



## UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Graduation
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Term 4 – 1.30pm finish
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Office opens from 9.00am – 4.00pm
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024	First day of Term 1 for Year 1- 6 9.00am start. No Preps
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	First day for Preps. 9.00am – 1.00pm – Wednesday to Friday
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Preps full time

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome to the final week of 2023. We have had another productive year with many exciting and new activities and learning put into place for our learners. There have been many highlights in a year that has seen all schools struggle with recruitment and class coverage with a very low number of available CRTs (relief teachers). Our children have managed well when these challenges have been thrown in their direction and overall, this has developed resilience in our children.

### Events over 2023 – Try saying this without a breath!

KPS Fly High night, swimming, orienteering, school athletics carnival, school cross country, Prep breakfast, 2 school camps, 1 sleep over and a disco night and the whole school family Picnic.

Family events included many exhibitions across each area of the school. Science night, Footy Day and Art Show and the huge highlight the Dance Showcase, Parent and Special Person stalls.

Excursions to the Zoo, Werribee and the city, Puffing Billy, local walks, GRIP Leadership and Life Education van visit. Incursions including Wild Action Animals for Prep and Year 1, visits from the fire brigade, ambulance, police, and responsible pet ownership. The Dental van also visited over 5 days in the year.

We have also conducted over 80 school tours, 6 parent information sessions for new preps and 5 induction sessions for volunteers.

All these activities take place alongside and to enhance the ongoing teaching and learning program at the school. Schools are busy but joyous spaces.

### Staffing

In a time of challenging recruitment, we are very pleased to have been able to fill all the positions required to support the growth of KPS. At the end of 2023 we are only saying goodbye to one of our staff members Emily White, who has been teaching 3 days a week in Year 1. Emily is moving to the other side of the city and has been able to secure a job just around the corner from her new home. We wish Emily all the best for



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#### **CHILD SAFETY- STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT**

Keelonith Primary School is a child safe organisation which welcomes all children, young people, and their families. We are committed to providing environments where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives.

the future and hope that our paths will cross again in the future. Three staff members Lisa (Prep teacher), Kerry Hurley (3 days Digi-tech) and Jess De Pasquale (PE) are having Leave Without Pay for 2024 for varying personal reasons, they will be returning to us in 2025. Bec who was employed for Term 4 to support in the Year 1 space is going to be teaching at Oak Park PS in 2024. As Bec is not moving homes, we hope we shall see her again in the near future as well.

We have 6 new teaching staff coming on board for 2024.

Paul Munro – PE

Wayne Gibcus - Digi-tech

Jenny Farrelly - Performing Arts

Seda Duman – Prep

Gizem Yurt – Year 1

Madeleine Toscano – Year2

We also have Jane Black returning to the school after 18 months. Jane will be our Assistant Principal for Wellbeing. We have new additions to our Allied Health team with Nadine Pohl and Surabhi Budhiraja coming on as part-time speech therapists. We are also still recruiting ES staff to support in the classrooms. Our team is growing, and we excited to have all these new staff members coming on board.

**Visual Arts** - Brookie Wolsley

**STEM** – Paula Gaughan

**PE** - Paul Munro

**Performing Arts** - Jenny Farrelly

**Digital Technology** - Wayne Gibcus

**Response to Intervention** - Brooke Slopak

**Allied Health Leader** - Sophie Rosewarne.

**Speech** - Anna Riley, Isabella Gomez, Nadine Pohl and Surabhi Budhiraja

**Social Worker** – Ben Montfort

**OT** - Meg Macintosh (2 days per week)

**Education Support Staff** - Jenn, Anmol, Carolyn, Cathy, Cherry (Auslan), Emily, Kylie, Kira, Kate, Karen, Lakmini, Leesa, Marko, Nes, Ozlem, Olivia, Sarah B, Sarah M, Tijen.

**Maintenance** -Terry

**IT** - Chamika (every Thursday)

**Office** - Lauren Sabato, Bree Pringle, and Gwen Pringle

**Business Manager** - Rebecca Bogalho

**Assistant Principal (Curriculum)** - Sam Birrell

**Assistant Principal (Wellbeing)** – Jane Black

**Principal** – Loren Peavey



Teaching Team 2024	A	B	C	D
Prep	Jess Weir	Seda Duman	Georgina Kaloutsakis	
Yr 1	Amanda Trandis	Lillian Fry-McBean	Gizem Yurt	
Yr 2	Natalie Taylor	Sam Birrell / Madeleine Toscano	Robert Cann	
Yr 3/4	Michelle Galea	Cassandra Neofotistos	Lauren Walker / Olivia Guzman	Penny Vissariou
Yr 5/6	Nicki Bilby	Jayden Spudvillas- Powel		



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Our final day for 2023 is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, and the day ends at 1:30pm with our Farewell Arch.

I wish all families a happy and safe holiday season and hope that your family celebrations (whatever they may be) are full of laughter and joy.

I will be celebrating Christmas with my family and resting up ready for 2024. We will see you in 2024 ready for another jam-packed year of learning and growth.

Best wishes,

Loren.



## KPS VALUE AWARDS

CHEER Values Recognition Each week students will be awarded certificates for demonstrating the school values, these awards are presented at assembly and are a surprise for our learners. The awards will not be tokenistic, and we will not be running through a list across the year. CHEER Recognitions from 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> December are pictured.



## VICTORIAN PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to these young winners of 2023 on their achievement.



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