



Newsletter

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2021 Dates to Remember

Term 4

November

Monday 15th School Council Meeting
Monday 29th Student Free Day

December

Monday 6th School Council Meeting

Fri 17th

Last Day Term 4 – End of school year 1.30pm dismissal



Principal's Message

Monday 1st of November was the expected return date for Foundation to Year 6 in Victorian Government schools. Some schools had a specific commitment that required them to continue with Monday November 1st being a Student Free Day e.g. a booked guest speaker. Here at Kingsville however as outlined via Compass post 25/10, a decision was made in line with DET expectations to reschedule our planned Student Free Day from November 1st to **Monday November 29th**.

However as 189 students were absent on Monday, **day 1** for all students return to school was in reality **Wednesday November 3rd**. Regardless of the return day it was a day to remember and certainly a celebration.

With regard to the absences noted above parents do need to as is the case for all absences, ensure the reason for this is communicated. If you have not already done this for November 1st please do so as soon as possible.

Covid-19

Ongoing management of any confirmed student or staff cases of Covid-19

Communications this week to parents and carers of students in **one year 2 class** and also, to all parents /carers of KPS students provided information relating to –

- specific actions required for parents/carers of students in the year 2 class **and**
- information to all parents/carers regarding the fact that a confirmed student Covid case and the facts regarding what process was required to be worked through

This information contained the required DET (Department of Education & Training) content, which will always go out to parents/carers of students in individual classes and, subsequently the whole school parent/carer community.

It needs to be understood that this is **standard required information** to ensure all stakeholders have the facts. The nature of these messages however do not encapsulate or, address the concerns that of course any parent/carer of a primary school child would have when confronted with this situation.

As Principal, I wish to ensure every Kingsville family that I acknowledge those concerns and I along with my staff, understand the anxiety and the issues that will naturally arise when a student Covid case is confirmed. We will always work to support you in every way possible and, a significant component of that support is ensuring you understand what the role of the school **is** and, what it is **not** in relation to this challenging aspect of school life in 2021. We must all now however accept that confirmed cases of Covid-19 at school sites will be a reality moving forward.

The process, procedures and expectations when a Covid positive case becomes known to the school (i.e. myself as Principal and/or a delegate being Assistant Principal or Acting Assistant Principal)

It is vital that all parents/cares are aware of the correct and expected procedures. It can become very confusing when parents may be hearing many different stories or versions of what individuals be they within our school community or, outside of it are espousing to be fact. The facts as outlined below are determined by the Victorian Government Department of Education & Training. Parents/carers should be confident that the correct process has and will continue be carried out for any confirmed cases at KPS.

Whilst any notification of a confirmed Covid case will be concerning to hear about knowledge of the correct and expected process should hopefully provide some sense of security.

- **Step 1:** when the school i.e., myself as Principal or my delegates Assistant Principal Jeff McDonald or Acting Assistant Principal Blagma Veljanoska, become aware of a confirmed case we will take required action
- if the confirmed case is a child, we will contact parents/carers to gain all personal information necessary
- **Step 2:** I will notify the DET Incident Support and Operations Centre (ISOC), to generate what is called an IRIS alert this will only occur, however if the confirmed case was on the school site within 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms consistent with Covid-19
- **Step 3:** if step 2 is undertaken DET will contact the school (Principal), to gain required information and they will then direct the next step
- **Step 4:** Principal identifies close contacts and communicates with regard to the need to isolate, get tested **and wait for contact from the Department of Health**
 - Primary Close Contacts - for students will be parents/carers
- **Step 5:** as required, the school will complete a comprehensive spreadsheet which identifies PCC (Primary Close Contacts), which is then utilised by DH for contacting Primary Close Contacts - for students this will be parents/carers
- **Step 6:** DH will send to the PCC's or in the case of students their parents/carers an SMS advising them of their quarantine, testing and release dates (this may take some days)

Please be aware that the official statement of “**this may take some days**” is proving to be rather an understatement at the moment and, I am very aware of the frustration involved in waiting for DH to make contact.

What parents/carers can do to assist

- make sure that if your child tests positive to Covid-19 that you -
 - ring the school and speak to the Principal or, an Assistant Principal to provide the details
 - you may inform a teacher but you **must** also inform the Principal or Assistant Principal
 - you do **not** need to let us know if you think your child **may** have Covid or, that they are booked in to have a test or, that they have had a test and are waiting for results
 - please only report cases when the confirmation is “absolute”

it is recommended also that parents/carers send a follow up email to the Principal with regard to the confirmation as, this will serve as an “absolute” record of when the confirmed notification was made.

In this way STEP 1 and STEP 2 as listed above, can be carried out quickly and with surety as was the case this week with our first confirmed student case following the recent return of all students.

Thank you and congratulations to

The parents/carers of students in the year 2 class this week who so quickly responded to the communication telling them that their child was deemed a PPC of a confirmed Covid case. I have had many reports about how supportive you have been in your understanding of your situation and what needed to take place.

Congratulations also to the students in the year 2 class. I spoke to you via WebEx before you went home, and you were so mature in your attitude and responded well to the situation. As I told you then you were the first class to have to do this and so, were “leading the way” for other classes that may have to do this in the future.

2022 Enrolments – Urgent

It is absolutely vital that all Foundation sibling enrolments for 2022 have been lodged. This was requested on numerous occasions during term 3 and yet, we still had the paperwork from two sibling enrolments come in this week.

We are now down to the ‘fine tuning’ of the school model for 2022 and without having accurate numbers many aspects of staffing and recruitment are negatively impacted on.

So please assist and if –

- any sibling enrolments still to come **please alert us now**
- any families leaving the area now or at the beginning of 2022, again **please alert us now**





Kingsville Awards

To be presented on Friday 12th November

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| FFW | | 34M | Meili Frew |
| FLB | | 34P | Ted Lavery |
| FLI | | 34S | Dylan Vellu / Alexander R |
| FJH | Poppy Panton / Sadie Piert | 34H | Alison Tran |
| 1CW | | 34A | Reuben Fithall |
| 1DG | | 5AA | |
| 1RT | | 5AT | |
| 1GD | | 5TD | Gabriel Webb / Freya Swan |
| 2EE | Baradu Abdu | 56S | |
| 2MC | Hamzah Khader | 6JI | |
| 2JD | Teya Buttigieg | 6KG | Ella Parnham |
| 2AO | | 6SE | |
| 34L | Liam O'Shaughnessy | | |
| 34C | Jim Philpots | | |



Happy Birthday

6th – 12th November

Happy Birthday to: Sage Kocher, Indiana Bull, Isla Buttigieg, Ayla Matara-Ng, Zeke Lea, Jessica Eva, Eleanor Hook, Charlie Cannington, Gabriel Kocher, Michael O'Keefe, Zachary Boddey, Lila Chominsky, Noah Attard, Robert Dao & Claudia Nolan.

Will your child /children be at Kingsville in 2022

If you know your child / children will not be returning to Kingsville in 2022 or If they will be only here for a short time e.g. you could be moving in Term 1 Please fill in below or email the school

Kingsville.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING KINGSVILLE P.S. IN 2022

Name: Year level in 2021: Date finishing at KPS:

Name: Year level in 2021: Date finishing at KPS:

Name: Year level in 2021: Date finishing at KPS:

New school (if known):

