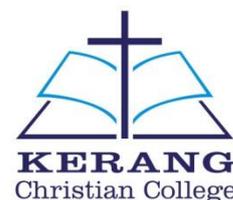


The Harvest

The Newsletter of Kerang Christian College



Integrity, Faith, Family

Wednesday, 22nd March 2017

Dear Parents and Friends,

"If you want to start an argument among people who feel passionately about education, just lob the h-word into the conversation. How much homework should children do? Should they even do homework at all? Children go to school to work. Why bring work home with them? Their parents only bring work home in an emergency. Are children that different? When David Blunkett was Education Secretary (In USA), his enthusiasm for homework knew no bounds. "Surely it is not a lot to ask a child who sits in front of the television for three hours, to work for half an hour?" he demanded, in that no-nonsense way of his." (Julie Flynn 2009)

Michael Carr-Gregg, an eminent Victorian child psychiatrist also makes a case against homework, with the view that the angst created by trying to get children and teenagers to do homework isn't worth the fight.

However, for senior secondary students doing VCE the competition for entry to many, but not all, post-secondary courses is extremely tough. Students who want tertiary entrance to university work very hard out of class on their homework in year 11 and 12 to give them the chance to get into the course of their dreams! Unfortunately students can rarely just turn on the habit of homework when they get to VCE because their study habits were formed, in my view, way back in primary school. One of the main advantages of starting homework in primary school, apart from the obvious immediate benefit of improving their reading, writing and mathematics skills, is the development of the expectation and habit of study.

Students who can learn this homework habit in earlier years will usually carry it through to high school which helps them to be successful. Parents can be an amazing source of encouragement and support with their children's attitude to homework. Our school has a homework policy and some of the aims are shown below.

Aims

- To foster a positive attitude towards homework as a tool for learning.
- To encourage reading as a key component of homework in all year levels.
- To provide homework tasks that reflect and consolidate skills taught in the classroom.
- To provide a further opportunity for parents to be involved in their child's learning.
- To encourage and foster each student's responsibility for their own learning at their appropriate level.

Please find below the time expectation for students throughout the College. Homework will be assigned regularly between Monday and Friday.

Primary School

Year Level	Time Each Night	Task or Expectations
Prep	5 – 10 mins	Reading or related activity
Year 1 - 2	15 – 20 mins	Reading, writing and learning spelling
Year 3 – 4	20 – 30 mins	Reading, writing, learning spelling and maths
Year 5 – 6	30 – 45 mins	Reading, writing, learning spelling and maths

Secondary School

Year 7	1 hour	Year 8	1.25 hours
Year 9	1.5 hours	Year 10	2 hours
VCE	2.5 – 4 hours		

I hope and pray that this helps you to develop the study habit in your students.

God bless, **Wayne Barker**



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PRIMARY HOCKEY CLINIC



Primary students enjoyed a Hockey Clinic run by Hockey Victoria on Monday. Students received information regarding Hockey programs run in Kerang. Please contact the school in you require any further information. Thank you to our Secondary students **Lachlan Pryor**, **Blair Allen** and **Luke Slatter** for helping in these sessions.

CSEN SWIMMING

Last Wednesday the 15th of March, a group of 15 secondary students from the College travelled down to Ballarat for CSEN (Christian Schools Events Network) Swimming. It was an enjoyable day and our team of students put in a tremendous effort. Kerang Christian College placed 4th in our division and a number of students received placings for their individual events. Congratulations to **Victoria Farrant** and **Keesha Bence** on receiving the U15 female age group champion for our division. A big thank you to Miss Price, Ms Lowe and our student helpers, **Kevin Rich** and **Ben Rothacker** for making this day possible.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



HOUSE DODGEBALL COMPETITION

Students in the Middle School and Senior School will be participating in a House Dodgeball Competition on the last day of Term 1. The Middle School competition will commence at 11:50am with Adams House, Baker House and Provis House competing. At approximately 12:15pm the Senior School competition will commence. Students are encouraged to dress in House colours. A \$2 donation will be collected from all students to contribute towards our fundraising efforts for the Heart Foundation.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Primary School students at Kerang Christian College will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart on **Friday, 31st March**. Students are requested to dress in their House colours for this event. A \$2 donation will be collected from all students to contribute towards our fundraising efforts for the Heart Foundation. Parents are invited to watch their children as they participate in a range of skipping activities. Student skipping demonstrations will take place between 12:15pm and 1pm. Students will have lunch between 1pm and 1:20pm before a final Home Group class between 1:20pm and 1:30pm.

Students are requested to return their Jump Rope for Heart sponsorship money to the school by Wednesday next week.



End of Term 1 dismissal will occur at 1:30pm.

STUDENT WELLBEING – MS ANDERSON

Things are busy in the Welfare Department. Following an information session with Ian from Headspace Swan Hill, we are in the process of organising a 'Get Your Head Right' session for our VCE students early Term 2. I will also be running some sessions on 'Community' at the Year 7 Camp this week. Chapels across the school are in full swing and we are excited to have Ps. Bob Field back helping out this year.

Don't forget you can contact me any time at the College, or email me canderson@kccs.vic.edu.au

CAREER NEWS - MRS CAFE

Senior students please take the time to read the publication. Students wishing to look back over past issues will find copies outside my office or in the careers room.

UNIDENTIFIED BANK DEPOSIT

A \$100 deposit from a Bendigo Bank account was paid into the school's account on the 9/3/2017. If you made this payment can you please contact the College office.

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE (Communications and Marketing)

The College Board is looking for expressions of interest for anyone wanting to serve on the Promotions Committee. Please contact Dee Slatter to express your interest.

CANTEEN HELPERS

Monday, 27th March – Gerry Brown

Wednesday, 29th March – Karina Bloomfield

Friday – **NO CANTEEN** School Finishes at 1:30pm

Wednesday 19th April – Lyn Tarr

Friday 21st April – Lisa Evans

MORE CANTEEN HELPERS ARE NEEDED URGENTLY TO KEEP THE CANTEEN RUNNING

Please call Leanne if you can help. Ph: 5450 3894



What's happening ?

Prep/1/2

Students are currently practising their skipping skills in PE in preparation for our Jump Rope for Heart 'Jump Off Day'.

Year 3/4

Recently in ICT, students have been working on developing their word processing skills, focusing on text alignment and line spacing.

Year 5/6

The Year 5/6 class have been learning about different features of plants and animals that help them survive in the desert.

Year 7

This week, Year 7 students are enjoying their time away on Camp at Pental Island.

Year 8

In Year 8 Christian Living, students have been looking at the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5 and considering how they can be salt and light in the world. Is it better to stand out or blend in?

Year 9

In Year 9 History, students have been exploring problems and benefits of the Industrial Revolution. They have seen it to be a period of enormous change that still affects the way we live today.

Year 10

The Year 10's are studying 'To Kill A Mockingbird' and are about to complete their first essay on the text.

Year 11

The Year 11's are re-watching 'Gattaca', discussing the themes and issue of the text, before beginning to write a creative text response.

Year 12

In 20th Century History, students have been studying Joseph Stalin and his role in the Russian Revolution.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

March

21 st - 23 rd	Year 7 Camp
26 th - 27 th	Year 6 Young Leaders Day
Fri 31 st	Jump Rope for Heart
Fri 31 st	End of Term 1 (1:30pm)

April

Mon 17 th	Easter Monday (No School)
Tue 18 th	First Day of Term 2
Tue 25 th	Anzac Day Public Holiday (No School)

May

Tue 2 nd	WCSSA Bendigo
Wed 3 rd	School Photos
Thu 4 th	Year 7 Immunisations
Fri 5 th	Year 11 Fit2Drive Incursion

June

Fri 9 th	Report Writing Day (Pupil Free)
Mon 12 th	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday (No School)

PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God for a safe day at CSEN Swimming.
- Praise God for the opportunity to have Musica Viva perform in the Primary School last week.
- Pray for the Year 7 Camp at Pental Island.
- Pray for the Year 6 Young Leaders Day early next week.

NEWSLETTER INSERTS

- Year 6 Young Leaders Day (via CareMonkey)
- Career News

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NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

It is our preference to send the Newsletter via email. If you would like a hardcopy of the Newsletter, please contact the school office at admin@kccs.vic.edu.au. The College newsletter is also available online at www.kccs.vic.edu.au/newsletter.