

KINGYSPIRIT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 | TERM 1 | WEEK 4 | 21 February 2024

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Mr Ella and Mr Hillard for their organisation of our Twilight Swimming Carnival at Murwillumbah Pool last Thursday. A great atmosphere and competitive spirit leading to a strong team from our school attending the Far North Coast zone carnival at the same pool next week.

Term 1 Sport

Lots of sport happening at this time of year – we have already had teams go out to Volleyball and Touch. We are looking forward to more great results over the next fortnight in AFL, Rugby League and Basketball. Representative sport remains one of the great strengths of public education.

Year 11 O Day

Term 1 is also an important time for students stepping up to senior studies in Year 11. Many thanks to Mrs Rosser, Ms Rowles, Mrs O'Keeffe, Mrs Mann, Ms Nance, Mr Golder (Clary), Mr Haddon and Mr Ella for their work in making the day run. Interestingly, 96.8% of students indicated the day left them with a clear understanding of the expectations and pressures of senior study, while 88.3% indicated they were prepared to step up to the challenge. Taking into account students who are already planning to exit school prior to the HSC (eg to gain an apprenticeship, employment or further studies outside school) this is a positive reflection of the group and the day. Well done to all.

Apprenticeships

On the subject of apprenticeships as a positive exit point from school, congratulations to the following former students who have been successful in gaining apprenticeships:

Marley O'Rafferty – Kia Motors
Tasman Bonner - Bonner Plumbing
Delilah Mitchell – Bossy Boots Childcare
Judd Alder – Col Moore & Sons
Jack Butler – Solo Waste

Build Update

Newly enlarged classrooms in the western wing of C Block (mainly Human Society and its Environment) and in our old Library are now in operation. We are continuing to work with the builders in rectifying a range of defects identified by our Teachers. Meanwhile, work continues on the refurbishment of our Food Technology kitchens, and the construction of our new Creative and Performing Arts block. We hope both will be completed before the end of this term. Equally, we hope landscaping between our Science and Industrial Arts Blocks, along with the front of the school, will be completed before our next significant rain event. Next week, work will begin on our new permanent car park.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Our families will be aware that we have been steadily building the capacities of our students as productive digital citizens, particularly with iPads becoming an increasingly integral part of students' daily learning experiences. With this in mind, it has been very exciting to have our school selected as one of 16 schools across NSW to participate in a trial of NSWeduChat. Some Teachers have already been engaging with the trial, however our official launch will be during Week 6, beginning Monday 4 March 2024, during which time all of our Teachers will be supported in engaging with the trial. I very much anticipate this will provide many opportunities for our students as we move through the next two terms.

Further information on NSWeduChat at Kingscliff High School is included in this week's newsletter.

Wishing all of our school community a great week.

Michael Hensley – Principal

GENERAL NEWS

International Students

Welcome to our returning and new International Students. We wish you a wonderful experience and hope you enjoy your time in Australia.

Left to right: Parloma (Argentina), Merlin (Austria), Max B (Germany) and Max M (Germany).



Stymie

You don't need to be friends with everyone. You don't need to like someone to help them. If you know someone is being hurt or harmed you can [#saysomething](#) using Stymie. [#stymie](#) [#studentsfirst](#) [#saysomething](#) [#wegoty](#) [#kindnessalways](#) [#educationforall](#)





NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2024 –

Year 7 and 10 REMINDER

Through the NSW School Vaccination Program, year 10 students will be offered the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine and year 7 will be offered the Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) and human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.


These are at no cost to parents/carers.

Year 10 will be receiving the vaccine on Thursday 29 February 2024.

Year 7 is scheduled for Thursday 9 May 2024.


A catch-up day will be held on Tuesday 30 July 2024.

Vaccination will only be provided at school if consent has been received.



Is your child in year 7 or year 10?

Provide your consent for routine
school vaccinations online




Year 7

- ☒ Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)
- ☒ Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 10

- ☒ Meningococcal ACWY

Scan the QR code to
give your consent now



To provide online consent visit:
<https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage>

For more information visit:
health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination

November 2023 © NSW Health.
SHPN (HP NSW) 220990.

NSW Health

Updating contact details – are your contact details up to date?

Sometimes we will need to contact you, including on the day that your child is absent and if you haven't notified the school with a reason for your child being away.

If your contact details are out of date or if you're not sure, please contact the front office staff so we can update our records and can contact you quickly when we need to.

Please include parent/carers name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details. Please remember to contact the school if any of these details or your circumstances change. This is particularly important so we can work together to protect the wellbeing of our students through the reporting and monitoring of student absences.

Attention Year 10 and 11 Students!

The Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship (PAMS) gives selected high school History students the opportunity to travel on a study tour to develop their knowledge and understanding of the history of Australians at war.

The 2024 tour will take place in the Term 3 school holidays (30 September to 10 October 2024).

The study tour will visit locations in Japan. The full tour itinerary will be provided to scholarship recipients and their families ahead of the tour.

Scholarship recipients also need to attend a mandatory in-person pre-tour meeting at the Anzac Memorial in Sydney on 8 July 2024. For more information and to apply for this amazing opportunity visit:

<https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/.../premiers-anzac.../...>

PREMIER'S ANZAC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (PAMS)

THE PAMS 2024 STUDY TOUR WILL
VISIT LOCATIONS IN JAPAN IN THE
TERM 3 HOLIDAYS (30 SEPTEMBER
TO 10 OCTOBER 2024)

NSWEduChat at Kingscliff High School

This term Kingscliff High School has been presented with an exciting opportunity that has the potential to shape the way students and teachers use technology in learning.

You may be aware of a range of emerging technologies referred to as Artificial Intelligence (AI). One kind of AI is generative AI (GenAI). Examples of GenAI you may have heard of or used include ChatGPT, Bing and Bard.

The NSW Department of Education prioritises student safety as a key focus. For this reason, the department has created NSWEdUChat, a customised GenAI app. Unlike ChatGPT, NSWEdUChat is suitable for school aged children. NSWEdUChat is built inside the department's firewall and has been created with safeguards that other GenAI apps do not have.

At Kingscliff High School we are committed to providing evidence-based, quality learning opportunities for our students. We are one of only 16 schools to be selected to first explore how NSWEdUChat can be used effectively in classrooms. NSWEdUChat is hosted entirely within the department's systems. The app will provide a safe and secure environment for teachers and students (Stages 3-6) to use GenAI in teaching and learning. The app has been built with safeguards to protect students from inappropriate content.

The trial will run during Term 1 and Term 2 of 2024. To assess the impact of using NSWEdUChat, students can provide feedback on the app if they choose to do so.

Department personnel may visit the school to gather feedback and photograph or video participants. Only students whose parents/carers have provided 'permission to publish' will be filmed.

At all times the current school rules, policies and procedures will apply for everyone involved. Parents/carers will be sent a data privacy notice to read. If a parent/carer decides to have their child opt out of the NSWEdUChat trial, this can be communicated to the school.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity in relation to your child's learning or broader school experience, please contact either the school's Principal Mr Hensley or the Deputy Principal Mr Matthias.

We look forward to bringing you updates as we explore NSWEdUChat to discover how GenAI could enrich teaching and learning at Kingscliff High School.



**NSW
GOVERNMENT**
education.nsw.gov.au



Student Successes

We're starting a new tradition to celebrate our students' successes. We'll be sending out emails with updates on where they've ended up after leaving KHS. Success looks different for everyone, and we're excited to keep you all informed about the different paths our students are taking.

Here are some updates we know about so far!

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!
MARLEY O'RAFFERTY**



**MARLEY HAS STARTED AN
APPRENTICESHIP WITH
'KIA MOTORS'**



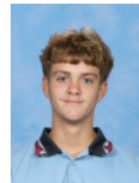
**CONGRATULATIONS!!!
JACK BUTLER**



**HAS COMMENCED AN
APPRENTICESHIP WITH
'SOLO WASTE'**



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!
TASMAN BONNER**



**TASMAN HAS STARTED AN
APPRENTICESHIP WITH
'BONNER PLUMBING'**



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!
DELILAH MITCHELL**



**DELILAH HAS STARTED A
TRAINEESHIP WITH
'BOSSY BOOTS CHILDCARE
CENTRE'**



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!
JUDD ALLDER**



**JUDD HAS STARTED AN
APPRENTICESHIP WITH 'COL
MOORE & SONS'**



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER TERM 1 CALENDAR 2024

19-23 February, Week 4

Week B

Monday 19 February

Year 11 O Day
PCYC Program Year 8 & Year 9 (Week 2-Week 11)
Year 12 Primary Ind Work Placement
P&C Meeting 6pm
Opens Basketball Trials at Ballina Indoor Sports Centre
Swimming Carnival Long Distance Events at Kingscliff Pool 09:05am - 11am

Tuesday 20 February

School Photos
Rotary Film Project - Years 9&10 (Weeks 4-6)
Year 12 Primary Ind Work Placement
Far North Coast Football Trials (Boys-Lennox Head/Girls-Ballina)

Wednesday 21 February

Tweed Coast Youth Service (TCYS) - Year 10 boys group Week 3-Week 8
Year 12 Primary Ind Work Placement

Thursday 22 February

Year 12 Primary Ind Work Placement
FNC 15s AFL Byron Bay at Cavanbah Centre, Byron Bay

Friday 23 February

Community Access
Year 12 Primary Ind Work Placement
FNC Rugby League trials at Casuarina

26-30 February, Week 5

Week A

Monday 26 February

PCYC Program Year 8 & Year 9 (Week 2-Week 11)

Tuesday 27 February

School Photos (catch up day)
Rotary Film Project - Years 9&10 (Weeks 4-6)
FNC Swimming at Murwillumbah

Wednesday 28 February

Tweed Coast Youth Service (TCYS) - Year 10 boys group Week 3-Week 8
Aboriginal Education Team Parent and Community Meeting 5:30pm - Library

Thursday 29 February

Year 10 Vaccinations (Meningococcal)
NC Boys and Girls Basketball Trials

Friday 30 February

Community Access



Keep up to date with the latest announcements and events happening at Kingscliff High School. Take a moment to like our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/kingscliffhighschool>



Check out our Instagram page. Click on the link to follow us <https://www.instagram.com/p/CosxzQZBcpX/...>



P&C Uniform Shop

The Uniform shop regular hours are **Tuesdays and Fridays 8:00am – 10.00am**. The price list and any additional information can be found here:

<https://kingscliff-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/what-we-offer/p---c-uniform-shop.html>

- Payment at the P&C Uniform Shop is by cash, cheque, and EFTPOS.
- The P&C Uniform Shop is located near our Science block on the left-hand side of the ramp.
- For more information, you can contact the Uniform Shop. Email: pckingscliffhigh@gmail.com or Phone: 02 6674 9762



Homestay families needed!

Have you ever considered hosting
an International Student?

We have students who wish to study at
KHS and are in need of a host family.



We're looking for homestays who can provide:

- * A welcoming and supportive environment
- * A fully furnished and private room in their home which is conveniently located to public transport.
- * Balanced and nutritious meals daily
- * A genuine interest in cultural exchange
- * An interest in interacting with and offering guidance to young people.



Contact Auzzie Familes if you're interested

www.auzziefamilies.com or call 02 8328 8499



LEARN. TRAVEL. GROW.



STUDY ABROAD AS A ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENT.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2025 LONG-TERM & 2024 SHORT-TERM EXCHANGE. JOIN US FOR AN INFO NIGHT TO FIND OUT MORE.

Rotary
District 9640



rotary
youth
exchange



If you're looking to earn 20 Logbook hours towards your NSW Learner License, then this 5-hour Course is for you, and if you book with a friend, you can do your Module 2 component together.

The Safer Drivers Course aims to provide learner drivers with the knowledge they need to reduce road risks and prevent accidents by becoming a safe driver.

As an Accredited Provider of the transport for NSW Safer Driver Course, PCYC NSW know that our students will complete the course with a greater understanding of how to be a safe P-plate driver.

Students are required to have completed 50 Logged Driving Hours prior to signing up to the Course.

The Course Fee is \$140.

PCYC Tweed Heads is running Safer Drivers Programs for February 2024 and March 2024 on the below dates:

Date - Saturday 24/2/24 (Limited Spots Available, BOOK NOW)

Time - 8:00am - 11:00am

Location - PCYC Tweed Heads

Date - Saturday 2/3/24 (Limited Spots Available, BOOK NOW)

Time - 8:00am - 11:00am

Location - PCYC Tweed Heads

Date - Saturday 16/3/24

Time - 8:00am - 11:00am

Location - PCYC Tweed Heads

Date - Saturday 23/3/24

Time - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Location - PCYC Tweed Heads

PCYC Tweed Heads "Safer Driver" courses for February 2024 and March 2024 are now LIVE on our website!

Simply click on the below link and Type in Tweed Heads 2485 and book in to the course!

<https://www.pcyedrivereducationprograms-sdc.org.au/>



Sign up to our Safer Drivers Course!

Courses are delivered at PCYC Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah Community Centre! Scan the QR code to book today!



19 February 2024



Education

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been great to have our students back in classrooms and settling into the school year. I know all our teachers are looking forward to a successful 2024 and are excited to work with you to make this a memorable year for your child.

The evidence is clear that consistent attendance is the essential first step for your child to have a positive experience at school.

Every day matters for your child's learning. In recent years we have seen too many students miss a day of school here and there. Missing school for students means missing assignments, time with friends, an important maths lesson or getting picked for a sports team. With days missed, years are lost.

Students are required to attend school every day, whether it is the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions.

Help us make sure your child is achieving their best and stays ahead in their learning with regular school attendance. The more time your child attends school, the greater their opportunity to learn, make new friends and improve their wellbeing. Together, let's build positive attendance habits for a lifetime.

If your child is absent from school, please let us know why as soon as possible, even if it just a few minutes at the start or end of the school day. Of course, there will be times when your child is unable to be at school (like when they are unwell). Medical appointments should take place outside school hours where possible and family holidays should be taken in term breaks.

If your child is feeling anxious about coming to school and you need support, please reach out to your child's teacher or me directly. Our staff are here to work with you and your child to help them attend school each and every day. There are also helpful resources for parents and carers on the [Every Day Matters website](#).

Thank you again for working with our teachers and support staff to make sure your child is at school, on time, every day. We all want to see our students learn, grow and belong in our equitable and outstanding education system.

Yours sincerely



Michael Hensley
Principal

Admin 2024-1873

19 February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers – Year 7 and Year 9

NAPLAN 2024 student readiness

I hope your child is settling in well in their new school year.

This term, your child will undertake [NAPLAN assessment](#). NAPLAN provides schools with valuable information about your child's learning progress in literacy and numeracy. NAPLAN is only one way we assess student learning in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

NAPLAN will take place in our school on the following dates:

- Year 9: 14 & 15 March 2024
- Year 7: 18 & 19 March 2024

Your child's teacher is getting students ready for NAPLAN and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Students will become familiar with the types of questions in the tests and the online testing platform that we use. In addition to school preparation, I want to share with you some information on how you can further support your child for NAPLAN.

Preparation for NAPLAN

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN and do not need excessive preparation or the use of services by coaching providers. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program. If you or your child/children would like to know more about the NAPLAN online platform you can go to the [public demonstration site](#) and do some practice tests and past papers are also available [online](#).

Participation in NAPLAN

Adjustments are available for students who have diverse functional abilities and needs. On a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments for individual students can be made so they can complete NAPLAN. Speak to your child's teacher to discuss the adjustments available. For more information read the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#).

Assessment tips

You can support your child by reminding them to simply do their best. You can also encourage:

- a healthy diet
- drinking lots of water
- limiting caffeine
- getting enough sleep
- exercise and relaxation time

These along with arriving at school on time ready to sit the test will help prepare our school to bring their best on the day.

Yours sincerely



Michael Hensley
Principal

Every Day Matters

If your child misses
as little as

1 day
per fortnight

they will miss

4 weeks
of school
per year

which adds up
to over

1 year
missed over
their school life



Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening friendships



Emotional development



Scan the QR code
to learn more



Compulsory school attendance

| Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight

= 4 weeks

= Over 1 year missed

1 day per week

= 8 weeks

= Over 2.5 years missed

More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.

