Dear Parents and Kingstown Community

Yesterday we were incredibly fortunate to start Book Week with the illustrators Danny Stanley and Anne Spudvilas visiting the school. Danny Stanley worked with Upper Division on comic genre writing. The students had a wonderful time creating their own comic drawings.

Anne Spudvilas read the story “The Peasant Prince,” a children’s version of the life story of the famous ballet dancer Li Cunxin (Mao’s Last Dancer) and explained her journey to complete the illustrations for the book. Anne had travelled to China with Li Cunxin and stayed with his family whilst researching for the illustrations. This book is listed and recommended reading for the new English Syllabus so we are incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to meet with the illustrator. Anne was also impressed with our student’s confidence with simple Chinese greetings!

Following the reading the students participated in a wonderful art workshop with Anne using charcoal. If you have time pop in and view the incredible charcoal cat sketches the students did with Anne!
This Friday, to celebrate **Book Week**, students are asked to come dressed as a famous character from history and bring along a famous character quote!

**PSSA**

Well done to the students who participated in the PSSA in Armidale last Friday and congratulations to Jack Cassidy (Junior Boys Long Jump) and Ruby Armstrong (8 Years Girls 100 metres) who have been selected to compete at the North West Athletics Carnival in Tamworth on 29th August.

**Lake Keepit**

The excursion to Lake Keepit is getting very close. Attached to the newsletter you will find ‘Information for Parents’. This also lists the items the students will need to bring with them.

**Class Plays**

It has been incredibly busy these past two terms. This year, we have decided to replace our major school play performance with two class plays, which we feel will be more achievable in the time frame. I am sure it will be an enjoyable evening. A

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**Aboriginal Performance “Sharing Culture”**

After some confusion Gwenda Stanley did arrive back at our school last Friday to deliver her workshop.

Gwenda performed Aboriginal dance and used artefacts, language and stories to give our students a unique understanding of her culture.

*And we all learnt we are ‘deadly’! (Really, really cool)*
Grandparent’s Day will be held on the Tuesday followed by the plays on the Wednesday evening of Week 10.

Teacher Professional Learning
Next week Mrs Skewes will be attending a workshop on the new Science Syllabus. This week Miss Bennett and I will be attending a Focus on Reading professional learning on Wednesday and Thursday.

Active After School
We have a list of students who returned permission notes for this Term’s Active After School. Please contact the school if your child/children are on this list and will be not be attending. If your child/children are not on the Term 3 list for Active After School but wish to attend from time to time please contact the school or send in a note on the Monday or Tuesday. Permission must come from parents.

Science Day
On Friday 22nd August, Mrs Skewes and students will be investigating different types of seeds for our “Food for the future - feeding the world” theme. If any parents are able to send in small samples of different grains eg oats, corn, lupins, sorghum, etc (500gms) or vegetable/flower seeds to Mrs Skewes, it would be greatly appreciated.

MERIT AWARDS
Madison Mitchell - Student of the Week - Working hard with multiplication.
Cody Brassil - Quiet persistence and willingness to help others.
Deuter Macalos - Perseverance with plurals!
Jack Cassidy - Improved application and results with related number facts.

BOOK WEEK 2014
‘Connect to Reading’
This Friday 15th August
Parents are welcome to dress up as their favourite famous person and join in the fun!
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Information for parents

Getting ready for camp

New skill, new friends and new experiences – school camp should be an exciting adventure. This information pack has been designed to help you prepare your child (and you) for a stress-free and enjoyable camp experience at the Kooyong Sport & Recreation Centre.

We have tried to cover all the questions you might have, but if you have a specific query that’s not covered here please contact our friendly staff on 13 13 02 or visit www.safeswim.gov.au

Packing checklist:

- Shorts and t-shirts inc singlet, sleeveless or mid/long
- Jeans
- Jumpers and backpack parts
- Socks and underwear
- Flip-flops
- Pyjamas
- Swimming costume and rash shirt
- Sunscreen, sunhat and sunglasses
- Toiletries, including soap (no aerosols)
- Two towels
- Hat, wetsuit, sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket
- Day-backpack
- Insect repellent (no aerosols)
- Lip balm
- Two pairs of shoes/sneakers, one old pair to wear in the water
- Paper, pen or pencil
- Plastic bags for dry or wet clothes
- Medications (if required)
- Handkerchiefs or tissues
- Water bottles
- Illness kit: Sleeping bag, sleeping mat, bowl, plate and utensils, such.

Optional:
- Camera, snap and share
- Letter or postcard

Handy hint: Please label clothing, towels and sleeping bag with your child’s name

What not to bring to camp:

- Aerosol cans (e.g. spray deodorant or insect repellent)
- Things, yoghurt bottles or slippers (these cannot be worn around the Centre as on activities)
- Radios or MP3 players
- Computer/In/TV games
- Mobile phones
- Lollies or chewing gum
- Jewellery
- Anything valuable

Please note that drugs, cigarettes and alcohol are not allowed at camp and campers found using or in possession of these items may be removed from the Centre. Drugs will be reported to the Police immediately.

Luggage

One traveling case/bag and a sleeping bag is allowed per child and should be clearly marked with your child’s name, address and phone number. Remember your child will have to carry their luggage, so make sure it’s not too big or too heavy.

Handy hint: Pack items needed on the trip in a smaller, light bag.

Medical information

The information you provide on the Medical and consent form:

- Child helps us to look after your child’s health needs at camp. If your child has an (existing) condition, special dietary needs, allergies or on prescription medicine, please provide full details on this form.

Your child should bring enough medication for the duration of their stay. All medicines should be in their original packaging and clearly marked with your child’s name, together with instructions on the prescribed dosage and frequency. You should discuss this with your child’s doctor who will be responsible for ensuring your child takes their medication.

Bed wetting

If your child is prone to bed wetting, please let the camp or Centre staff know beforehand, so staff can deal with the situation in a discreet and caring manner. Laundry facilities are available, please provide a waterproof mattress protector if required.

Asthma and/or anaphylaxis

If your child has asthma and/or is at risk of anaphylaxis, it’s essential that you provide an asthma and/or anaphylaxis management plan to staff to make it as safe as possible.

Children with asthma should bring their own peak flow meters and keep their inhalers with them at all times.

Children at risk of anaphylaxis need to bring at least one adrenaline auto-injector.

On-camp programs, children who are at risk of food-related anaphylaxis will be required to wear a red wristband. This is an extra precaution for staff when managing situations where food allergens may be present.

Handy hint: Please make sure you put all important medical information on the medical and consent form.
Money and valuables
You might want to provide your child with some spending money so they can buy some camp souvenirs. Students may also need to buy meals on the forward and return journeys. We suggest that spending money is limited to $20 or $30 and is provided in a sealed envelope with your child’s name on it.

Souvenirs
If you want something to remember your trip, souvenirs are available - just ask a member of staff for more details.

Creature comforts

Accommodation
Students will stay in comfortable lodges which sleep up to 14 students per room. Male and female students are accommodated in separate lodges. All teachers and your child’s school will stay in a bush camp close to the lake and will be responsible for student safety and behaviour overnight.

Meals
Nutritious meals are prepared by qualified catering staff in a commercial kitchen, so your child will never go hungry. If your child has any special dietary requirements, or food allergies, it is very important that these are listed on the Medical and Consent form. You might also like to mention these needs to your child’s teacher before camp. Special diets are allowed for medical conditions, religious beliefs and lifestyle choices, i.e. vegetarian/vegans.

Getting the most out of camp

Behaviour
For everyone’s enjoyment of the camp, we expect a good standard of behaviour. Camp rules will be explained to students on arrival. Children who persistently breach reasonable requests or engage in violent behaviour may be removed from the Centre.

If this happens, we will phone you or a nominated contact person to make arrangements for your child to be taken home. If we cannot make contact with anyone within 24 hours, we reserve the right to make alternative arrangements to discuss with appropriate Government agencies.

Outdoor safety
Every effort is made to ensure your child’s safety and comfort during the camp. Our female policy involves wearing broad-brimmed hats and sunscreen. We also allow swimming in minimise sun exposure during the hottest part of the day.

Personal location devices (PL devices) are supplied by the Centre. Covered shoes must be worn when participating in all watersports, except for swimming.

Handy hint: Encourage your child to wear sunscreen at all times.

Staying in touch at camp

Camp contact details
Lake Keepit in north-west NSW and is a 40 minute drive from Tamworth and a 30 minute drive from Gunnedah.

You are welcome to get in touch with your child by email, online or fax while at camp. Please make sure you leave your child’s name and school details on any communication.

Children are not encouraged to phone home, as it can contribute to homesickness.

Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre
Forecast Rd. Calliope. NSW. 2350.
Fax: (02) 6958 7885
Email: lakekeepit@communities.nsw.gov.au

Accidents or emergencies
In case of emergencies, parents can contact students on (02) 6958 7903 from 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

You will be contacted if medical conditions or other serious issues arise. Sick or injured campers are usually taken to Tamworth Gunnedah, or Manila hospital for assessment by a doctor if necessary.

Thinking about a family break or what to do for your kids during the holidays? Our 11 Sport and Recreation Centres across NSW offer Kids’ Camps and Family Camps that are fun and great value. It’s the perfect way to enjoy an outdoor adventure, try out new activities and have a go at old favourites. Find out more by calling 13 19 87 or visit www.dns.wagov.au