

NEWS



Week 3
Term 1
14 February, 2025

KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL

Unity ✓ Knowledge ✓ Respect

4340 0246

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LET'S



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Let's Celebrate the outstanding effort from our school community with our uniform - thank you everyone!



To our Year 7 and ngyang students:
Great start to the year!

WEAR YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH PRIDE!

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
TUES & FRI 8-9AM



KMHS STAR ATTENDER

Congratulations!
WINNER of a \$10 Custom Voucher

Owen - Year 7

Sponsored by the P&C

CALENDAR

MONDAY

17 February
Student Helpers @
KPS Swimming
Carnival

24 February
School Photo Day

TUESDAY

18 February
Year 11 Information
Evening 5:30pm

25 February
Swimming Carnival

WEDNESDAY

19 February
Year 12 UoN talk HUB
Year 10 PYLO talk HUB
Dream Builders

26 February
Year 7 Lifechanger
Dream Builders

THURSDAY

20 February
Aqua Splash 2024
Cultural Walk - Hiking

27 February

FRIDAY

21 February
First Nations Dance
Open Girls Volleyball

28 February



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

WELCOME BACK TO OUR KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

As we begin Term 1 2025, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our families both new and existing. I look forward to greeting our students through the school gates this week, and meeting with our families in the weeks ahead.

ENDING 2024 ON A HIGH

KMHS ended 2024 on a very positive note, with some outstanding results in the HSC. **Congratulations**, to Ivanna Maggi, 2024 KMHS DUX. Additionally, congratulations to all students who completed their journey last year, either moving onto further education, employment or entering a trade qualification. I truly believe the best outcomes for all students rely on a team approach between families and the school, and this approach is dependent on clear communication between both. I want to encourage you to contact the school with any queries you may have in respect to your child's education journey.

SUPPORT UNIT - **ngiyang**

We are also excited to be welcoming our new students and families to our new **'ngiyang' support unit**. We look forward to working side by side with you on your child's education journey.

STAFF CHANGES

We have a number of staff changes and appointments for 2025. These are as follows:

- ▶ Welcome to our new support unit staff Mr Chamberlain, Ms Shore and Ms Devetak. Mrs Doyle and Ms Stallman will also be teaching in the new support unit this year.
- ▶ Mr Carter is taking leave this year and is being replaced by Mrs Peters. We welcome Mr Sutton to the Science faculty.
- ▶ Welcome back to Ms Johnston in TAS.



SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS AND KEY DATES

Attendance Matters: In 2024, the school refined attendance procedures, and I have communicated regularly with families, that for students to achieve their potential the expectation is for students to attend at least 95% of the year and for families to communicate reasons for student absences. Research has shown that students who miss 2 days of school each month (*which long-term equates to missing 4 weeks of school in a year*), will be educationally at risk of not completing optimum learning.

Attendance is a team effort between the school and families. Please ensure you **communicate in a timely manner**, the reason for your child's absence, and contact the school should you require further support with your child's attendance. In addition, please be mindful of having your child arrive on time to school as partial absences also contribute to long term attendance concerns. Below is a link to the Department's Attendance Policy for further clarification: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/policy-library/associated-documents/pd-2005-0259-02.pdf>



Mobile Phone Policy: Mobile phones are **banned** from use in NSW Department schools, unless needed for medical reasons. There has been a noticeable increase in social interactions of students and learning concentration since the policy was implemented. Mobile phone pouches are issued to all students, including our new Year 7 on their first day at school. Please ensure your child has their phone in the pouch as they arrive at school. Staff are regularly positioned on the front gate to welcome students, and check their phones are in pouches. For our new families, please contact Mr White, the Deputy Principal, should you have further queries when school returns. Your support of this policy is appreciated.

Uniform: Kariong Mountains High School prides itself on being a uniform school. It is a requirement of students to wear the uniform appropriately and every day. A school uniform:

- ★ Provides a platform for a student to feel included and have a sense of belonging with the school.
- ★ Provides safety for students as they are readily identifiable in the school setting.
- ★ Economically supports parents and carers as additional clothing is not required through the week.
- ★ Prepares students for expectations of employers for future pathways in respect to professional dress.
- ★ Contributes to the development of our core value of Unity.



Hooded jumpers, except for the school hooded jumper and plain navy hooded jumpers with no logo, and tights/leggings are **not** to be worn as part of the uniform. In addition, students are required to wear black leather or suede upper shoes, in line with the Department's WHS policy: **Thank you, to all families for your support in this area.**

Use of Bike racks: Due to the establishment of the new **support unit**, bike racks have been **relocated** to the front entry of the school. All students are to lock their bikes in this area at the beginning of the school day. Please ensure students bring locks for this purpose. **Bike security is the responsibility of students.**



Assessment Schedules Years 7- 12: Assessment schedules will be published for all students. Year 12 received their schedules in Term 4 last year and Year 11 will be issued theirs at the upcoming information evening. Additionally, Years 7 - 10 schedules will be published by Week 4 at the latest. Assessment schedules can also be found on the [school website](#).

WELCOMING FAMILIES TO KMHS

KMHS will be providing several opportunities for families to engage with us, including information evenings, performance nights, Parent / Teacher Interviews and more. My aim this year, is to also encourage our new and younger families to visit our school and experience the great things we have to offer in curriculum, welfare support and diverse educational pathways.

Our first event for the year is the **Year 11 Assessment Information Night on Tuesday 18th February, 5:30-6.30**. Please watch the KMHS website calendar for updates or follow our socials on Instagram and Facebook. **We look forward to seeing our community in the times ahead.**



Other key dates for Term 1 include: **School Photos on 24th February, KMHS Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 25th February** and **NAPLAN Monday 10th March to Monday 24th March**.



SCHOOL PLAN

School Plan for KMHS and The Department: **2025** is an exciting time for the school as we continue our school plan for 2024-2027, alongside the new NSW Public Education plan that has been released. The KMHS strategic directions for 2025 will continue to be Student Growth and Attainment, Learning Culture and Pathways to Future Success. Below is a link to the DoE plan:

[Our Plan for NSW Public Education](#)

Kariong Mountains HS is a great school, with many initiatives available for students to achieve success to the best of their ability. Navigating the adolescent years is often a challenging path and it is my firm belief that the **partnership between school and families** is critical to achieving **success for our students**. Clear and positive communication is a fundamental need and one that I will continue to foster with our school community. I welcome your input for our school, along with building positive relationships for the future .

POSITION AVAILABLE

We are seeking expressions of interest for a paid, part-time **canteen supervisor** position, two days per week from Term 2 when our canteen manager, Mrs Brierley, is transitioning to part-time employment. **Duties will include food preparation, customer service, food hygiene and safety and money handling.**

For anyone interested, please email your résumé detailing skills and experience to: kariongmtns-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or contact Mrs Ayres (*Business Manager*) on **4340 0246** for further information.

Looking forward to sharing student and school successes with our community in the year ahead.

Thank you

Mrs Donna James
Principal





DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Welcome to Term 1 at KMHS in 2025!

Welcome back to all students. I hope all families had a safe and happy break. As always, the new scholastic year is shaping up to be as busy as ever with quality learning and many other extra-curricula opportunities. **Let's make this a positive year by setting goals and focussing on achieving these high expectations.**

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. **Detentions will be issued to students who do not comply.**

Attendance is key to student achievement. When students are absent from school a notification from parents / carers is required on, or before, the day of return. This can be done via a note, email, phone call or Compass entry. If students are required to leave early for a legitimate purpose, please contact the office in the first instance. Arrangements can then be made to have your child ready to be collected and we can update our attendance records. **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.**

The **mobile phone ban in schools remains**. I continue to be impressed with the compliance and expect this will continue. **Teaching staff have commented on how much more engaged students have been in the classroom.**

Years 10/11 students have the opportunity to **change their elective subjects**. **These changes need to be made by the end of Week 4 (February 21)**. Assessment policy and schedule booklets will be issued to students in the near future.

Bike racks have shifted to the front entry of the school, due to the location of our new Support Unit. **It is strongly recommended that students lock their bikes**, as the school is not responsible if they are stolen.

Finally, we have **goal posts!** Their universal style caters for both Rugby League and Football (*Soccer, to the uneducated*). An opening ceremony in honour of a late student, Brody Morris, is being planned for the near future.

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

Mr Scott White
Deputy Principal

PBL FACULTY AWARDS

PBL Faculty Awards and Rewards for 2025

We are excited to share our new model for **2025 Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Faculty awards and Term rewards**. At KMHS, we are committed to promoting the core values of *Unity, Knowledge, Respect*. To highlight and celebrate students, who consistently demonstrate these values, we have established a structured award system that will take place throughout the year.

Each faculty will host one whole school assembly (*Wednesday*) per term, to present the week's PBL Faculty Awards. These awards recognise students who embody our core values within their respective classes and subjects. One student per class will be chosen for each award. In addition to the term Faculty awards, there will be end-of-year PBL awards presented at our annual Presentation Night in December.

Students will continue to receive **Positive Memos** from teaching staff for demonstrating outstanding behaviour and effort in line with our PBL values. These memos will accumulate and go towards qualifying students for end-of-term rewards *e.g. bowling, ice skating, movies etc*. This is a fantastic way to recognise and reinforce the positive behaviours that contribute to a thriving school environment.

We appreciate your continued support in encouraging and celebrating these important values with your child. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Thank you!!

KMHS Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL AWARD

Congratulations to our Canteen Voucher winners.

Jacob - Year 7
Rylan - Year 10

HANDY LINKS TO RESOURCES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE:

- ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES ▶
- SCHOOL POLICIES ▶
- PARENT RESOURCES ▶

ngiyang SUPPORT UNIT

Brand New Unit at KMHS

We are thrilled to announce the opening of our brand-new Special Education Unit at Kariong Mountains High School! This exciting development marks a significant milestone for our school community as we continue to grow and evolve. Our dedicated team are excited to welcome new families and students into the fold, and we look forward to building lasting relationships with everyone involved.

Accessible Facilities

Thanks to recent renovations, the unit is designed with accessibility, comfort, and modern learning tools in mind. The spaces are bright and welcoming, with updated facilities that cater to a wide range of learning styles. These enhancements reflect our commitment to providing an enriching educational experience for all students. With the new setup, students will have access to specialised resources, ensuring they are supported in their personal learning journey at Kariong Mountains while also encouraging independence and growth.

The integration of our Special Education Unit students into the mainstream school has been positive. Students are already engaging with their peers across various subjects and fostering friendships and promoting a sense of belonging within the broader school community. The unity of our diverse learning groups enriches the experience for all, as we continue to champion inclusion, empathy and respect. We are excited for what the future holds as we nurture and celebrate the unique strengths of every student in our care. Welcome, to this exciting new chapter!

*Mr Ricky Chamberlain
HT Support Unit*



STUDY SKILLS

Resource for Students

Our school is a subscriber to the study skills website www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

This website will help you **develop essential skills for academic success.**

There are units of work on improving **time management skills**, how to study, **research skills**, summarising, **technology** use, **brain** and **memory** and much more.

Everything you need to know about becoming a more powerful learner and improving your marks at school can be found on this site.

For example, learn how the colour of your room affects your ability to study, what the best study techniques are for your type of brain, how to improve your handwriting and useful software and Apps to block yourself from technology distractions.

You will also see lots of useful handouts, grids and planners at the bottom of the 'THINGS TO PRINT' page.

To access the handbook, go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and login with your access details.

Note: Login details to Study Skills Handbook are on Compass.

The more of this website you can work through, the more you will set yourself up for academic success.



COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

ROAD SAFETY REMINDER

SCHOOL ZONE

8 - 9³⁰ AM
2³⁰ - 4^{PM}
SCHOOL DAYS



Obey 40km speed limit within school zones.



NO PARKING

8⁰⁰ AM - 9³⁰ AM
2³⁰ PM - 4⁰⁰ PM
SCHOOL DAYS

2 minute Drop-off Pick-up ONLY: Remain within 3m of vehicle.



Obey 40km speed limit when lights flash.

BUS ZONE

BUS ZONE

8.00^{am} - 9.30^{am}
2.30^{pm} - 4.00^{pm}

SCHOOL DAYS

BUSES ONLY only stop or park outside restricted times.

NO STOPPING

NO Stopping at any time!

EARLY BIRD PRICES!

REGISTRATIONS OPEN 8 JANUARY

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS ACCEPTED!

COUGARS



Register from 8th January

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



or visit our website for registration info:

www.kariongunited.com.au

For all queries reach out to Reg: registrar@kariongunited.com.au



We are looking to grow our female registrations - Under 5s-16s & seniors. All skills levels welcome.

Check out our Mini Tillies program!

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



www.kariongunited.com.au



@kariongunitedfc



D-Print
Graphic Design
Digital & Offset Printing