Arriving at school and class on time:

Why is arriving at school on time important?

School attendance: including arriving at school on time

Buddies

Consultation with parents and carers about learning

Homework

School attendance

When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building up friendships. If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child’s teacher or the administrative assistant at the school, or explain the reason by phone, email, Skoolbag or written note as soon as possible, or within seven days.

Once children are enrolled, parents are legally required to send them to school every day that the school is open for instruction. A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is too sick to go to school, or has an infectious illness.

Failure by parents and carers to explain an absence within this time will be recorded as an unjustified absence on a student’s record. Schools will inform parents if a student is absent from school without explanation. Children are never able to explain their own absences, including arriving after the bell has gone at 8:50am. The principal may seek support from a home school liaison officer or Aboriginal student liaison officer for children whose attendance falls below the rate of 85%.

Why is arriving at school on time important?

Arriving at school and class on time:

- ensures that your child doesn’t miss out on the important literacy learning activities scheduled early in the day when they are most alert.
- helps your child to learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- gives your child time to greet their friends before class, build relationships and reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption later.

Avoids disrupting a class that is already engaged in learning. Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained to the school the same way as other forms of absence by a parent or carer. Lateness is also recorded under partial absences on children’s school reports.

The principal of the school has the right to question parents’ or carers’ requests for their child to be absent from school as well as question any explanation given for a child’s absence from school.

Reasons for lateness including sleeping in, being disorganised, caught in traffic are routinely offered for lateness.

This year a priority for improvement is the late arrival of students and discouraging absences during the term for family holidays.

If you send them to school, and on time to learn, we will teach them!

Buddies

As part of our school being proactive in the prevention of bullying, we have a kinder/Year 3/Year 6 buddy program which has been very successful in the last two years. Teachers and students value the relationships and time spent with buddies, and want to extend the program.

This year we will schedule buddy time across the school. Kinder, Year 3 & Year 6 will have regular time and so will Years 1 & 4 buddies and Years 2 & 5 buddies. Many thanks to Mrs Fell for coordinating this.

Consultation with parents and carers about learning

Our school has developed a great reputation within our local educational community for having effective and continually improving practices to support children with additional learning needs. Three years ago we sought advice from another highly effective school in the Hunter region (King Street Public School) and reviewed and renewed our practices with their help.

Since then we have built on their good practice and I am very proud of the way my school staff have undertaken professional learning, collected and analysed data and improved their planning and lesson delivery to cater for the variety of learning needs of our students.

The next step in this process is to ensure that we consult with parents and carers when planning for the learning needs of individual students and keep you informed. Teachers are pleased to meet with you, chat on the phone or communicate by email about your child’s learning needs. We aim to ensure that every child has his or her learning needs met and we need your help.

Homework

Kids, parents and teachers groan at the sound of this word, don’t they? I would encourage you to give your opinion about this important topic next week when I talk about it at next Monday night’s P & C meeting at 7pm in the staffroom.

Hope you had a great week at our great school.
1B Class Item

1B really are the ‘Bees Knees!’ Look at the great stories they wrote when responding to the book ‘Greetings from Sandy Beach,’ by Bob Graham.

If I went to Sandy beach I would make a sandcastle and I would make a mud castle. by Imogen

If I went to Sandy beach I would go fishing. by Ben

If I went to Sandy Beach I would swim in the water and eat ice blocks. I would play hide and seek and eat burgers. by Nicoli

If I went to Sandy beach I would make a sandcastle. I would see a rainbow fish in the water. by Laura

If I went to Sandy Beach I would make a sandcastle and I would swim. I would dive in the water. I think it would be fun. by Rhiannon

If I went to Sandy Beach I would jump off a sandy dune and land into the water. I would go in the deep end. by Lachlan

If I went to Sandy Beach I would go down a big sand hill then I would build a sandcastle and go inside it. I would go for a swim. by Toby

If I went to Sandy Beach I would make sandcastles. by Chloe.S.

If I went to Sandy beach I would slide down a giant waterslide. by Hamish

If I went to Sandy Beach I would go spearfishing and go sea fishing. I would go swimming. by Teja

I would jump off my surfboard and go splashing in the waves. I would fall into the water. by Max

If I went to Sandy Beach I would play with my beach ball. by Kyra

If I went to Sandy Beach I would build a sandcastle. by Aiden

If I went to Sandy Beach I would touch the water. I would turn into a sea monster. by Emma

If I went to Sandy Beach I would bring a surfboard. by Hendrix

If I went to Sandy Beach I would make a slide to the top of the sky. by Luke

If I was at Sandy Beach I would build a mermaid and eat an ice block. by Sophie

I went down the sandy hill. by Isaac

If I went to Sandy Beach I would have an ice cream. I would make a sandcastle. by Milly

I would go slide in the deep end. by Chloe.P.

If I went to Sandy beach I would jump off the sand dune. by Jack

I would go to Sandy Beach. by Jacinta

I went in the cold water. I went swimming with a surfboard. by Cooper

Setting into Kindergarten

Starting Kindergarten is an important milestone in the lives of both you and your child. He or she will need a lot of support in these first few weeks.

Here are a few tips to make the transition go smoothly:

- Buy school bags, lunch boxes and drink bottles that your child can easily manage.
- Help your child to recognise their belongings by labelling them in a way they can easily identify.
- Drop off and pick up your child on time. If you’re late it could make your child feel very anxious.
- Try to make after-school time a bit special, with a snack and time for the two of you to chat.
- Your child might want to blurt out every little detail about school, or clam up completely. Either way, be patient and respect your child’s response to this new experience.
- Your child might be grumpy and tired for the first few weeks, especially in hot weather. You could try keeping your child quiet at home and aim for early bedtimes for the first few weeks.
- Don’t expect too much too soon. If your child is happy and seems to be enjoying school, that’s a real achievement. The rest will come later.

Most importantly, if you show your child that you think he can manage at school, he will start to believe it too. Try not to let your child know about any worries you might have. Talk to your child’s teacher if you have concerns and sometimes it’s helpful to talk to other parents about how they are managing these first few weeks.

KPS Swimming Records

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Good Luck to all competitors for the 2015 swimming carnival on Monday February 23
Library 2015
Parent Help
We are blessed with the support of so many parents and carers at KPS. Parents can assist in the library in a variety of ways, such as:
- Re-shelving books in the morning session (8.50 – 9.10)
- Processing new books
- Covering library books and readers
- Donating new books
- Book Fair roster
- 2020 Sesquicentenary planning team

There will be a school volunteer training session on Friday February 20 10.30am - 11.00am in the library.

STUDENT BANKING
WESTPAC BANK
Student banking day is Thursday and will commence next week, February 19. Please send bank books to the office first thing on Thursday mornings. Bank books are returned to students on Fridays.
If your child does not have a bank account and you would like them to start banking, please visit the Westpac Bank at Kincumber to open an account. You will need to provide a birth certificate to open an account. Thank you Wendy Shadbolt-Cornons who will be collecting and processing the bank books.

JOIN THE COLTS IN 2015!
Kincumber Junior Rugby League Football Club will be fielding teams from U/6 to U/17’s in the 2015 season. If you would like to play Rugby League, come and join the best club on the Coast.

Boys and girls turning 5 this year can play this season.

It’s not too late to register. Contact Danielle 0402 882 560 or Stacey on 0427 683 548 for more information or check out our website www.kincumbercolts.com.au

‘KINTEEN’- CANTEEN ROSTER
2015 TERM 1 - WEEK 4

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Don’t forget to use our online ordering, a great way to order your children’s recess and lunch.
Fleximeals on line: www.fleximeals.com.au
If you would like information on how Fleximeals works please call Linda the school’s canteen manager

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
Volunteer Needed
The P&C seek your help to enable us to keep the Uniform Shop open on Wednesday afternoons.

If you are able to work in the Uniform Shop from 2-3pm on Wednesdays (or any other time) please let the office know and we will contact you shortly.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
TUESDAY 8.30am to 9.30am
WEDNESDAY 2.00pm - 3.00pm
THURSDAY 8.30am to 9.30am

Coastal Valleys Region Girl Guides invite you to Come and Try Guides!
At your local Girl Guide unit
For girls aged 6-17 years
Leadership opportunities for adults 18 years and over
For information on the location and times Region Membership Adviser on helenEG2@live.com.au
Or visit our website www.girlguides-nswact.org.au to find out more about Guides

Dear Parents
Due to the high number of requests from schools and parents the start date of our program has been postponed by 1 week. The program will still run for 8 sessions. Classes will now commence week beginning Monday February 9. The day of the program will NOT change. ie: if your program is on a Wednesday it will remain on a Wednesday.
Make sure your child is enrolled, IT IS NOT TOO LATE!
ENROL NOW via www.big5sports.com.au or www.danceoz4kids.com

Holy Cross Catholic Parish
Do you want your child to make their First Reconciliation?
Please go to the parish website for registrations.
www.kincumber.dbb.org.au
Registrations close 18 February.
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Learn VIOLIN in school hours at Kincumber Public School with EVA WEIERMANN accredited teacher (Central Coast Conservatorium) MTA
Students are professionally prepared for AMER EXAMS fetes, school and Opera House performances 5 years to 12 years Violins available for hire Private lessons also taught at Copacabana All ages and standards. Phone: 4382 2194 or 0401 523 255

Platinum Tree Services Pty Ltd
0449 117 812

Patrick McHugh & Co Solicitors & Conveyancers
Let our friendly and experienced team of Legal Professionals help you at our local office. We look forward to being of service. Ph 4369 6975

Before and After School Care includes:
Breakfast Club - To ensure children don’t miss out on the most meal of the day, the Breakfast Club helps to get their school day off to a healthy start.
Outdoor Play - Children participate in free and structured social outdoor play, have fun and experience something new everyday.
Creative Arts - Children enjoy exploring their creative sides, learning new skills and exercising their imaginations.
Afternoon Tea - Children are provided with a healthy nutritious snack each afternoon to sustain their active body and mind.
Physical Activity Program - YMCA educators design programs that actively encourage a variety of experiences, creating opportunities to practice, enhance and master skills and knowledge through a diversity of team and individual sports.
Homework - A space is available for children to complete homework tasks.
Other program options - Children will enjoy unstructured, supervised play and stimulating activities using a variety of materials and resources including arts, crafts, music and cooking.

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