Buddy Reading Across the School

On Tuesday 25th August, everyone at Kootingal Public School got together with students from another class and shared a book. For half an hour, the school buzzed with children sharing a newly learnt book, a favourite library book or a book by a favourite author. The warm winter sun stayed out long enough for classes to collect in the gym area, around the gardens and under trees. It was an amazing sight and sound. When asked how they liked it, students from many classes thought it was a great idea and should be repeated more often.
Toby Callaghan - A fantastic improvement in his attitude towards learning
Riley Robinson - Effort and enthusiasm during all sport and fitness activities
Xavier Wadwell - Beautiful singing during music lessons
Mikyla Phillpott - Wonderful improvement in reading
Nate Symons - Helping others
Naomi Maybury - Application to literacy and numeracy
Erica-Lee Eyles - Working well in numeracy
Emma Jarrett - Consistent effort in all learning activities
Alexander Frewen - Improvement in counting
Travis Grierson - Working well in Mathematics - Symmetry
Xander Murray - Making an effort with his handwriting and using spaces between his words
William Morris - Working well in class and producing commendable work
Jaeda Symons - Having a great ability to focus on set tasks
Jack Chapple - Working well in Mathematics
Reba Ramage - Working well on spelling activities with Mrs Knight
Lillie Walker - Excellent project on Eastern Brown Snakes
Todd Milgate - Great number work
Ally Higgins - Persistence in learning to tell the time
Ellie Caslick - Excellent spelling results
James Grant - Dedication to learning
Jack Hyson - Being a wonderful worker in class
Byron Lees - Being an independent, reliable student
Taleah Pinnock and Brock Hyson - Participation in Spelling Bee, commitment to learning
Darcy Simpson-Criag - Participating in and winning the Spelling Bee
Shianne Spurway - Showing diligence and improvement in literacy and numeracy
Emily Nicholls - Her mature attitude and positive approach to learning
Toby Taggart and Dyllan Thomas - Outstanding commitment to independent ‘Maths Mentals’
William Morris - Wonderful music log book submission rate

Earlier this week, I sent home our reports received for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for the students in years 3 and 5. While pleased with our progress in these areas, it is important to note that these assessments are conducted on one day of the year and does not take into account progress from the original assessment to now. If you would like to discuss your child’s report, please do not hesitate to contact the school to make an appointment with your child’s teacher.

On Monday and Tuesday, our focus was on reading. Each classroom teacher swapped classes and read to their buddy class. It’s always interesting to see another teacher in a student’s classroom and see the difference in both the approach of the student and teacher.

I was fortunate to be in Miss Magann’s classroom when Ms Ross came to read to 2M. Ms Ross conducted an overview of the text asking students what they thought it may be about prior to even opening the picture book.

Good luck to our students who are competing at the North West Athletics carnival this Friday at the TRAC. These students are competing to gain selection in the North West Team to compete at Homebush:

- Jack Howard – 100m and 200m
- Brendan Jarrett – Long jump
- Hannah Turner-Bourke – 800m
- Junior Girls Relay – Hannah Turner-Bourke, Ellie Caslick, Damikah Barwick-Taylor and Montana Winter

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This week has been fast-paced with plenty of action around our Book Week and Education Week. At Kootingal Public School, we aim to ensure there is minimal disruption to our students’ learning through focus weeks. Hence the reason why we have combined so many focus weeks into one. Throughout the week, we have held numerous activities that have been widely publicised through our newsletter. It is imperative our broader school community keeps abreast of all activities within the school through this vital piece of communication.

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Mrs Cracknell’s Message

We have also had our students reading to a buddy. It was glorious reading in the sunshine on Tuesday and, again, I was fortunate to have Mr Griffiths’ class 2/3G for this experience. 2/3G read with students from Mrs Simpson’s class 1S. Each student from 2/3G were proactive in selecting their buddy with 2/3G demonstrating patience assisting their younger peers when reading their selected text. As I wandered through the playground, many students took this opportunity to sit back and listen to a peer read while basking in the late winter sunshine. A comment even came that we should do this more often.

Thank you to the Education and Book Week team of Mrs Doak, Ms Cook and Ms Ross who put together the activities for the week. Your work is greatly appreciated and welcomed!

The P&C have a few activities in the coming weeks. On Thursday 3rd September, the P&C are holding their Father’s Day stall. A sample of all items for sale is in the window of Mrs Chegwyn and Mrs Lawrence’s office. Students have been busily looking in the window making their selections.

The P&C have also put their name forward for involvement in a recycling initiative with TerraCycle. TerraCycle is an international upcycling and recycling company that collects difficult-to-recycle packaging and products and repurposes the material into affordable, innovative products. Kootingal Public School is participating in the Cleaning Packaging Brigade. I have included a picture of the products that we can collect to recycle. Items can be placed in the marked box at the front office. Items donated for recycling are given a donation from TerraCycle and this goes directly to P&C. All the help we can get to become more sustainable is a good practice.

This week, we held another session of our Come & Try Program for Kindergarten 2016. Our Come & Try Program during Term 3 has been designed for all children intending to enrol in Kindergarten in 2016, regardless of school. The Program is operating on Wednesday afternoons each week until the end of Term 3 2015. A bus is transporting students to Kootingal Public School who are attending Kootingal and District PreSchool at Term 3 2015. A bus is transporting students to Kootingal and District PreSchool at Term 3 2015. Parents may wish, however, to bring their child at 1:30pm and collect them at 3:15pm. The program orientates children to school and to the Kindergarten setting, as well as developing social skills, gross and fine motor skills, literacy and numeracy skills necessary for a confident and smooth start to school life.

Last week, Mrs Lawrence and her band of year 5 students, Mrs Knight, Mrs Doak and Mrs Buchanan ably assisted our students in drawing on the asphalt surface, construct bumblebees and read the story Will Bee the Bumblebee. All had a lot of fun and our students in year 5 shone! Well done to all and I look forward to telling our community more about it next week.

Don’t forget that at the start of Term 4, our Kindergarten Bright Stars Transition program will commence. This program is designed for students intending to commence Kindergarten at Kootingal Public School. All days have been advertised throughout long day care and pre-school centres and through our normal means of communication. If you know of a family that has a child who may enrol in Kindergarten next year, please direct them to the school. We welcome parents and children to our school at any time to view our facilities and as a part of our transition program. As well, we would like to offer assistance in choosing a school and ensuring a sound start for each child.

Well done Ally Higgins of 3M! Ally has mastered telling the time and she was absolutely delighted to demonstrate this to me. Reba Ramage ably assisted Ally. Keep up the great work Ally!

As another term approaches a very fast conclusion, it is time for Parent Teacher Interviews. Notes regarding the interviews were sent home earlier this week with a text message highlighting their arrival in school bags. It is important to note that these interviews are scheduled over two weeks (two Tuesdays – 8th and 15th September) so that we can see as many parents as possible. Mrs Ward has made alternative arrangements due to leave taken at the end of this term. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Also in school bags, are letters for parents of Year 5 students about the process for School Captain nominations. This is the first letter regarding the process with further communication in the coming weeks. The process will officially commence in Term 4 but it is a good idea for students to start thinking about their nomination and what it would mean to be a School Captain.

Application forms for the Term 4 Private Music Tuition program are now available. Tuition is provided in guitar, drums, keyboard and vocal. The program commences in the first week of Term 4. Payment for the term is required in Week 2 Term 4. Application forms are available from the front office for interested students. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Support the Businesses that support our school

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Splitbelt Rubber 19-45 Charles St
Holeybelt & Envirobelt Moonbi NSW 2353
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Kootingal & District Preschool Inc
There's a Preschool in the Village
Providing a stimulating & challenging program that fosters a love of learning, allowing children to celebrate & enjoy their childhood while learning skills & concepts that will prepare them not just for school but for life.
Lot 21 Chaffey Street, Kootingal Ph: 9760-3801
Email: kool_preschool@bigpond.com

8am & 5pm - Denman Ave, Kootingal
10am - New Eng. Hwy, Moonbi
Escape Travel, in Tamworth are proud to be in partnership with Kootingal Public School.

Family and friends of the school can be a part of the Kick Back Club, that will see 1% of the cost of any holidays booked in our office in Tamworth go back in to the P & C to benefit the school.

Anyone enquiring and booking an airfare, holiday, travel insurance or accommodation just needs to mention at the time of enquiring that they are a part of the Kootingal School Kick Back program, and we will set aside 1% of the value of their holiday aside to go back to the P & C. Just remember, we don’t know if you are a part of the school, so you need to tell us.

Kootingal Public School
SRC Disco

‘Show Your Colours’

When: Thursday 3rd September
Time: 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Cost: $3.00
(includes chips and a popper)

Raising funds for the Fight Cancer Foundation by wearing your favourite football or sports team colours