“Lest We Forget”

Commemorating our ANZAC Heroes

Laying of the wreath from left: Shaqaele Sparkes, Jack Leo, Fatima Fresta, Chloe Herman and Carissa Degney

Term 1 - Attendance Award Recipients

Congratulations to all Award Recipients!

Summah Nahu Yr 8

Kevin Sao Lay Yr 9

Adam Hill-Martin Yr 10
Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to second term and already into week three, the pace has quickened with so much happening during this term.

ANZAC Day

With the rest of the nation, the Kingston State College community proudly commemorated ANZAC Day 2013. The College held our ceremony in the school hall on Wednesday 24 April. This proved to be a very moving ceremony with students, parents and special guests honouring those who fought for their country. On ANZAC morning Ms Caroline Hill, Ms Kym Penman, Ms Sara Smith, our School Captains, Student Councillors and students once again participated in the Logan City Council Ceremony, marching along Wembly Road to the Art Gallery and the memorial shrine. Likewise, our students proudly represented the College in the City at the ANZAC Memorial with four thousand Queensland students. Special thanks must go to Ms Sara Smith and Mr Josh Hobbins who organised these events.

Year 12 Interviews

Over the past six weeks, prior to taking her leave Mrs Barker began interviewing the Year 12 students raising issues, including academic performance, attendance, completion of work and their projected end of year credentials and future study, training and job prospectives. All of the Year 12s must be congratulated on the exemplary manner in which they have participated in this exercise. However, there is still much work to do over the next five months if our students are to achieve their results. Mrs Barker will continue these interviews upon her return.

NAPLAN and Turbo Day

Our Year 9 students are to be commended for their diligent commitment as they continue to prepare for the NAPLAN testing on 14, 15 and 16 May. The Year 9s did an excellent job and were so focused during the Literacy Turbo Day on Tuesday 16 April. Rumours are that Mrs Barker’s lessons were the most popular, well done Mrs Barker. This year for each of the three days of NAPLAN we will be providing the students with breakfast before they start their tests. Further information will be provided regarding the times it will be available. Thank you to Mr Gill, Mr Hobbins, Mrs Fordham and Ms Hill for their work in preparing for the NAPLAN testing. Thank you also to the Maths and English teachers who have worked hard to ensure maximum student success in the testing.

7-8 Enrolment Evening

On Wednesday 29 May the College will host our Expo/Enrolment Evening for new Year 7 students. We made the decision to once again have the ‘Open Evening’ earlier in the year as parent feedback from previous years suggested that this important decision of high school choice, needs to be considered earlier. Mr Norman Gill will be coordinating the evening from 5.30pm – 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing many new families as they begin the important transition to high school. Next week we will begin visiting our feeder primary schools to discuss high school options with them.

Proud representatives of Kingston State College

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the outstanding participation of many of our students in so many extracurricular activities. Whether it is in the Debating Competition, ‘House of Champions’, School Musical or Creative Generation, preparing for the ‘Readers Cup’ or running in the Regional District Cross Country, our students have been proud ambassadors for our College. Well done!!

Congratulations to those students who have won awards for Attendance, Behaviour and their Academic Progress during term 1. We celebrate attendance at the end of this term with the Attendance Fun Day where all students with attendance of 95% are recognised for their achievement.

We are looking forward to meeting parents and carers on our special ‘Open Day’ parade to celebrate Education Week on Monday 21 May and our Year 7-8 Enrolment evening Wednesday 29 May from 5.30pm-7.30pm.

Best wishes for an excellent term 2.

David Holgate

A/Principal
Shoes and Uniform
Students are expected to be wearing the correct footwear to school as per the student diary - black lace up leather shoes only. Shoe laces must also be black. If there is a problem then students should bring a note from home explaining the issue. A uniform slip will then be issued for the day. A detention is only given when the student is not in correct uniform and they have failed to bring a note or students continually fail or refuse to follow the school policy.

The weather is starting to get cooler and students, if not already done so, will need to purchase the school jumper. The requirements for the jumper can be found in the Student Diary on page 8 & 9 as part of the School Dress Code.

One of the main benefits gained from students wearing their correct uniform is that they are easily recognisable as Kingston State College students. When an unauthorised person is in the school grounds it is easy for staff to recognise that the person does not belong at the College and moved on.

Arriving at school
When students are dropped off at school at the back gate it is expected that they immediately enter the College grounds. It is not appropriate to loiter at the back gate or walk back to the shops. Safety of our students is a priority and as such students are safer in the school grounds. The back gates are both locked by 9am. Late students are expected to enter the grounds through the top gate and sign in at Administration. Failure to sign into school will result in the student being marked absent.

We request that parents do not drive their cars down the driveway at the front entrance as this extra traffic becomes a hazard for those walking down the driveway. Please drop students at the gate, if this is your preferred drop off point.

School Rules
There are 4 basic school rules (our values) which a set of expected behaviours hinge upon. It is important that all of the College community promote these values.

At all times each student will:
1. Demonstrate Commitment
2. Display Cooperation
3. Use Common Sense
4. Show Courtesy

Students who abide by these rules will commit to the College’s Vision, “Progress with Pride”.

Mobile Phones
Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones and other electronic devices to school. If they are brought to school they MUST be out of sight and turned off during all lessons. Mobile phones should not be used during school hours and only used in the event of emergency out of school time. If the mobile phone is lost or stolen, the College cannot be held responsible. Disciplinary action will be taken against any inappropriate use of a mobile phone or any other electronic device.

Norman Gill
A/Deputy Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

1    RISE Literacy Session 6 @ KPMG
3    District Cross Country @ Loganlea SHS
8    ENABLE Inter-School Debating Competition
9    GOALS Program Launch 9.30am-11am @ KC
      Aspirations Workshop 3, 10.30pm-1.90pm @ PwC
13   Academy Conference St Laurence’s for Gifted students
13-15 Yr 11 Biology Camp
13-17 Yr 11 Childcare Structured Work Placement
14   NAPLAN—Language & Writing
15   NAPLAN—Reading
      RISE Session 8 @ KPMG & Completion Ceremony
      P & C Meeting Common Room 5.30pm-7.00pm
16   NAPLAN—Numeracy
17   ‘Dream It Up’ Logan Entertainment Centre
21   MET East Cross Country
22   ENABLE Inter-School Debating
23   GOALS Session 1, 12.00pm-1.30pm
24   Yr 10s—Eric Bailey Visit 12.00pm—12.50pm
24-25 National Careers & Employment Expo 9am-4pm (Brisbane Conv. Centre)
27-31 State Education Week
29   Yr 9 School Action Project 9am—12pm
      Yr 7-8 Enrolment Evening 5.30pm-7.30pm
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Brisbane City Council ANZAC Day Commemoration Ceremony

On Tuesday 23 April, twenty Student Council members took part in the Brisbane City Council ANZAC Day Commemoration Ceremony. The junior Student Council members spent the previous day’s lunch break collecting leaves and flowers to make a beautiful floral wreath. The wreath was laid by our School Captain’s Fatima Fresta and Shaqeale Sparkes. The students are to be congratulated on their behaviour throughout the day.

School ANZAC Day Ceremony

On Wednesday 24 April, the school came together for our annual ceremony of honouring the war veterans. The ceremony was completely student run, with our Vice Captains Chloe Herman and Jack Leo acting as MC’s. Student Council representatives from each year level participated by carrying out readings to help students understand the spirit of ANZAC Day. As the readings were performed, wreaths were laid in memory of those who have fought and lost their lives in the service of our country.

All students are to be congratulated on their fantastic behaviour during the ceremony.

Sara Smith
Student Council Coordinator

Yr 7s Transition Program for Yr 8 in 2014

In Term 3 this year our College’s SEP Transition Program will commence. Students with a disability will participate in structured lessons allowing them to experience high school and to become familiar with the staff and other students prior to commencing high school in 2014.

Should you be interested in enrolling your student into our College for 2014 and would like further information, please contact Caroline Hill, Head of Special Education on 3826 1305.

Further detailed information about the program will follow in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Ms Caroline Hill—Head Of Special Education
After the initial event was rescheduled due to the storms that greatly affected the local area the week before, on Thursday 28 March, Kingston State College staff and students finally geared up for the year’s annual Cross Country event. Excited students and seasoned athletes (including some teachers!) jostled for position as they headed to the starting line. Whilst some had been training hard for many weeks, others were happy just to be attempting the course. House spirit was high and clearly on display as students donned the green, blue and yellow colours of their respective sporting families.

After a gruelling journey of either 4 or 6 kilometres through the Kingston College grounds and surrounding area, the students were happy to see the finishing chutes as well as the many staff and friends cheering them home.

In one of the closest events in recent history, Koongarra were the victorious house on 412 points, followed very closely by Yarri (391) and Larool (372). There were also some fantastic individual performances from a variety of students including a new school record in the 14 boys by Troy Gorry who smashed the previous mark by 30 seconds.

As a result of their outstanding performance in the school event, approximately 100 Kingston State College students will be making the annual pilgrimage to Loganlea SHS for the Logan District Cross Country event this Friday 3 May.

We look forward to another fantastic Kingston State College Cross Country event next year.

Many thanks to all of the staff and students who assisted with the running of the school event this year.

Mr Warwick Lyndon
Cross Country Coordinator
ENABLE DEBATING – ROUND 1

After weeks of preparation and intense anticipation, our Debating teams bravely launched into the 2013 Enable Inter-School Debating Competition, held on Wednesday evening 20 March in J block.

Our two junior teams included several Year 8s, who overcame their initial nervousness to make their debating debut. All performed well in this very challenging public speaking event, presenting strong arguments on the topic “that performance enhancing drugs should be permitted in professional sport”.

Junior Team 1

Well done to 1st speaker Brendan Herbst (a Year 9 debating “veteran”) and his Year 8 team mates – 2nd speaker Christian Dickson and 3rd speaker Amy Hanrahan – for delivering a persuasive case for the affirmative. It was a close contest, in which the junior 1 team was defeated by a more experienced team from Beaudesert SHS. Thanks to chairperson Jacob McMaster, reserve Douglas Coleman and helper/supporter Brandon Smith (Year 8).

Junior Team 2

Special congratulations to Junior Team 2 for a decisive win in their Round 1 debate! Presenting a very convincing case for the negative, 1st speaker Kai Wanless and 2nd speaker Jake Atkinson (both Year 8 “newbies”) – ably supported by accomplished 3rd speaker Sera Ozgen (Year 9) - outclassed their opponents from Browns Plains SHS. Thanks to timekeeper Leham Gaudie (Year 8).

Senior Team

On the thought-provoking topic “that Australia is more east than west”, our experienced senior debaters gave an impressive performance, clearly demonstrating how their speaking skills and confidence have developed over previous successful seasons. 1st speaker Zjon Coleman opened the affirmative case, coming out strongly and “stealing the show”. 2nd speaker Sharay Armfield and 3rd speaker Stacey Johnson both spoke with conviction and clarity. Although their arguments were compelling, our seniors were narrowly defeated by a polished team from Beaudesert SHS.

All debaters are to be commended for their impeccable etiquette and appearance, and – most importantly – for having the determination and courage to take on the debating challenge.

Special thanks to my fellow coaches Ms Carolyn Prince and Ms Krista Austin for mentoring the senior team, and to Ian McIntosh (Year 11) for his support with catering and cleaning up.

The 2013 Debating season is off to a great start.

Round 2 will be held on Wednesday, 1 May 5pm-7pm at Browns Plains SHS.

Ms Alison Jackson
Enrichment Coordinator
Congratulations to all participants on a great effort!
A considerable amount of time across Australia and in schools is lost due to parent condoned absences. According to statistics in Australia, the average student will lose one year of education (200) days through parent condoned absences over their school career from Prep to Year 12.

The thought of an argument with a teenager to get them to school is sometimes too great to bear! However, every day a student is away they are losing a learning experience. When students miss one of three lessons a week of a subject, there will be gaps in their learning and additional stress to catch up!

After love, the most important thing we can give our children is an education. Should you need assistance saying “NO” to your son/daughter on their attendance, please contact the College immediately.

Regular attendance at school will develop strong resilience as children are exposed to a wide range of learning opportunities. Working together we can develop the strong work ethic our children need to reach their potential in life.
Kingston College
Open Day Enrolment Expo 2013
Yr 7—8 Enrolment Expo will be held on
Wednesday 29 May 2013
5.30pm—7.30pm
Performances and School Tours
(Sausage sizzle available on the evening)

Fun, Fun, Fun

Attendance Fun Day – Friday 21 June
Kingston State College will be hosting its annual Attendance Fun Day on Friday 21 June during periods 3 & 4. This event is both an incentive and a reward for students to attain and maintain a high attendance at school.

- BBQ, drinks, fairy floss and popcorn
- Many exciting rides
- Special guests
- Music
- Lots of prizes and giveaways
- Many more surprises.

To qualify, students must have an attendance of (95%*) or greater for Semester One and have no suspensions for this period. For those students that do not qualify, classes will continue as normal.

* % Subject to change.

Remember - Every Day Counts!!

Fun, Fun, Fun

Prepare for the Cooler Weather
With the cooler weather on the way, make sure you pre-order your JUMPER to ensure you do not miss out.

Kingston State College has a uniform policy which has been developed in consultation with students and the P&C Association.

It is our school community’s belief that a school uniform is best for our students because:

- It avoids the competition between students to be those dressed in the most expensive brand name clothes.
- It ensures that students are dressed in clothes that are appropriate for learning activities.
- It complies with Occupational Health and Safety requirements.
- Students, neatly dressed in uniform, give the community a good impression of themselves and their school.
- Intruders to the school can be easily identified when all others are in uniform.

Please note a Layby facility is available with a $10 deposit.
The cost of the school fleecy jumper is $40.
Fun Day Friday 21 June / Tuckshop Vouchers

95% - 100% actual school attendance.

Get on board and be rewarded
Remember—Every Day Counts!!

Brain Bee Brilliance

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge, an online neuroscience quiz, was conducted throughout Australia and New Zealand in March. Over 5,500 students participated, all keen to test their knowledge of brain science and to gain a place in the final.

Special congratulations to our Year 10 science enthusiast Thane Ward, who performed to an extraordinary standard in round 1 and has now been invited to compete in the Brain Bee Queensland State Final, to be held at the University of Queensland on Tuesday 18 June. An amazing achievement! Good luck for the final.

Well done to our other Year 10 science “brains” who performed commendably in the competition. Amelia Bailey and Zjon Coleman came in equal 2nd place, while Connor Ingham secured the 3rd spot amongst our students.

Ms Alison Jackson
Enrichment Coordinator
WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

It’s that time again to start collecting Earn & Learn stickers from Woolworths and support our school. Last year we had over 18,000 stickers collected due to our AWESOME Staff, Student’s and the Community. We were able to get many new Resources for our School Resource Centre, which is visited by many of our students daily, we have tried to cover all interests and hobbies of our students. We selected books, fiction and Non-fiction and some games like Battleship and Draughts.

So once again we are asking for the support of our Staff, Student’s and the Community in collecting the Earn & Learn stickers so that we can get some more great resources for our School.

Thank you to everyone that supported our school.

Julie Coleman
Teacher Aide—Library

Action against Bullying

Kingston State College’s School Wide Positive Behaviour system is the framework for our anti-bullying policy. Students are encouraged to demonstrate Courtesy, Commitment, Cooperation and Common Sense at all times. If they see someone bullying or acting inappropriately they are encouraged to report it. This can be done by emailing to our reporting email address safekids@kingstonshs.eq.edu.au this email address is managed by Miss Caroline Hill and Miss Kym Penman.

NAPLAN Testing

Our students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will soon participate in the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 14–16 May.

An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing. Further information is available on the ACARA website. (http://www.nap.edu.au/)