



Kingston High News

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Tasmania

Explore the possibilities



Kingston High School Anzac Day Service which was held on Friday April 24.

Dear Kingston High School Families

I am delighted to be able to report that work has finally started on the new school. The contract for Vos Constructions Pty. Ltd to build the school was finally signed on Monday May 4. Preliminary site work started last week, with the official 'sod turning' ceremony to take place on Monday May 18.

Our 140 notebook computers are now ready for trialing, with Mr Jarman's class using them for the first time last Friday. Students were able to log on to the internet using our new wireless facility – no power leads or cords to be seen! This technology will surely change the way teachers teach and students learn, in ways we are yet to explore.

Last week, I was fortunate to have been invited to spend four days in Mooloolaba at the Microsoft Innovative Schools Workshop. The purpose of the week was to gather leading schools from Asia and Australia to explore the opportunities available in the worldwide Innovative Schools Programme. The information I have gained from other leading schools will be invaluable as we continue to develop our access and use of technology.

There have been a few staffing changes since Easter. Mrs Tilly will be working part time until the end of the year. On Fridays, Mr Figg will undertake her role. We are very pleased to welcome Mr Andrew Reekie to the staff. Andrew will take over Mr Ridgers classes until he returns.

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May 2009 NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR

Friday May 15 - Black and White Day, for Tassie Devils gold coin donation

Monday May 18 to Friday May 22 - Kingston High School Production "Gumshoe"

Friday May 29 - End of Term One

Monday June 15 - Professional Development Day for teaching staff

Tuesday June 16 - Term Two commences

Mr Fulton remains on long term sick leave and is not expected back at Kingston High. Mr Darren Watkins is working with us teaching Mr Kemp's classes until the end of term while he is on long service leave. We welcomed back Mr Fogg, who will work with us until the end of term two, firstly in Mr Short's classes and then in Mrs Hinds' classes while they are also on long service leave.

In reflecting over the term, it is clear that we have had a very good start to 2009, with all of our new programmes and initiatives underway and already proving to be successful. Next term will be a busy one as planning gets started for transitions from year six to seven and year ten to the Academy, Polytechnic or world of work. We have already started planning our curriculum offerings and new time table for 2010; but more about this next time.

As this is the last newsletter for the term, I wish all students, staff and families a safe and restful first term holiday.

With best wishes,

Helen Gourley

Helen Gourley
Principal



Students trialling the new notebook computers for the first time.

KINGSTON HIGH PARENT OPINION SURVEY

This year, schools will again be conducting parent opinion surveys to get information about a variety of aspects of the school. Results from these provide valuable information that enables us to understand more fully how our parent community feels about our school and to help us guide school improvement to meet the ongoing needs of our students, parents and the community. The information collected from parent opinion surveys will also help us to make informed decisions about what we can provide for your child/children.

As well, the results from the surveys enable us to report school performance information to the Australian government, as is required each year.

Because it is not possible to survey every family attending our school, a random sample is selected each year and a survey is sent directly to them.

If you receive a survey, I urge you to complete it by Friday May 22 and return it, in the envelope provided, to the school for bulk posting to the independent contractor, managing the survey process on behalf of schools. The use of an independent contractor enables all responses to remain anonymous.

Information collected by this survey will be included in the school performance report prepared next year and will be made available to all parents.

Helen Gourley - Principal