

NEWS



Week 5
Term 1
28 February, 2025

KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL

Unity ✓ Knowledge ✓ Respect

4340 0246

IN THIS ISSUE:

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL	PAGE 2
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	PAGE 3
ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS	PAGE 4
TAS FACULTY NEWS	PAGE 6
COMMUNITY NEWS	PAGE 7



LET'S

**Congratulations:
Mikayla, Kara, Sophie,
Ryan and Travis - our
RECORD BREAKERS
at the Swimming
Carnival!**

CELEBRATE



Well done, KMHS competitors, supporters and staff, for great effort and enthusiasm at the 2025 Swimming Carnival!

UNIFORM SHOP
DURING SCHOOL TERM
OPEN
8-9AM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS

CURRENT HOUSE POINTS

BOUDDI	DHARUG	GIRRAKOO	POPAN
1472	1362	1319	1518

BOUDDI	DHARUG	GIRRAKOO	POPAN
1472	1362	1319	1518

CALENDAR

MONDAY
3 March
10 March
Aboriginal Art Excursion

TUESDAY
4 March
Yarnup - 4:30pm
Year 6 Parent Information Evening 5:30pm
11 March

WEDNESDAY
5 March
Year 11 Pathways to Success
Life Changer Year 7
Dream Builders
Catchup School Photos
12 March
Dream Builders
NAPLAN

THURSDAY
6 March
Zone Swimming
13 March
OSSA
NAPLAN

FRIDAY
7 March
Brisbane Water PSSA Swimming Carnival
Recognising International Womens Day
14 March
NAPLAN



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

HELLO TO OUR KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Thankyou, to parents and carers for your diligent support of the school uniform, including **black shoes**. Communication last year and the beginning of this year outlined the requirements now for students' footwear. I am aware that some families may have not seen this communication already purchased a different colour shoe. Mr White and myself are encouraging students from these families to **bring a note** and a uniform pass, for the term, will be issued. The school is asking that the upgrade of a student's shoes, when required, **conform to the school policy**, of all black, with leather/suede upper, to be in line with DoE Health and Safety requirements.

YEARS 11 - 12

Term 1 is off to a busy start, especially with Year 11 beginning their Preliminary year for their HSC pathway, and Year 12 almost halfway through their HSC year.

The rigor of senior study is very different to the junior school, and, for some students, the senior course can be challenging.

Positive attendance is critical for students to achieve their full potential at the end of Year 12. Check-in at the beginning of the day is compulsory for all students to attend, and flexible attendance for Year 12 is for periods 4 and 5 only. This time of the day is being used by Year Advisors Mr Hipwell (12) and Ms Richmond (11) and our Stage 6 co-ordinator Mrs Matthew to provide support for all students as they work thorough assessments and also to build a culture of support and achievement.

I thank parents and carers for supporting these initiatives.

Kariong Mountains High School has detailed assessment policies in place to support **senior students**. Copies of these are available on our website. Year 12 received their booklets at the beginning of Term 4 last year and Year 11 received theirs last week, coinciding with the information evening, at which I presented to parents/carers and Year 11 students on NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) requirements for their Stage 6 pathway.



KEY POINTS for students and parents to remember in relation to the Assessment Policy:

- ▶ All students are to sign for the assessment book and retain a hard copy.
- ▶ Copy of Assessment Policy booklet for each year is available to download from the school website.
- ▶ **Misadventure:** in the event of a major illness or problem occurring, students must see Mr White DP as soon as possible. The student MUST see the DP their FIRST day back at school to apply for a misadventure and submit appropriate paperwork. A medical certificate or statutory declaration needs to be submitted with the paperwork for the task mark to be counted. Examples of the documentation needed are found in the Assessment policy.
- ▶ Technology issues are not a valid reason for misadventure. Students must be organised and have a plan of using a USB to back up their work and printing at school if the need arises.
- ▶ It is also a good idea to map tasks on a calendar or organiser so that they have a visual reminder of what is needed for time planning. Both assessment schedules include this organisation tool.
- ▶ Visit the NESA website for more information: <https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home>
- ▶ Click the following link to access the PDF version of our [Year 11 information presentation](#) (from last week).

YEAR 12 HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATIONS WEEK 10: MON 31/3 - FRI 4/4

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy

NAPLAN 2025 - YEARS 7, 9

Students in Years 7 and 9 will be completing the NAPLAN online between Thursday 13/3 to Monday 24/3. The writing test MUST be sat by all students on Thursday 13/3.

Parents and carers can access information, resources and support on the NAP (National assessment Program) website: <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan>

Please contact the school should you have further queries.

NAPLAN 2025

Information for parents and carers



KARIONG MOUNTAINS LEARNING COMMUNITY

I am privileged to be working with our five partner primary schools (*Kariong, Somersby, Central Mangrove, Kulnura and Peats Ridge public schools*). This term, the schools have met and formed a **Partnership Action Plan**, which is being led by Mrs Matthew. The action plan will be used to track joint initiatives between KMHS and the primary schools. Collectively, a lot of work is being focused on improving student outcomes in the following areas:



- ★ Literacy and numeracy initiatives
- ★ Transition planning for Year 6
- ★ Student profiling
- ★ Combined NAIDOC day celebrations
- ★ Years 4 and 5 Taster Day
- ★ Parent information evenings - Year 4,5 and 6
- ★ STEM activities.

KMHS is hosting a Year 5/6 Information Evening on Tuesday 4th March. Details will be forwarded to our partner schools and advertised on the school website and socials.

TUESDAY 4th MARCH, 2025
Welcome to our
YEAR 5/6
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
BBQ & SCHOOL TOUR
5:30 TO 6:30 PM
KARIONG MOUNTAINS
HIGH SCHOOL

PART-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL CANTEEN FROM TERM 2

Our canteen manager, Mrs Brierley, is moving to part-time employment in Term 2. As a result, I am seeking expressions of interest for a paid part time canteen supervisor position, two days per week. **Duties will include food preparation, customer service, safe food hygiene 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) for further information. **Applications close Wednesday 5th March.**

Mrs Donna James
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Term 1 - Week 5

Term 1 has started very well with students settling in quickly and the atmosphere in the school remains very positive. By following our core values of 'Unity, Knowledge Respect', students should continue to have a productive term.

Timetable Update

Our finalised timetable for 2025 began this week with elective changes for Years 9 to 11 completed as well. Further changes will only be considered for exceptional circumstances. Any timetable concerns are to be directed to me in the first instance. Students in Years 10 and 11 are in the process of checking and signing their NESA confirmation of entries. Students should also have received and signed for their assessment policy and schedules booklets (available on our website).

Extra-Curricula Activities

Our school encourages participation in extra-curricula activities and there are many opportunities provided throughout the year. KMHS has an excellent reputation in the wider community and are frequently recognised. We are regularly called upon by primary schools for assistance as our students have a high level of expertise and respect.

Mr Scott White
Deputy Principal

KMHS
Positive Behaviour for Learning
PBL AWARD
Congratulations to our Canteen Voucher winners:
Piper - Year 8
Isabella - Year 11

HANDY LINKS
TO RESOURCES
ON THE
SCHOOL
WEBSITE:

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES ▶

SCHOOL POLICIES ▶

PARENT RESOURCES ▶

TAS FACULTY NEWS

2025 is underway in the TAS faculty, with students working hard on planning, costing, risk assessing, manufacturing and the many other facets associated with studying a TAS-based subject.



We are excited to welcome back Ms Johnstone after spending 2024 teaching overseas and gaining invaluable experiences, from which our students will undoubtedly benefit.

The TAS faculty has a busy term planned, with catering events and the newly structured 'school to work' pattern for Year 11, all coupled with our regular teaching and learning in the multi-focused areas that TAS offers.



A reminder that our **students require full leather shoes** to complete all practical experiences in TAS. This is a WHS directive from the Department and a key factor in our planning and completing projects on time. If you have any questions regarding what is being studied and participation in the classrooms and practical spaces be sure to contact you son or daughter's teacher, so we can work together to best support your child's learning progressions.

We encourage you to talk with your children about what they are learning in TAS and the skills they are developing and getting them to apply their skills throughout the home.



We are looking forward to another great year, working together with your kids at the best high school on the Central Coast!

Mr Scott Bath

HT TAS



ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

Welcome back to **English and Drama in 2025**. The English team are Courtney Thompson (HT), Lisa Bell, Danielle Hunt, Stephanie Richmond and Roberta Von Heupt. We look forward to working with our students this year.



Year 7 – are studying a range of picture book texts to identify the elements of Visual Literacy in the unit **“A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words.”**

The assessment task is a Picture Book task to be submitted at the end of the term.



Year 8 – are studying a range of quality poems, to better understand the forms and features of poetry in **“Poetic Pizazz.”** The assessment task will be a podcast based on poetry.

Year 9 – are studying a range of **“What if???”** scenarios as we explore speculative fiction in the unit **“Tomorrow Today.”** The assessment will be an imaginative and reflection writing task.

Year 10 – are reading a novel for the unit **“Keen Readers”** that explores themes and ideas relevant to a teenage audience, to develop their understanding of themselves and their place in the world. The assessment task will be an imaginative writing task based on their novel.

Year 11 – are understanding what it means to be a senior student and navigate their school, work and personal life balance in their Reading to Write or English and the Workplace units. The assessment task will be due in Week 9.

Year 12 – are into their second term of their HSC with **Advanced, Standard** and **Studies** studying a range of texts including plays, novels, poems, films, song lyrics and visual texts in the units **Textual Conversations; Language, Identity and Culture;** and **MiTunes and English.** The assessment task will be a Half-Yearly Exam in Week 10.

Drama Group - Miss Thompson will be taking Year 8 Drama lessons to develop students' drama skills.

Poetry Incursion Term 3

Further to the success of this incursion last year, the English Faculty has organised another poetry incursion on 16/8/25. We are very aware of the minimal opportunities available for our students to participate in and this group enables us to facilitate a learning event within our school to show our students new ideas. **Poetry In Action** is an innovative touring theatre company, dedicated to unlocking the power of words for everyone. Every student from 7-10, studies poetry texts and speeches throughout the year and this performance could inspire and challenge our students, and assist them in developing their understanding of the language of poems.

Speculative Fiction “2050”

first draft stories

“Where are we?” He says.

“It’s more like when are we?” She replies with.

Helix and Lunarose were best friends. They grew up together in the year 2030. Virtual Reality and hoverboards were the new trend. Scrunchies were out and ribbons were in. Lunarose was 16 and Helix was 18. They both went to the same high school but hung out with different friend groups. They had known each other since pre-school.

Growing up together in an ‘unsafe’ suburb made them become close as best friends. They always looked out for each other.

Zy H

“He’s coming! HE’S COMING! It’s the old man!” Yelled the children running towards the campfire. More children came out from their huts on the high ground to go down to the campfire. They watched as he dragged his thin boned body up the hill towards them.

The world had changed in the last 25 years. The old man thought. The ocean had swallowed up city after city, country after country. There aren’t any more cities in the world, as soon as people started hearing about cities being swept into the ocean they fled. The ocean came in with one sweep and left, taking the cities with it.

The old man, climbing over mountains to reach his destination, mourned everyday wishing people could have done more to try and save the world from this tragedy. He was headed to the next village to tell children the tales of when there was land on both sides of the world and when they didn’t have to worry about being swept into the ocean. He went from village to village telling stories to children in hopes of some food and a shelter for the night.

Sophie L

"He's over there!" Came a bunch of distant gruff voices, followed by the sound of heavy footsteps thundering down the alleyway that Jimothy was desperately trying to hide in. Panicking, he hurriedly boosted over the trash bin in which he was attempting to hide in and onto the perrons of the apartments behind and, hearing the thuds of the heavy boots in which the Metropolitan officers were donned with grow closer, climbed all the way to the top, ran across the roof and gazed off the other side of the building. Below him, the ground in which the building as well as the rest of the city was residing on gave way and curved sharply downwards, and there was an endless procession of clouds stretching hundreds of kilometers across, as well as a bottomless abyss under the aforementioned clouds, no ground in sight.

William X

It was the year 2050 and life changed in ways no one could have predicted. Except for that one conspiracy theorist from 2024, who kept talking about robot overlords and AI controlling the world. The biggest change? AI ran everything and I mean everything. You wanted breakfast? You had to convince your smart fridge that you deserved fruit loops that morning. IF you annoyed it by playing bad music on aux, or yelling at your favourite sports team on the tele, you were 100 percent getting a bowl full of ice.

Having a flying car was mandatory, but they developed attitude problems throughout the years. One time in London a man didn't listen to the cars *"The emotional needs for flying vehicles"* podcast. He was late to work and needed to explain to his boss why he was late.

Alex L

Year 10 Keen Readers



Year 11 English Studies with Miss Thompson

Students have been considering life beyond school and budgeting for moving out of home with a friend and their partners - we're working in groups to budget our prospective incomes, select rental properties, and manage bills and other life admin. *Preparing for the future is a daunting task, but it's made easier through activities like this!*



Introducing DEAR: A New Reading Initiative for Year 7 in 2025

At KMHS, we know that strong reading skills are essential for success in every subject—and in life. That's why we're excited to introduce Drop Everything and Read (DEAR), a new initiative launching in Term 1 2025, for our Year 7 students.

Students will begin their school day with 10-15 minutes of independent reading during Check-In Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This simple, but powerful practice, will help build strong reading habits, improve literacy skills, and encourage a lifelong love of reading.

While DEAR is starting with Year 7, it is part of a bigger vision to foster a whole-school culture of reading. By making reading a daily priority, we are showing our students, staff, and community that literacy matters—not just in English, but across all subjects.



We look forward to seeing our students thrive as they develop confidence and joy in reading. Thank you for supporting this important initiative!

English Faculty Teachers

Why not join KMHS P&C?

P&C meetings held in the library

7 - 8pm

By joining you will:

- Stay informed and support our students
- Share ideas with fellow parents and the principal
- Have your say on school and P&C decisions

KMHS P&C

New Members Welcome

- **Only 5 meetings each year**
We all lead busy lives, but your involvement, in attending some or all, makes a difference.
- **Check newsletter/website for meeting dates and info.**
Contact the school if you have any questions.

We really look forward to welcoming new members, both from our current and new KMHS families.

