



Whole School Newsletter

Issue 2 - Wednesday 1st April, Term 1 2026

End-of-term early dismissal reminder: Thursday 2nd Apr - End of Term 1, 2:30pm dismissal

Principal's Update

It has been a wonderful start to my time at the school, and I would like to sincerely thank our community for the warm welcome I have received. I feel incredibly grateful to be part of such a supportive and connected school community, and I look forward to continuing to build strong partnerships with our students, staff and families.

Over the past month, our staff have been working with a clear focus on strengthening orderly learning environments across the school. A key part of this has been supporting students to be ready and lined up on time, ensuring a calm and purposeful start to learning. This work is closely aligned with our school values of Collaboration, Perseverance and Respect, which continue to underpin all that we do.

I am also delighted to celebrate Molly Campbell, one of our Year 1-2 teachers, who has been accepted into and is participating in the Teacher Excellence Program through the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership. This is a significant professional achievement, and we are very proud of her commitment to ongoing growth and excellence in teaching.

Looking ahead to Term 2, our professional learning will focus on Positive Classroom Management - Strategy 3 Encouraging Expected Behaviour - and strengthening our practice in checking for understanding. This builds on the important work undertaken in Term 1 around explicit teaching in writing and will support us to continue improving outcomes for all students.

I am eager in term 2 to celebrate our student's achievements outside of school. If your child has success in extracurricular activities, please let me know so we can celebrate their achievements beyond KHPS. Thank you again for your ongoing support of our school, on behalf of the KHPS school team, I wish you a safe, restorative and restful break.

Carly Bourke

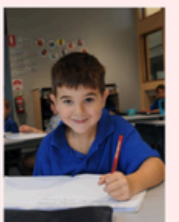
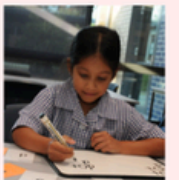
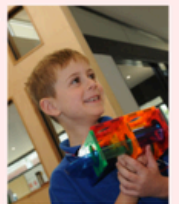
2026 Term 2 Diary Dates

Dates and times are subject to change, and this list is not exhaustive. We continue to update our community of key events via our weekly 'Kingston Heath Weekly Happenings' communications, Compass, and the school newsletter. Further details will be communicated closer to the date.

Monday 20th April - Student-Free Day (TheirCare open for bookings)
Tuesday 21st April - **Term 2 commences**
Wednesday 22nd April - **Breakfast Club, continues Wednesday 8:15-8:45am**
Thursday 23rd April - **PFA/Class Reps meeting, 2:30pm**
Wednesday 29th April - **Year 5/6 Excursion to Cheltenham Secondary**
Tuesday 5th May - **Mothers' Day Breakfast 8am, Mothers' Day Stall**
Wednesday 6th-Friday 8th May - **Year 3-6 Camp to Phillip Island**
Thursday 14th May - **Whole School Assembly, 9am**
Monday 25th May - **Foundation - Year 2 Assembly, 3pm**
Tuesday 2nd June - **Years 3-4 Assembly, 3pm**
Thursday 4th June - **Years 5-6 Assembly, 3pm**
Friday 5th June - Student-Free Day (TheirCare open for bookings)
Monday 8th June - **Public Holiday**
Monday 15th June - **Whole School Assembly, 9am**
Thursday 25th June - **School Production** (2x Matinee performances, details to follow)
Friday 26th June - **Term 2 finishes, 2:30pm dismissal**

Plus some other 2026 Key Dates

Monday 13th July - **Term 3 commences**
Friday 14th August - Student-Free Day (TheirCare open for bookings)
Friday 18th September - **Term 3 finishes, 2:30pm dismissal**
Monday 5th October - **Term 4 commences**
Monday 2nd November - Student-Free Day (TheirCare open for bookings)
Tuesday 3rd November - **Public Holiday**
Wednesday 16th December - **Year 6 Graduation, 4:30pm**
Friday 18th December - **Term 4 finishes, 1:30pm dismissal**



School Council President's update

Term 1 done! It was such a brilliant start to 2026 and I can't believe it's over already. A quick introduction - my name is Rory Sackville and I am your School Council President for 2026. I've been a member of the school community for the past 8 years and my daughters, Amelia (5/6B) and Ivy (3/4B) attend the school with my son Oliver graduating from KHPS in 2024.



The School Council AGM was held in March and I'd like to formally announce your School Council Parent Representatives for 2026:

Rory Sackville (President)

Norman Burke (Vice President)

Kimly Scott (Treasurer)

Carolyn Langdon (Secretary)

Mirsina Kouskoudis

Nicole Lindsay

I'd also like to welcome Carly Bourke to the school as Acting Principal and say thank you to Ryan McCulloch for his time as Acting Principal at the start of 2026 with Lexie O'Brien and Sue Riley stepping into the Acting Vice Principal role during this time.

Wishing all KHPS families a happy Easter and Passover and a safe and restful holiday. As always, feel free to contact me on rory.sackville@education.vic.gov.au if you'd like to discuss any School Council matters or at school drop off or pick up - I'm always around.

Rory Sackville

School Council President and father of Ivy (year 3) and Amelia (year 6)

School Values Awards

For demonstrating our core values of collaboration, perseverance and respect, the below students were presented with certificates at our August 8th assembly:

COLLABORATION means all members of our school community work together positively to achieve our shared goals, and we learn and grow together.

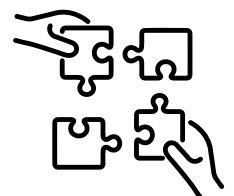
Tom C, Lucas S, Penny W, Sam T, Pia T, Lilibeth B, Flynn W

RESPECT means we are kind, fair and thoughtful, and we treat everyone and everything the way we would like to be treated.

Amelia S, Zeeva J, Archer L, Harley W

PERSEVERANCE means we aspire to excel and try our best no matter what, and know that we grow by overcoming challenges.

James K, Milla M



Foundation News

Students in Foundation continue to shine like stars! Since our last newsletter they have been working hard and demonstrating school values. The value I notice on a daily basis is respect. I feel so proud when I see students respecting themselves, each other, their classroom, their belongings and their school.

Over the past few weeks our Mathematics learning has been focused around naming and ordering numbers, comparing collections and number formation. Students worked collaboratively to match collections to their numbers. They enjoyed working with different partners every day!



Year 3 & 4 News

Our Year 3 and 4 students have had a busy and exciting few weeks of learning! In literacy, students have been exploring the novel *Matilda* by Roald Dahl, diving into character development, key events, and comparing the story to the film. To celebrate the end of our unit, students enjoyed a fun (and slightly messy!) finale by creating their own "Bruce Bogtrotter" chocolate cakes. This hands-on activity brought the story to life and was a wonderful way to wrap up their learning.

Our Year 3 students have also been working hard completing their NAPLAN assessments. We are incredibly proud of their efforts, resilience, and positive attitudes throughout the testing period. Meanwhile, our Year 4 students have been developing their digital skills through engaging coding lessons, where they have been learning to create their own games! Across both year levels, we also celebrated Harmony Day, recognising and appreciating the diversity within our school community. It has been a fantastic term filled with learning, creativity, and celebration!



"It was so fun mixing and pouring- the most fun was eating chocolate cake!" Violet S

Year 5 & 6 News

Interschool Sport Term 1

Mixed Cricket

"I looked forward to every Friday so I could play Cricket with my friends against different schools." - Sam

Mixed Teeball

"At the Lightning Premiership our team had great team work- we caught the ball on the full and we got players out on base." - Benicio

Girls Volleyball

"Each week was so fun as we learnt so many skills and everyone on our team encouraged each other.

The Lightning Premiership was fun as we played 4 games all day and we won 2 games."- Olivia, Penny and Aurora

Tennis

"I enjoyed the thrill of the game and how fast and intense the games were for 8 minutes. Some games were very close."

- Orion

Year 5 and Year 6 Term 1 Highlights

There was great excitement when the Year 6 hoodies arrived and even when it was very hot these hoodies were being worn.

The YLAA Dream and Lead Conference was interesting as we heard different leadership stories. Charlotte became the youngest senator in Australia's history. She found it hard to be the youngest senator at times.

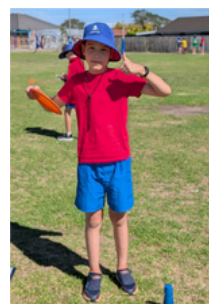
KHPS House Swimming was fun as we got to go in all the swimming events and some people went off to The District swimming competitions.

Clean Up Australia Day activity competition was to draw a design on a bag and we could win \$1000 and then the teachers promised us 1000 tokens for our class if we won!

In STEM, we made a rocket (blow pipe) out of 1 straw and paper. The challenge was to blow the rocket the furthest. The winner got a packet of gummy bears.

In Art, we created an artwork using water colours and added highlights with black and white paint with different types of lines and shapes

Caption: Playing Frisbee golf to learn about negative integers in Maths.



Year 1 & 2 News

Literacy

Throughout the term the students have been diving deep into their novel, *The Tale of Despereaux*, written by Kate DiCamillo. The novel follows a brave little mouse who falls in love with a princess. Rich with vocabulary and thought provoking questions, the text has allowed the students to investigate how sentences are structured, and how we can uplevel sentences to make them more interesting.

On Fridays, 1/2 students have been developing their narrative planning skills through a whole class story. The students have been learning the importance of retelling a story, followed by rewriting the story in their own words. Some of the stories we have followed include: *Ada's Sandcastle*, *Scout Gets Lost* and *Bert's Wild Ride!* The students are learning how these narrative pieces are structured and how to build their very own plan that follows a similar structure. We can't wait to see where their imagination takes us!

Maths

In mathematics, the students have been looking at the different strategies you can use when adding and subtracting. It is important to be able to identify which strategy they use, as "I used my brain" doesn't show what they know! They have used strategies such as: friends of 10 (2 numbers that add to make 10), doubles, near doubles, building to ten then adding on, beginning at the higher number then adding on, renaming and drawing. The students have a number of games, using a deck of cards, that they can show you how to play. They all involve using a variety of strategies to win.

Unit of Inquiry

The students have been busy using the interviews they conducted at home as research to develop their very own presentation about their family cultural identity. The students were given the option to interview somebody at home, be that parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles etc. They were then taught how to use the iPad to create a simple presentation, adding text, recording their voices and adding pictures to match their answers. To finish off our Unit of Inquiry, we will be having a chance to share our cultural slideshow with our peers. This is something that the students would also love to share with their families when we have Student Led Conferences.

In case you missed it...

The following appeared on our official social media accounts

Facebook - Search Kingston Heath Primary School Authorised



Instagram - @kingstonheathprimaryschool



Over the past two weeks, the students have had the opportunity to learn from the Life Ed van and Harold the giraffe. Today, the whole school got to share what they learnt with Harold's dad, Harold's Senior! He presented our school captians with a Certificate of Participation. We were very proud of all of put students, demonstrating our school values of Respect, Collaboration and Perseverance. (5th March 2026)



Ms Drummond and Mr McCulloch had the privilege of accompanying our Year 6 Leaders to the YLAA Dream and Lead Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre. It was a very inspiring day listening to a range of prominent youth leaders and engaging with Year 6 Leaders from schools across the state. We were very proud of our student leadership team, and we look forward to seeing how they put their leadership skills into action when we comment the LeaderUp Challenge in Term 2. (19th March 2026)

PCMS

Positive Classroom Management Strategies Coaching



This semester, our school will be working with a Positive Classroom Management Strategies (PCMS) coach, Jimmy Marnell, to further strengthen our classroom expectations and routines, and support student engagement in learning. We will be doing this alongside our existing School-Wide Positive Behaviour Systems (SWPBS).

The PCMS are a Department of Education resource made up of eight evidence-informed classroom practices designed to create safe and purposeful learning environments. In classrooms, this means teachers will:

- **Make expectations clear and teach them directly, so students understand what to do in different situations.** Consistent routines help classrooms feel predictable and calm and allow more time for learning.
- **Notice and respond to behaviour in supportive ways.** Teachers actively move around the classroom, monitor how students are going and give both encouragement and guidance. They reinforce positive behaviour and use a range of strategies to redirect students when needed.
- **Design lessons that actively involve students in learning.** Students will have many opportunities to participate, respond, make choices and work at the right level of challenge so they stay engaged and included.

“Behaviour is not just something we manage. It is something we teach.”

When classrooms are predictable and lessons are engaging...

...students are better able to participate, manage themselves and experience success at school.



KINGSTON HEATH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Positive Classroom Management Strategies Coaching

PCMS

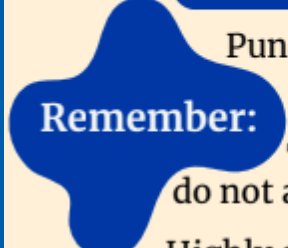


The PCMS approach is based on three key ideas about behaviour:

- Appropriate and inappropriate behaviours are related to the environment in which they occur. Environments can encourage appropriate or inappropriate behaviours.
- Behaviour is functional. Individuals learn to use behaviours to get their needs met. Behaviour that works is likely to continue.
- Behaviour can be taught. It is possible to teach alternative replacement behaviours to meet students' needs more appropriately.

Our PCMS coach will work alongside staff through professional learning and coaching to build knowledge, tools and confidence in using these practices. The aim is to maximise time for teaching and learning and further strengthen student engagement across the school.

What are the eight evidence informed practices?



Remember: Punishment alone doesn't teach students what to do, and is no substitute for teaching and encouraging expected behaviours and skills. They may increase inappropriate behaviour and do not address the underlying causes.

Highly effective classrooms use proactive strategies, where acceptable behaviours are taught, regularly practised and frequently reinforced.

While strong reprimands and punishments may effectively suppress undesirable behaviour in the short term. Overly punitive approaches can inadvertently escalate or provoke inappropriate behaviour, ultimately worsening situations.

- 1 Classroom Expectations
- 2 Classroom Procedures and Routines
- 3 Encouraging Expected Behaviour
- 4 Discouraging Inappropriate Behaviour
- 5 Active Supervision
- 6 Opportunities to Respond
- 7 Activity Sequence and Choice
- 8 Task Difficulty

Want to know more?
Visit:

<https://www.schools.vic.gov.au/pcms>



KINGSTON HEATH
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Community notices and advertising



A government school for **every** girl from **every** where

'Show & Tell'

7pm, Tuesday 28 April, 2026

A student-led information night
Registration not required



mentone girls'
secondary college

175 Balcombe Road, Mentone Vic 3194 mgsc.vic.edu.au

Visit on a
typical day
Book a Tour

**PLAY
WITH US
TODAY**

**BOYS & GIRLS
U8-12 TEAMS
READY TO PLAY IN
2026**

U8 BORN 01/01/2018-30/04/2019

Contact registrations@cjfc.com.au

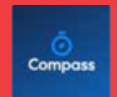
Collaboration • Respect • Perseverance

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We acknowledge the Aboriginal People
as the Traditional Owners of this land
and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Keep in touch!



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THIS NEWSLETTER COMES TO YOU FROM
BUNURONG
COUNTRY

