Our Kindergarten for 2016 started on Tuesday.. and what a brilliant start!! They all seemed very ready and happy to begin their school life. They all looked wonderful in their school uniforms... Thank you to all the parents/carers who prepared their children so well. It was great to see many parents and carers stay for tea and coffee and a chat after farewelling their children. A big Thank you to Anna Sanders and Kelly Savage for organising the ‘tea and tissues’.

How can you help your Kindergarten child succeed at school..
* When children start school they bring all the things they learnt at home with them.
* Keep up the things you did with your child before they started school, like bedtime reading.
* Talk to your child’s teacher if you have concerns about your child’s learning.
* Get your child to school on time; it helps avoid anxiety.
* Get involved in your school; it shows your children you value education.

Learning is a partnership.. Developing a partnership with the school is a great way to enhance your child's learning experiences. Research shows that parental involvement impacts positively on a child's education, so volunteer for things like the canteen or reading groups and certainly become a member of the P&C, which is a great way for working parents to support their child at school. Children see parents walk into the school and see that mum and dad value education. That sends a really loud message to them.

Arriving on time is also important. Arriving late continually at school causes great anxiety for a little child in their first year of school. They have to walk in, they’re anxious about their school day anyway, all eyes are on them. It also sends a message to them that school’s not really important enough to be on time for. Parents/Carers are role models for their child’s attitude to school and your child will copy your behaviour. I am looking forward to the P&C Welcome BBQ next Tuesday. Please come along! Thank you to all those parents who are organising and making that great afternoon happen. See you there!

Fiona Paine

Upcoming Events .............

Monday 8th February        Chinese New Year - don’t forget to wear red!
Tuesday 9th February       P&C Welcome BBQ
Wednesday 10th February   P&C Meeting 7.15pm in staff room
Thursday 11th February    Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 16th February      Meet the Teacher Evening
School Swimming Carnival

We will be holding our School Swimming Carnival at Katoomba Sport & Aquatic Centre on Thursday, 11th February, 2016 (back up date is Friday 19th February 2016), for all children in grades 3-6 as well as any children in Year 2 turning 8 this year that can competently swim 50 metres.

Thank you to the large number of students who have already returned their notes and payment. Notes for this event are due back by Monday, 8th February, 2016.

Many thanks to the parents that have already volunteered to assist on the day but we are currently still looking for parents to assist with the transportation of gazebos as well as the setting up of these. Also if anyone has a gazebo we can borrow on the day please contact us on 47821226.

Thank you for your support
Solly Wallace and Andrew Nicholson

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Kindergarten are off to a great start. They are settling in very well and their buddies have been extremely helpful and supportive.

A special thank you to our wonderful parents who provided “Tea and Tissues”. The opportunity to have a chat with other parents was greatly appreciated.

Ethics Classes

Our volunteer Ethics teachers are getting ready for another exciting year of discussions with your children. In order to be able to offer Ethics to all the children who would like to do it, we need another couple of teachers.

You don’t have to be a qualified teacher to teach Ethics. Volunteer Ethics Teachers are given two days of face-to-face training and are provided with an age-appropriate, department approved curriculum to follow. Classes are for half an hour from 11.30am each Wednesday. See www.primaryethics.com.au for more details.

If you would like to join our team of volunteer Ethics teachers please contact Cate Paterson on 4782 6135.

Welcome BBQ

Katoomba Public School P&C will be holding a BBQ to welcome all new families as well as our existing families to the 2016 school year.

It will be held from 5pm to about 6.30pm and you can enjoy salads and sausage sandwiches for a gold coin donation (to be put towards our climbing wall). There will be gluten free, vegetarian and meat options available.

Please come along and get to know your fellow KPS families and staff.
Meet The Teacher Evening

When: Tuesday 16th February
5.00pm School Hall – Meet the staff
5.20pm Classrooms – Program Overview*
6.00pm Finish

*this is not an interview time: if you need to speak specifically about your child please make an appointment for another day.

If you do have more than one child at the school, we suggest you choose one classroom to visit, and make an appointment for another time (if need be) with the other teacher for an overview of their program.

P&C News

The next P&C meeting is on Wednesday 10th February at 7.15pm in the staff room. Everyone is welcome, so please come along and find out what’s going on at your school. Hear from Principal Paine, join in the discussion on fair trade uniforms and get an update on how the fundraising efforts are going for the climbing wall.

If you can’t make the Wednesday night meeting, don’t despair - there’s a second chance to meet with Ms Paine and P&C President Linda Brillante on Friday 12th February immediately after morning assembly.

Help Needed with Composting

We are looking for parents who are available from 2.30pm any day of the week to help with composting at KPS. This task would involve collecting compost from buckets around the school and taking the compost to the kitchen garden. If you are available once a week to do this please come and see Sue Campbell-Neale (2/3N) to be put on the roster.

Sue Campbell-Neale

Chinese New Year

KPS is celebrating Chinese New Year!
The Year of the Monkey!!

Next Monday 8th February we will be taking part in some fun activities to learn about the Chinese New Year. This will include a lunch of traditional long life noodles.

All students are encouraged to wear red on the day and bring a gold coin donation to go towards the cost of the noodles.

If there are any parents/carers who would like to assist with the preparation/cooking/serving of the noodles your help would be greatly appreciated.
**Year 6 2016 Reach for the Stars .....**

Our Year 6 students have created an artwork that reflects their goals for 2016.

These students are looking forward to a year where they are all school leaders and role models.

Their spectacular artwork is on display in the Stage 3 area.

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**Kitchen Garden Working Bee - Can You Help?**

We will be holding a working bee for the kitchen garden on Sunday 14th February from 9.30am in the morning. If you can spare any time at all, please come along and help.

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**IMPORTANT REMINDER - NO DOGS ALLOWED ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

The Department of Education does not permit dogs on school grounds. Some of our students are allergic to dog hair and may have an anaphylactic reaction. Dogs must not be tied up at our gates and left unattended or brought into the school grounds under any circumstances.