing P-TECH Mentoring	31 October HSC Exams	1 November HSC Exams Cultural Bridging Initiative
	4 November HSC Exams Year 10 Exams	5 November HSC Exams Year 10 Exams Outdoor Rec Fishing	6 November HSC Exams Year 10 Exams Outdoor Rec Fishing	7 November HSC Exams Year 10 Exams	8 November HSC Exams Year 10 Exams Support Unit Transition Prog.



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

WELCOME BACK, TO OUR VALUED AND APPRECIATED KMHS COMMUNITY!

Term 4 is always a busy one and moves at a cracking pace. We hope our students are well rested and ready to do their best.

LET'S CELEBRATE AN EXCITING START TO THE TERM

MENTAL HEALTH ART WORKS EXHIBITION AWARD WINNER

Congratulations, to our amazing and talented student, Kim, who won **first prize** in the under 16s category for her artwork in the **Mental Health Art Works Exhibition** at Gosford Regional Art Gallery. Kim received an award and 500 dollars.



This year's exhibition theme: **Let's talk about it!**

The **Mental Health Art Works Exhibition** engages the community in a better understanding of mental health and is now celebrating 25 years of empowering individuals impacted by mental illness to share their journeys of hope, recovery and personal growth through art.



SCIENCE WEEK CELEBRATIONS

SCIENCE EXPO 2024

WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER
5:00 - 6:30PM

Last Wednesday, was a fantastic start to the term, with our learning community coming together to celebrate Science Week, with the theme **'Survival more than Sustainability'**, with the Kariong Mountains Learning Community partner schools.

KMHS students organised and mentored our primary school students in a variety of activities that proved challenging yet rewarding.

In the afternoon, we welcomed our school families in to observe the rich learning that has taken place and the projects produced by our enthusiastic scientists. Thanks to Mr Cartner, Mrs Matthew, KMHS science staff, our partner primary schools and families for their attendance, enthusiasm and efforts in making this happen.



MUSIC INDUSTRY IN FULL PERFORMANCE MODE!

Last Thursday, our **Music Industry** students completed their assessment task by organising and performing at Drifters Wharf. The students certainly rose to the occasion and had a **'real performance experience'** like no other.



Congratulations, to all involved, and thanks to Mr Burns for all his efforts in bringing this event to fruition!

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY 2024

27th October is **World Teachers Day** and I would like to recognise the great teaching staff at Kariong Mountains High School for their care, compassion and commitment to achieving the best outcomes for your children.

A special shout-out and congratulations to Mrs Megan Miller, our World Teachers Day recipient for 2024. I have included Megan's award citation below:

Megan, as HT Wellbeing and PDHPE teacher, is an exemplary educator whose passion and drive for student success is evident in all aspects of her teaching practice. Megan's positive outcomes in student wellbeing are exemplary and a testament to the commitment she has to ensuring all students achieve the best opportunities for success.



HSC COMMENCES

Last Tuesday, was the commencement of the HSC for 2024. The exams are progressing well, with Year 12 working hard as they prepare to sit each examination.

As a school, we are currently celebrating nine students, who have already been offered early entry to university. This is a phenomenal effort and is testament to the hard work both students and staff have applied to achieve this outcome.

We look forward to celebrating with Year 12 at their formal on 20th November.

YEAR 12 2024/2025 TRANSITION

Kariong Mountains High School is dedicated to supporting students to achieve their best on their chosen pathway. As I communicated last term, students in Year 12 2024-25 are beginning their HSC courses from Week 4 this term.

To engage in additional support, all students are expected to attend from the start of the school day and will be engaging with Year advisor Mr Hipwell and Stage 6 co-ordinator Mrs Matthew in support programs designed to assist with study skills, time planning, assessment achievement and mentoring.

Flexible attendance is reviewed for all students entering Year 12 – a letter of expectations was emailed to students and parents / carers last week.

Further planning with the students has been conducted this week in the form of transition interviews. Students discussed their attendance, subject pattern and the support they believe they need to complete Year 12 successfully in 2025. Thanks to Mr Hipwell for organising this important event.

UNIFORM

Thank you, to all families, for your engagement in supporting the KMHS uniform policy. I am delighted to see the standard of uniform improving, with our students making a concerted effort to follow the guidelines. A reminder that coloured hoodies and leggings of all colours are **not** acceptable. **Plain blue hoodies are acceptable, but school hoodies are the preferred option.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Continuous monitoring of student attendance is a major part of school processes. Lateness to school is counted as partial attendance and can have a significant impact on students' attendance. **Please encourage positive habits with your son / daughter** by ensuring they are arriving at school before the first bell, and responding to absences when notified.

NSW

If your child misses as little as

1 **day per week**

Days missed = years lost

they will miss **8** **weeks of school per year**

which adds up to over **2.5** **years missed over their school life**

Your support is appreciated.

THANK YOU

Thank you, to all KMHS families, for your ongoing support of the school and most importantly our students. I firmly believe the success of any student is due to the team effort between families and the school. I look forward to continuing this important teamwork this term.

Mrs Donna James
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



I hope all students and families had a happy and safe holiday.

We are all looking forward to having another positive term to finish the year. With our return, I would like to reinforce our school expectations, which are defined by our core values 'Unity Knowledge Respect'.

Be On Time

Students are to arrive to school on time. **Our school day commences at 8:50am.** Punctuality to class is also important.

Attendance at school will be closely monitored again this term. Students who are ill are expected to stay at home and the absence explained through a note, phone call, email or the Compass app.

Students are reminded that mobile phones are expected to be placed in pouches upon entry into school. The way students have adapted to this significant change has been commendable. We have also retained all the agreements in students' files.

Wear Full School Uniform

Students are expected to be in full school uniform. This expectation is strongly linked to our value of **Unity**. If unforeseen circumstances occur preventing the wearing of school uniform, students are to provide a note from home and submit it to their check-in teacher. Failure to comply with uniform expectations will result in phone calls, emails and/or detentions.

Be Respectful

For me, the most important expectation is that students are respectful and do their best by valuing learning.

Year 11 Study Patterns

Year 11 continue to have interviews to discuss progress and future directions. Expectations for the finalisation of study patterns will be communicated in the near future. Year 11 are to be congratulated on the maturity they have demonstrated throughout the process thus far.

Mr Scott White
Deputy Principal

Congratulations to our Canteen Voucher winners.

Laila - Year 9
Emily - Year 10

PBL FOCUS



WEEKS 2 & 3

ALLOW EVERYONE THEIR RIGHTS

DESCRIPTION OF BEHAVIOUR



Remain 30cm away from others.



Touch your belongings only.



Treat others how you want to be treated.

RATIONALE OF BEHAVIOUR



UNITY:
Together we make school a positive place.



KNOWLEDGE: We learn and display school values .



RESPECT:
The more respect you give the more respect you get.

MRS DWYER'S GROUP

Mrs Dwyer's group kick started Term 4 with a trip to Terrigal for some beach volleyball, soccer, races and were lucky enough to spot some whales from the Skillion!



EXCITING ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

Welcome back to the last term of 2024.

This year has certainly flown by, and this term will be full of exciting activities too.

Congratulations, to our **Year 12 cohort**, for completing their HSC English. English is very important, whether it is someone's favourite subject or not. Skills learnt over thirteen years of schooling should see students succeed in any future venture, whether their pathway is tertiary education, employment, or a gap-year to travel. We hope that we have given our graduating cohort the necessary language and literacy abilities to navigate the big, wide world.

Year 11 will become **Year 12** this term. As they start their final HSC journey, we remind all students that it is vital to attend every lesson, listen carefully in class, complete all set tasks in a timely manner, draft their work and seek feedback from their teacher. **Every task matters, so put in the effort and you will be rewarded.**

All courses will be completing the common module - **Texts and Human Experience**. **English Studies** and **English Standard** students are studying the text **"Billy Elliot"**, while our **English Advanced** students are studying the play **"The Crucible"** to complete a multimodal speech in Week 8.

Year 10 has a very exciting last term of Junior School. They will be completing a Yearly Exam in Week 4, then they have the Gold Coast excursion in Week 5 and an opportunity to experience the reality of their senior study choices in Week 9. In between, they are completing an Area of Study based on the concept of power.

Year 9 will be looking at a range of Speculative Fiction texts for the unit **"Tomorrow Today"**, showing them how composers use real world issues to imagine our future world. They will have a Yearly Exam in Week 5.

Year 8 are looking at novel to film adaptations for the unit "At the Cinema." They will examine the similarities and differences in these texts to understand the main themes being expressed. Their Yearly Exam will be in Week 6.

Year 7 have been working hard throughout their first year of high school. This term they will look at the unit **"Speak the Speech"** to examine the power of the spoken word in bringing stories to life.

Last term, Year 8 students had a go at writing crime fiction short stories. **Below are some great examples:**

Alex tickled his chin, his mind spinning. A serial killer, targeting Parisian landmarks, was making a mockery of the city's beauty and the safety of its citizens. He wondered what was with the odd choice of weapon? His fingers tapping the desk, "and this object... we still don't know what it is?"

Bob hesitated. "The forensic team thinks it's some sort of... well, Sir, they believe it's a baguette."

The room turns silent. Alex's eyes widened.

- Alex 8G

Ariah shivered as she stood outside in the cold wintry night. Snowflakes falling down covering the ground with white powder, making the floor icy. Street lights glowed and made a heart-felt welcoming feeling. Every second making it feel like an hour. She glanced at her watch to see the time, 11:37pm it read.

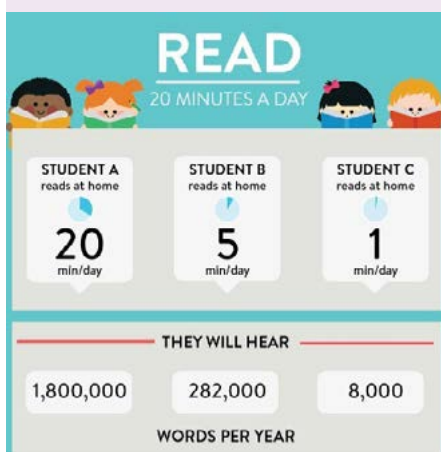
- Zyenna 8G

From the start of the year my city hasn't been the same. Kids from the ages of 12 to 15 have been going missing and most of the cases lead back to the woods. Joel, 12, Nick, 13, Jessie, 14, the list goes on. All children and all taken. There has either been a piece of clothing seen from the victims or a scent of them tracked by the police dogs. So far 11 kids have gone missing, and now my best friend, Olivia is one of them?

- Sophie 8G

Did you know? Reading just 20 minutes a day exposes your child to about 1.8 million words per year. Reading helps students develop a stronger vocabulary, and in addition, students who read for pleasure average higher grades in English, mathematics, science, and history!

Ms Lisa Bell
HT English



LIBRARY NEWS

Have you noticed your child reading less and, in some cases, not reading at all? 😞

It is not unusual for high school students to get out of the habit of reading regularly. Teenagers often find there are more demands on their time including homework, casual work, household responsibilities and after school activities. This is also the time when teenagers increase their use of technology and social media.

Schools and families can encourage students to get back to better reading habits by:

Offering suggestions on how students can fit in reading when they have less time (e.g. have book/reading device handy for 'down time' - on public transport, waiting for after-school activity to start, before school, during school breaks, meal break at work, etc.).

Talking about books and reading.

Reading aloud to teens.

Setting boundaries around the use of social media, gaming, texting, etc. and creating uninterrupted 'reading time.'

Gradually increasing 'reading time.' Research informs us that a minimum of 20 minutes per day is effective at improving reading skills.

Introducing new genres, authors and series.

Encouraging teenagers to visit their school library.

Taking teenagers to public libraries and bookshops.

Encouraging teenagers to have a say in what they would like to read.

Allowing teenagers to listen to the audio version of a text, whilst they follow along with a print or eBook version of a text.

Creating a routine for 'reading time' before sleep. Research informs us that disconnecting from screen-based devices at least half an hour before sleep improves both our ability to fall asleep and the quality of our sleep.

Demonstrating a positive attitude towards reading and sharing the benefits of reading with teenagers.

Reassuring teenagers that **it is ok to not like every book** you read and that it is **ok to have favourite genres**, authors and/or series of books.

Accepting that teenagers will find it difficult to get back into regular reading habits and that teenagers will **initially resist and even resent** our efforts to encourage reading.

Working collaboratively to demonstrate that perseverance and regular reading practice will indeed reap benefits in the short and long term.

Demonstrating that reading is fun and enjoyable.

Book Week

This year's CBCA Book Week theme was 'Reading is Magic' and we have been having lots of fun here at KMHS enjoying the magic of books and reading.

Reading
is
Magic

We have had our annual **'Dress Up Day'** with students and staff dressing up as book characters, book titles and genres. We would like to acknowledge all students and staff who dressed up. **You all looked fantastic!** Your efforts, enthusiasm and positive attitudes clearly demonstrated that reading is fun and a great way to make connections with others.



2024 KMHS Book Week



LIBRARY NEWS

Magic Show

We had our very own exclusive 'Magic Show' performed by the one and only magnificent Mr Cartner who entertained us during lunch with his 'literacy focused tricks'!



Spell Books

We got crafty and started making our own magic spell books.



Scavenger Hunt

Our library student ambassadors organised a 'Harry Potter' themed scavenger hunt.



Premier's Reading Challenge 2024 Update

Congratulations, to all the students, who have completed their reading requirements for this year's **Premier's Reading Challenge**. We are looking forward to celebrating their achievement later this term with our planned pizza party and presentations of certificates. Successful students will receive their invitation and awards very soon.

We encourage students to continue reading and recording books in their 2025 reading log. It is never too late to try the Premier's Reading Challenge. Students in Years 7-9, who have never attempted or completed a Premier's Reading Challenge, can start their reading now in preparation for the 2025 challenge.

Remember reading is indeed magical!

Reading books regularly:

- ★ Expands our vocabulary.
- ★ Improves our spelling skills.
- ★ Improves our comprehension.
- ★ Increases our confidence.
- ★ Improves our self-esteem.
- ★ Increases our understanding and knowledge of the world.
- ★ Improves academic achievement across all subjects.
- ★ Connects us with others and fosters friendships.
- ★ Develops empathy for others.
- ★ Builds our concentration.
- ★ Improves our memory.
- ★ Reduces our stress.
- ★ Helps us to sleep better.
- ★ Promotes creativity and critical thinking.

*Mrs Kirkland, Ms Carraro, Ms Hallam and Ms Rhodes
(KMHS Library Staff)*

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Teaching a learner driver?



Central Coast Council is inviting the community to attend free Transport for NSW 'Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers' workshops

The free workshop supports parents and supervisors of learner drivers to be confident and effective teachers.

The two-hour session will offer practical advice on:

- Current driving rules and requirements for L and P plates
- How learners benefit from supervised on-road driving
- How you can help make learning to drive a safe and positive experience

To book a seat at a workshop, please scan the QR code or visit centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/whats-on

ERINA 6pm - 8pm, Tuesday 5 November 2024
Erina Library, The Hive, Erina Fair, 419 Terrigal Drive, Erina

TUGGERAH 6pm - 8pm, Thursday 7 November 2024
Tuggerah Library, Westfield Tuggerah, 50 Wyong Road, Tuggerah

KARIONG 6pm - 8pm, Tuesday 12 November 2024
Kariong Library, 98 Mitchell Drive, Kariong



BOOK NOW



Presented by
Central Coast Council
in partnership with
Transport for NSW.

NSW Department of Education

Free internet for eligible families

The Australian Government's School Student Broadband Initiative offers free home internet for eligible families.

Check your eligibility

- Call the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610
- Visit anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet
- Email studentinternet@anglicarevic.org.au



Find out more:

Call the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610, visit anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet or scan the QR code for more information



AVOCA BEACHSIDE MARKETS

LIVE *on stage* **SUNDAY 27 OCT**

9AM SKYE AGIUS	10AM NEAV	11AM SUMMER HEALEY	MIDDAY JENNAWITH THEPINK	1PM BETHANY PIKE