



UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES

Tuesday 2 nd May – Wednesday 10 th May	Somers Camp
Tuesday 9 th May	School Council meeting
Thursday 11 th May	Prep Info Session @ 9.15am
Friday 12 th May	District Cross Country
Tuesday 16 th May	Prep Info Session @ 6.00pm Education Support Appreciation Day
Tuesday 23 rd May	Year 2/3 Zoo Excursion
Thursday 25 th May	Prep & Year 1 Incursion
Friday 26 th May	Gala Day

A MESSAGE FROM MISS LOREN

28th April 2023

Dear Families,

The start of Term 2 has been very positive. We have settled straight back into the routines of school. This is a short term of only 9 weeks so every day at school is extremely important. Please only keep children home from school if they are unwell or have urgent medical appointments. Celebrating birthdays, visiting family members, special family days etc are best left for out of school hours or on weekends. Children need to be at school so teachers can be gauging their growth, teaching, and planning the next step in their learning journey. We cannot do this if children have regular absences. Currently we have a large number of children with unexplained absences. The Wellbeing team will be reaching out to support these families in the coming weeks.

Family Concerns

Please be reminded that parents **should never** approach other children or families in the yard over a concern. Please ensure you follow our protocol of speaking with the teacher, Lauren Walker, Sam or Miss Loren. We are a Child Safe School and these behaviours are not safe for anyone. In my many years of experience this rarely, if ever, has a positive outcome. Please, trust in our staff and speak with us only.

ANZAC Day

We started the school term with our own ANZAC Service. Joel and Jason from *Soldier On* attended our service and spoke with our Yr 4/5/6 children about the importance of teamwork, service, and the virtues of living in a free country. I was extremely proud of our whole school as they participated in the ANZAC service with respect.



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CHILD SAFETY- STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

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Our school leaders, Yashika, Zara and Petar, attended the Craigieburn ANZAC Service on Tuesday with me as we represented Keelonith Primary School. Our leaders participated in the march and laid a wreath at the cenotaph. Well done leaders on your first public event.

Somers Camp

Next week we have 10 students attending Somers Camp <https://www.somersschoolcamp.org/> . This is an amazing opportunity for our children to attend a 9 day camp, which is subsidised by DET. We look forward to updates from their adventure. Camp dates: Tuesday 2nd May – Wednesday 10th May.

Huma Network Principal Conference

This Thursday and Friday I attended with Principal Conference in Creswick with Lauren (Thursday) and Sam (Friday). The Conference was focussed on Mental Health in Primary schools and links with student growth in all areas of their life. We also explored options around recruitment in the current climate of teacher and education support workers shortage. This will continue to challenge all schools in Australia in the next few years.

New Staff

Over the holiday break we worked on recruitment, and we are very pleased to announce the following staff members who will be joining us in the coming weeks:

Isabella Gomez – Speech Pathologist 2 days per week.



Hello Keelonith Primary School community! My name is Isabella, your new Speech Pathologist to join the team. I will be working 2 days a week on Mondays and Wednesdays. I have been a Speech Pathologist for 6 years, although have recently taken a short break to have a baby boy last year. Besides chasing after my very cheeky 11-month old, I love taking my dog Ollie for a walk as well as cooking (and eating) all types of desserts. I'm looking forward to meeting you all very soon!

Anna Riley - Speech Therapist 2 days per week.



My name is Anna. I am a graduate speech pathologist and am excited to commence and develop my speech pathology career with the Keelonith Primary School community. I am passionate about speech pathology intervention for primary school aged students, specifically literacy intervention and language development. I look forward to meeting and working with the students and their families, education staff and wider community to help them achieve their learning goals. I hope to learn as much from the students and community as they will learn from me.

Elizabeth Popovic - Performing Arts 4 days per week.



Hello everyone! I'm Ms Popovic (sounds a bit like "pufferfish" and rhymes with "golden snitch"!) I'm thrilled to be joining the team of staff at Keelonith PS as your new Performing Arts teacher. I have been a school teacher for about 12 years, though just last year I switched from secondary to primary school.

This change has been a wonderful adventure and I am really enjoying spending my workdays doing more of the things I love, singing, dancing, acting, painting and making things. I have also worked for many years in private ballet schools, teaching children of all ages to dance.

Emily Edwards – Education Support 3 days per week.



Hi everyone,
My name is Emily Edwards and I'm so happy to be joining the KPS team!
I have been a teacher aide for almost 8 years now and I am excited to continue my journey at such a wonderful school!

A little about me, I have a busy toddler named Charles, who is 2 in May. Besides chasing him around, I love to find new cafés and enjoy going camping along the river.
I can't wait to meet you all soon. Please come say hello when you see me!




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<p>I love working in this community where I live with my husband, two young children and our two cats. I am looking forward to meeting you all in week 4; come and chat to me about one of my special subjects like musicals, theatre, Pokémon, ballet, LEGO, craft, sewing, Dungeons and Dragons, Disney, and Netflix.</p>	
	<p>Terry Watson – Maintenance 2 days per week.</p>  <p>G'day - my names Terry Watson. I live in Wallan, married with 3 beautiful children. I have been successfully running my own gardening and handyman business for 10yrs, now I'm also proud to be the Keelonith PS maintenance person, so don't be shy, come say Hi! And remember- "There's no problems - only solutions"</p>

Isabella, Anna, and Meg (our Occupational Therapist who we will introduce in the next newsletter), will be members of our Allied Health Team, led by Sophie Rosewarne. The primary role of our Allied Health Team is to support our teachers to plan and enact learning that supports all of our children to have access to the learning. Assessment will also be a large part of their role as they start working with KPS.

Welcome to all of our new staff members.

2024 Prep Information Sessions

We are conducting our 2024 information sessions for our 2024 Prep students. Please tell your family and friends. Please contact the school office to book into the sessions.

School Volunteers

People who completed the Volunteer Induction Session last term completed the online survey will be contacted by their mentor teachers in the next week.

I am looking for a group of volunteers who are able to support us in the garden to undertake some weeding. This can take place during or outside of school hours. Please email the school if you are keen to help.

Keep on learning everyone. Every day should bring a new learning opportunity.

Loren Peavey



Recommended reading for families

Great FB and Website to follow. For parenting advice, I suggest families follow Janet Lansbury. Positive and realistic advice to support you and your family.

<https://www.janetlansbury.com>



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REMINDERS

School Processes

As the school is growing can I please remind all families of the process for raising concerns in relation to your child. The first person to contact via email, phone call or in person at an appropriate time is your child's mentor teacher. If you feel that your concerns are not being addressed, please contact:

- Mary in Prep
- Sam in Yr 1
- Brooke in Yr 2/3
- Lauren Walker Yr 4/5/6

- Wellbeing concern - Lauren Walker
- Curriculum/Wellbeing concern - Sam
- Ongoing concerns - Loren Peavey

School Policies

all policies are available on our website on <https://keelonithps.vic.edu.au/our-school/#policies>, or hard copies can be requested from the office.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures, and practices. If you have any suggestions, comments, or questions, please contact Loren Peavey.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (CSA)

The School Community Association (SCA) is a group of parents and family representatives whose primary mission is "to connect KPS students and staff with the greater school community through a variety of fundraising initiatives." Put simply – this group are tasked with organising all the fun and fundraising social and in-school activities! This includes initiatives such as the Fly High Kite Night, Easter Raffle, Mother's Day Stall, etc.

Now that the SCA has been established for over a year – we are calling for and welcoming new members! As a member of the SCA, you will be involved in the planning and delivery of activities for the coming year. We are looking for motivated, creative and organised volunteers who are keen to inject their ideas and experience into the calendar of KPS fundraising activities. Your commitment to the SCA would involve participation at bi-monthly committee meetings (likely over Zoom) and that you would be available to assist with the planning and delivery of 1–2 initiatives per school term.

To sign up to be a part of the SCA, please send your name, phone number, email address, child/ren's name and child/ren's class to keelonith.ps@education.vic.gov.au



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CASEA WEEK

CASEA Program Update Week 1

Next week sees the beginning of the CASEA Program for a selected group of children in Grades Prep to Three. The eight week program, run by staff from The Royal Children's Hospital in conjunction with Keelonith Primary School and Lauren Walker (Wellbeing) and Sophie Rosewarne (Speech Therapist) aims to help these children learn important skills for managing their emotions and behaviour.

During Week One the group will focus on "Getting to Know Others", creating rules and appropriate consequences, and helping understand their strengths and differences. All children in Grades Prep to Six will participate in classroom activities where they "get to know" others and develop an understanding of each other's strengths.

Week 2: Feelings

ANZAC DAY



We started the school term with our own ANZAC Service. We thank Jason Isaac & Joel Bernard from *Soldier On* for coming in and joining our service and speaking to the year 456 classes, also thanking Ms Hurley, a retired army reservist for organising our day.

Our school leaders, Yashika, Zara and Petar attended the Craigieburn ANZAC Service on Tuesday with Miss Loren and represented Keelonith Primary School.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keelonith Primary School



Mother's Day Stall

Wednesday 10th May 2023

ALL GIFTS \$5 EACH

There will be a variety of gifts to choose from for your special person.

Children will visit the stall in their class groups during the morning.

Please send money in a named envelope and a bag, to bring the gift home.

There will be a limit of two gifts per child.



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