Welcome back to the start of the 2014 school year. I hope you all had a lovely break. We had an excellent start to the school year, with the children settling into their new classes very well. The Prep children were delightful and settled in very smoothly, which can be attributed to the excellent work the parents did previously to prepare their children for school along with the work of the Kinder teachers and Prep teachers as part of the Kinder to School transition program.

I would like to give a special thank you to our Parents & Friends Club for assisting the school with Cheers & Tears (morning tea with a difference) for our new Prep students’ parents, on our first day back. Thanks for comforting our new parents with children attending their first day of school in the Prep classes.

Well Done Award Winners Monday 3rd February
(see list of winners on back page)

Building & Grounds

I know Mr Gray will give a report on the work done at the school over the holiday. I want to take this opportunity to thank Mr Gray on his organisation of the works that were done. Thank you very much for sacrificing time on your holidays to ensure that the workers could complete the projects. I would also like to thank Mr Gary Adams who spent a huge amount of his time maintaining our gardens over the break. The school is looking great! Thank you!

This year we welcome 3 teachers back to KPS. It is great to have you back Ms Huntly, Mrs Mulqueeny and Mrs Ciavarella.

Year Preps enjoying investigations

(Continued on page 2)
Updating information:

Next week, the eldest child in each family will receive an envelope from the school requesting families to provide us with any relevant updated information. It is very important that we have up to date contacts numbers, address, emails etc…

If your child has any medical conditions which we need to be aware of, please inform the Office as soon as practical.

On special occasions children will share celebratory cakes in their classrooms. If your child has a low tolerance for certain food or any allergies please inform your child’s class teacher so they can make alternate arrangements for your child.

Accident Insurance

All Principals have been advised to inform parents that the Education Department (DEECD) does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including transport costs. Reasonably low cost accident policies are available from commercial insurers.

We have also been instructed to forward the following information:

- Melbourne and greater Victoria will experience extremely high temperatures for the back to school period.
- Parents and/or guardians are reminded that on hot days it is important never to leave children alone in a car.

Working with Children:

If you wish to assist the class teachers in the classroom and on camps and excursions this year, it has now become mandatory for all volunteers to have a Working With Children Check. Forms can be collected at the Post Office. You are then required to make an appointment at the Post Office to show your 100 points of identification and have your photo taken.

School App

Our School App continues to be a real success with many parents commenting on how convenient and timely our communication is. If you are a new parent to the school please download the app on your phone or you iPad. The app is free. Thank you to Ms Laurie Bier and Mrs Betty Hall who do a great job ensuring that important information is communicated on the app. Thank you.
School Council Elections 2014
Information for Parents

If you would like to nominate for school council please contact the school. Nominations close on Monday 17th February 2014.

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

Standing for election as a member of the school council
Encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
Consider standing for election to council this year
Be sure to vote in the elections.
Welcome back everyone to our 2014 school year. I hope you all had a great, relaxing holiday and rested up in readiness for our bout of very warm weather. It is terrific to see our new Prep students getting to know their classmates and school staff. It is also pleasing to meet our many students in other year levels who are new to Korumburra P.S. I hope you all enjoy your time with us.

Holiday Works
When our students resumed just last week, we had completed 4 major projects over the holiday break. John Mackie and his bricklaying team completed the centenary paving project at the northern end of the quadrangle, the surrounding garden edging retaining wall was also replaced by Scott Burgess, the deck outside the Music Room was replaced by Michael Grabham and our new play equipment replacing the old fort near John Street was installed on January 22nd. These areas have really added to the already impressive look of our school grounds. Scott also spent many hours adding new fall material to our play equipment pits and fixing some pathways.

Our School Gardener Gary Adams also did a fantastic job in having our grounds look so attractive after the holidays. He spent many, many hours pruning, mowing, sweeping and tidying and when the students resumed after the holidays, the grounds looked (and continue to look) marvellous.

Our School Cleaner Col Wyhoon also did a great job over the break and when staff returned to school, everything was sparkling and ready for the students. Col also spent many hours cleaning windows and air conditioner filters in the days leading up to the students' return. Thanks Col for all your efforts!

Year 6 Students
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new group of Year 6 students and wish them all the very best for their final year of primary school. They have started off exceptionally well with their Peer Mediation duties, dealing with tricky situations in the playground and using common sense and showing maturity in solving problems. Congratulations on a great start to your time as Year 6 students!

Canteen
Our Canteen under the management of Annmarie Clark has started off very well. Last Friday, Annmarie and her helper Kate Lindhe baked scones and topped them with jam and cream, for the students to try at their breaks. They were certainly very yummy and I’m sure many children (and staff) will be ordering the scones or chocolate brownies or cookies made fresh each day the Canteen is open.

2014 Year 6 Student Leaders
Our new Student Leadership Team of 2014 have also made a great start. Many have now presented at Assembly or assisted in many ways to help make the start to our 2014 school year, successful. Thank you and good luck to you all.

School Captains: Darci Holmes & Kieran Lewis
School Vice Captains: Ella Roberts & Liam Anderson
Red House Captains: Maddie Smith & Maddie Norris
Blue House Captains: Erin Clark & Tyler Newton
Green House Captains: Heidi Burgess & Joel Hewitt
Gold House Captains: Courtney Martin & Charlie Koscal

School Uniform
It is great to see all our children looking so smart in their new items of school clothing. However, we have already had a number of children misplace windcheaters and hats. We ask parents to please name their children’s clothing in such places as the hat brim or the windcheater wrist or waist band as well as the labels. When it is named, we can easily return the item to its owner.

Spelling Errors
This year, I am looking forward to again trying to trick our students who look for the spelling mistake in my report. There will be a prize for each student who spots my error.

With the weather warming up again, it is going to be hot in the pool on Friday 7th as all our Year 3-6 students do their best for their House at our House Swimming Carnival. While our School Canteen will be closed on Friday 7th February (our House Swimming Sports day) Year 3-6 children at the pool will be able to order their lunch from the Swimming Pool's Canteen/Kiosk. Good luck everyone!

David Gray
Assistant Principal
Firstly, we would like to say a big welcome back to everyone after our holidays and especially a HUGE welcome to all of our new Preps and their families! Things are starting to settle down after the excitement of starting a brand new year. The teachers and children are well on the way to getting to know each other and routines and expectations are becoming familiar.

Many of the class teachers have been doing a lot of assessment, to get as much information as they can about what the children already know, so they can plan for their future learning. Thank you to our Prep parents for bringing their children up for their interview time and to all the children who have been trying really hard with the many different tasks.

The children have also been involved in a variety of activities related to Summer, the beach, their friends and family. They are experiencing lots of sensory stimulation as well as having the opportunity to read, draw, write, build and create!

We have endeavored to include a small checklist of things to keep in mind to support your child in the Junior Department;

My child brings their Home Reading Cover every day.
I read with my child at least 5 nights a week and record their book / sentence / word in their Reading Diary.
I regularly enjoy and read books to my child.
My child regularly borrows from the school Library (once we begin sessions) and returns their book to school weekly.
My child has an art smock kept at school.
My child has shoes that they can independently manage to take off and put back on several times a day.
All of my child’s clothing is clearly named.
My child can pack their school bag and fit all their belongings into it.

Please remember that all our teachers are more than happy to speak to you, however the morning is a very busy time involving lots of setting up and most afternoons are spent in meetings, so please organise a suitable time through the Office.

Kerrie McPherson
Prep Department Manager

Here are some photos of the Prep children hard at work during Investigations.
Middle Department Report

It has been a smooth start to 2014, with all students (and teachers) enthusiastically participating in the daily activities. It has been nice getting to know a new group of students and their families and we hope to see more of you during the year.

Swimming:
With the House Swimming Trials and Swimming Sports as well as Water Safety lessons occurring this term, it is essential that students bring their bathers, towel, goggles etc. on the days that they are required. This saves frantic phone calls to busy parents to deliver items. We would rather students take responsibility for these belongings. Please name the clothing as there is already a small number of lost property items after just one session at the pool.

Reading:
All students will be receiving their reading diaries this term for use at home and at Reading Club for interested students (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30 a.m. in the Library). Please read with, to or just listen to your child read at least 4 times per week. Regular reading improves students’ understanding and comprehension and assists with their spelling and writing as well as oral language. Reading at home on a weekly basis is an expectation of Year 3 and 4 students and will form part of their homework routine.

Parent Helpers:
Thankyou to the parents who have already offered their assistance with class help in Reading or other areas. Individual class teachers will let you know when it is suitable for your assistance once the timetable is fully established.

Winter Olympics:
During the next 3 weeks, Year 3 and 4 students will be looking closely at the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. It would be good if students were able to watch some of the events on television or the internet to add to our class discussions and displays. We're sure if you say that they need to watch TV for school, there will be no arguments!

Nigel Kilpatrick
Middle Department Manager

Senior Department Report

We would like to wish a warm “welcome back” to all new and returning students at KPS. There have already been many stories shared from over the holidays and plenty of smiley faces! Both the Year 5 and Year 6 students have settled in well these last few weeks, learning new routines and taking on new responsibilities. The Year 6 Peer Mediators have already got off to a flying start, showing a real sense of maturity and responsibility in their new roles at Recess and Lunchtime. The Year 6Student Leaders have also stepped up to the challenge of running school assemblies, showing confidence and commitment.

Homework partially started this week and will comprise reading, soundwaves spelling and numeracy. It will be fully underway next week with high expectations set. Thank you already to those parents who have signed and checked reading diaries this week. Your support is most appreciated. As a reminder, diaries are collected weekly and should be read and signed by parents. They’re not only a great way to monitor student reading, but also a great communication tool between home and school. A final reminder for students is to make sure their netbook computers are being fully charged overnight, ready for a full day’s use at school. Students take full responsibility for their netbooks in the Senior Department, so there’s no excuse for flat batteries!!

Thanks again for a great start to Term 1 and let’s keep up the positive attitudes!

Daniel Wells
Classroom Teacher
**House Swimming Sports**

Congratulations to all the Year 3-6 students involved in the swimming trials on Monday, and thank you to the teachers and the many parents who came down to the pool to assist in any way. We now have House team lists finalised and all students will know which events they are competing in on **Friday 7th February** at our **House Swimming Sports**. It is forecast to be a very warm day so could students please make sure they bring:

- Sunhat
- Rashvest/t-shirt
- Sunscreen
- Refillable drink bottle of water
- Lunch and plenty of snacks.

The kiosk will be open at the pool on the day, however students will need an adult to purchase items for them.

All students are encouraged to dress in house colours and be ready for plenty of chanting to encourage their team mates along. All parents and friends are also welcome and encouraged to attend.

After this event some students will be invited to attend the trials for the District Swimming Sports on Wednesday **12th February**. These students will receive a note early next week.

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**Tennis**

There is an opportunity for some Year 5/6 students to compete in a tennis tournament on Wednesday **26th March** at Inverloch Tennis Club. To be eligible to play, the Year 5/6 student should play regular tennis in a local competition at section 3 or above. Parents would be required to transport their own children and assume responsibility for them on the day. For further queries, please contact me at school.

Shelley Snooks
PE Coordinator

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**Library News**

**Book Club** – The first issue for the year has arrived and order forms have been distributed to all classes. If you wish to place an order please complete the order form and return it to school by **Friday 14th February**. Don’t forget to include your child’s name on the order form!!

For parents new to the school – Scholastic Book Clubs have 2 issues per term. There is no obligation to purchase, however, the school receives bonus points which we use to purchase items for the Library. If you wish to place a Book Club order fill in the order form, making sure to include your child’s name and class on the order form. Then enclose this with the correct money in an envelope and give it to your child’s teacher. After the closing date for orders, they are sent off to Scholastic and orders are returned within approximately one week of the closing date. There is also an option to pay via credit over the telephone. Just follow the instructions on the order form.

Some children still have overdue books from last year. It would be appreciated if these could be returned to the Library as soon as possible. Thank you.

**KARE News**

After School Kare is up and running again for the year and we have vacancies available. If you want your child to attend our KARE program please call into, or ring the Office to make a booking. The service runs from 3:30pm – 6:00pm. The cost per session is $12.50 with reductions for Child Care Benefit.

A reminder that it is a legal requirement to have a new enrolment form completed each year, so if your child is currently attending our service and you have not completed a new enrolment form, could you please do so as soon as possible. New enrolment forms are available at the Office.

Helen Cripps
Library Technician
Free sport and healthy snacks for kids!

The Australian Sports Commission’s exciting Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is set to continue this term. It is a great chance for kids to have fun with friends, learn new sports and get active.

Term 4 Activities:-

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Please put your name down at the office to be enrolled. Places are limited so get in quick! Please contact Emma Morton at Korumburra Primary School on 5655 1309 if you require any further information.

Both activities will run from 3.30pm to 4.30pm at our school and will run for seven weeks. (Please note, week 7 will be held at Korumburra Golf Club or Korumburra Soccer Club). All students will be provided with a healthy afternoon snack. I Look forward to another exciting active year!
On Tuesday the 11th February, our ICT coordinator Laurie Bier will be available to help any parents install the KPS App onto their Smart Phone. Drop in anytime between 7.15 pm. and 8.45 pm. into Room 8 (portables between carpark and the quadrangle).

Any parents who have already installed the App please remember to update your student levels for 2014. Just go to the settings tab.

Laurie Bier
ICT Coordinator

Coal Creek Farmers Market - Sat 8th February
Fresh local produce this Saturday 8am-12.30pm

Bring the family and relax under the shade of the gum trees, play in the playground and stock up on delicious local produce.

Community Stage
10.00am – Veg growing tips with Meredith from Grow Lightly
10.15am – Learn how to make schnitzel with Nadine from Wattlebank Park Farm. There’ll be schnitz to try, plus her famous polish sausage too.

Pick up some fresh fish, free-range eggs, cakes, chutneys, artisan breads, wines, seedlings, herbs to plant, hand-made soaps and lots more local goodies.

Leongatha Red Cross is on the cake stall
More markets: Foster Feb 15.
Inverloch Feb 23.
Koonwarra Mar 1.

Stallholder inquiries 0459 629 000

119TH KORUMBURRA SHOW
(Gippsland's Oldest Show)

This weekend Feb 8th (Special Feature Day) & Feb 9th 2014
(Horse Program)
Entry Costs: Family Pass (2 Adults & 2 children) $25
Pensioners/Seniors/Concessions $8
Adults 14yrs & over $10
Child 10yrs & Under 14 $5
Children Under 10 FREE

Lots of great entertainment, displays, fun & enjoyment for everyone.
This is the CHEAPEST SHOW in Gippsland & all profits go back into the Korumburra Showgrounds facilities.
Calendar of Events 2014

7th February - House Swimming Sports
12th February - District Swimming Trails
19th February - District Swimming Sports
21st February - School Photo's
27th February - Water Safety Program 3-6
28th February - Division Swimming Sports
3rd—7th March - Water Safety Program 3—6
11th—14th March - Year 6 Prom Camp
12th March - Regional Swimming Sale
27th March - House Athletic Sports
April 4th - Term 1 ends.
April 22nd - Term 2 starts
20th April - State Swimming MSAC
1st May - Regional Tennis
6th May - District Athletic Sports
8th May - Individual State Team Trials
28th May - House Cross Country
28th May - Division Cross Country
19th June - Regional Cross Country
23rd—25th June - Year 5 Urban Camp
10th—12th September - Year 4 Allambee Camp
15th—16th October - Year 3 Camp Phillip Island
23rd October - Year 2 Sleepover

For Sale: PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM
1 COAT $20.00 Size 14 Worn twice
SCARF $5.00 never worn
Please Call 0409 573 221