

# Karonga Courier



Karonga  
School

Issue 3 - Term 1 - Week 7

Friday, 16 March, 2018

## Principal's Message

A message from Mark

Hello parents and friends of Karonga. Welcome to our term 1 week 7 newsletter.

## Student Achievement

Congratulations to Winfred, Vanes, Christopher and Aria who all received an award from me this week for being great learners and being safe at Karonga School.

I am very pleased that Room 8 and Room 13 had a terrific sailing trip around Sydney Harbour. Thanks to Linda, Susan and other staff for taking them out. I am equally pleased that Gianni did not steer them to New York as he declared when steering the yacht!

## Epping Eastwood Lions Club

Last week I was invited to the Epping Eastwood Lions Club 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations to give a guest speaker address about the partnership between Lions and Karonga and how this has benefitted our students. Epping Eastwood Lions club have supported the school for many years making an annual contribution to support the music therapy program by way of donations for the purchase and replenishment of musical instruments. Over the past 3 years we worked on a much larger project with the club in order to secure the renovation of a disused space now transformed to be our Therapy Suite. Over the summer of 2016-17 members of the club toiled in the heat to make ready the space which was officially opened in Education Week Term 3 2017. Our school now has a beautiful, purpose built space that is being used every day to benefit our students. The space is enticing, facilities engagement and is the perfect support to the already successful Music Therapy Program. I would like to again extend my thanks to the Lions Club, Lions International and to the Karonga P&C for their work in this space.



Above: Mark with Lions Club Member, Mark Barnett

## KARONGA FAIR

**Saturday 24th March**  
10.00am—2.00pm  
Karonga School  
Karonga Close, Epping

**Jumping castle**  
**Petting Zoo Pony Rides**  
**BBQ International Foods**  
**Gardening Cakes Sweets**  
**and more**

 If you are interested in hiring a stall space please contact the school office  
karonga-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au

## Karonga Fair: Save the date – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March: FREE ACTIVITIES FOR KARONGA STUDENTS

Karonga Fair is next week. We'd love for every single Karonga family to join us on the day. There are plenty of stalls to enjoy, free pony rides, jumping castle and petting zoo for our students and their brothers and sisters.

This is our once a year opportunity to open the school to the wider community, to share who we are and enjoy a fun day.

So far the list of stalls and attractions includes:

- Cakes
- P&C Corn on the Cob / Drinks and more
- International Foods
- BBQ by the Lions Club
- Gardening
- White Elephant [Trash and Treasure]
- Pony Rides
- Petting Zoo
- Lollies
- Tupperware
- Brick-a-brack
- Jumping castle
- Pizza
- Turkish Gozleme
- Games
- and there's more to come

Please share/like and generally spread the word on all social media about our fair. Donations will be needed for the 'White Elephant' stall, cakes and the gardening stall.

## Calendar

### March

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Harmony Day
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	KWS Course
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Karonga Fair 10am
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday – school closed

### April

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Monday – school closed
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term Assembly
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term

## Room 5

From Anita and Emma

Room 5 has had a very busy start to the year. We have settled well into our new routines.

Some activities that we have enjoyed include art on Tuesday, swimming and cooking on a Wednesday, gardening on a Thursday and outings to Brick Pit Park on a Friday.

We have spent some time in class looking at the different cultures within our families. We have looked at the countries of Ireland, Italy, Indonesia, China and New Zealand.

So far, we have discussed the flags, location, a manmade or natural feature, native animals and clothing of each country. We are really looking forward to the Harmony Day lunch and looking at the different foods from each country.



## Hello from Room 8!

From Linda and Banu

This year we have Gianni, Jackson, Massa and Sarah in Room 8. Everyone has settled very well into their new routines and they have all been working very hard.



Massa (left) and Jackson have continued to learn about addition concepts and are making good progress using a number line to help answer the equations.

Gianni has also been working hard and enjoys reading and answering comprehension questions. Sarah has focused on her tracing skills and has been learning to trace various directional lines.



Jackson (right), Massa and Gianni have all been doing some class jobs including answering the class telephone, taking and collecting the class roll bag and pulling down the blinds at the end of the day.

Room 8 also went sailing this term with 'sailors with disability'. We sailed from Rushcutters Bay and around Sydney Harbour. All the students had a go at steering the boat, sitting up front and helping to put up the sail. It was a great day and experience.



Above: Sarah (left) and Gianni (right)

Room 8 has also been learning about Italy for our Harmony Day Lunch. We have been learning to identify and sequence the colours of the Italian flag and looking at various Italian foods.



## Room 14

From Megan and Peter

The students from Room 14 are having a very busy and productive term.

The students are enjoying participating in our class water aerobics program each Tuesday.



Each Thursday the students access the Return and Earn reverse vending machine at Marsfield. They insert the plastic bottles and aluminium cans they have collected during the week and collect cash for their efforts.

Also on Thursdays Room 14 access Thornleigh Golf Driving range. The students' skill level improves with each hit.



## Coles – Sports for Schools Program



Thank you again for your support in collecting 'Sports for Schools' vouchers. So far we have collected 6,000 vouchers. Our target this year is **25,000 vouchers**. There is still plenty of time.

**GO KARONGA!  
WE CAN DO IT!**

## New Student – Christopher



Christopher is one of the new kindergarten starters this year.

Christopher is a happy and friendly young man and easily settled in at Karonga School in no time. He is well loved by his classmates and friends. He responds to routine verbal commands and is quite independent when transitioning around the school.

Chris is a great helper in the mornings as a "class envelope keeper" and takes on his job seriously. He holds the envelope securely and happily takes it to the office. He is polite, and demonstrates appropriate manners by handing in the envelope with a greeting. In class, he is cooperative and enjoys doing a variety of tasks and activities with his teachers.

Chris loves to dance and is the very first kindergarten starter ever to be recruited to the Karonga Dance Club.

Room 12 Liza and Rupak

## Room 2

From Sabrina and Jenny



Week 3 of this academic year saw Omar, John, Jaehyun, George, Joshua and Chris at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

We were there to view masterpieces of Dutch paintings from the Rijksmuseum at the 'Rembrandt and the Dutch Golden Age Exhibition' in Sydney. One context for this excursion was our study of The Netherlands in the Key Learning Area: Geography.

The second context for the excursion was the opportunity to practise many of the rules governing 'The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Framework' which forms a significant focus for our school this year. The students did well: they stayed with the group; listened attentively to the two educators from the Gallery and followed instructions to draw their own impressions of still life forms. It was an excellent day and has set the tone for lots of fun-learning in 2018 in Room 2.

We are maintaining this pace of learning by visiting Carlingford Court Shopping Centre each week and learning skills for independence, such as: selecting a visual symbol for what we want to eat, locating specific shops, waiting patiently in line, purchasing a snack, being polite to shop attendants, managing our money and keeping it safe in a wallet, eating appropriately, and practising 'lost procedures'.

A focus area for the class as a whole this year is about learning to become responsible young people. We are learning about our responsibility towards: ourselves, each other, our mums and dads, our school, and our environment.

To practise this, each student has one or more responsibilities each day and photos of these are displayed on a notice board in the classroom.



Joshua tells us the day, date and month each morning, Chris and John usually hoist our national flag on Thursdays and Fridays, Omar delivers the roll, Jaehyun (pictured above hanging out the washing) folds clothing we have washed, and George delivers the folded items of clothing. These are interchangeable duties and reflect just a few of our favourite things!



Learning to regulate our emotions is another important area of learning for the students this year. They are learning these skills through the programs 'Bounce Back!' and 'In the Zone for Learning'. The students are learning to match an emotion to a colour and then determine what action they need to take.

*Left: John learning about the emotion 'sad'.*

Swimming each Friday, Gardening with Jennifer, Music with Jann, History with Janelle, Cooking with Sam, Speech Therapy with Siew Jin and desk work are just some of the other learning activities that keep the young men in Room 2 busy each week!

We celebrated a significant milestone - Chris's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in February and the staff and his schoolmates brought him cards wishing him all the best for a great year ahead.

Currently we preparing for a one-off sailing adventure, through the kind courtesy of 'Sailors with a Disability' (SWD) and are looking forward to the Harmony Day lunch.

We are also very excited about a second excursion in Term 2, but more about that in the next newsletter!

## Music Therapy

From Jann

Music therapy 2018 has begun very positively with many outcomes occurring so early in the term.

In Room 6 Hannah is dancing to "Rolling In The Deep" and Sadev has enjoyed drum dialogues with Murray.

Bavan (Room 6) and Kugan (Room 7) delight in "Beat on the Drum", a drum game which involves beating at the appropriate time. They remain in the music circle and laugh and giggle.

Room 2 are learning how to play as a band. It is early stages however there is much promise from the talent in this class.

Room 8 are reading coloured music notation on the board and then playing it on piano. Jackson is learning musical form by pointing to notes and then running a circuit around the room during the interlude.

Tomochika (Room 7) has found the snare drum motivates him and beats with enthusiasm and regularity.

Room 12 and 13 are learning to share, take turns and wait. Christopher thinks it is hilarious during the song "Heart of Gold" when the music stops for a few beats. He waits with anticipation so he can start playing his instrument again.

Teachers have taken to using musical instruments during their class times to stimulate and motivate. Both Liza and Debbie use the ukuleles in music circle.

There is a very relaxed and calm mood conveyed by the staff. This assists in reducing any anxiety in the students and makes transitioning to a new environment easier. On arrival in the music room the students are ready to take on more cognitive activities with a heightened awareness. They are in the moment. They follow direction. They express freely. They are 'in the zone'.

## COMPANION CARDS

The Companion Card is issued to people who have a significant, lifelong need for high level of care to participate in community based activities. The Companion Card allows a person's carer free entry into participating venues and events.

The Card is issued free of charge however the applicant must supply two colour photographs (passport quality) which they must obtain at their own cost.

You can apply for a card if you can demonstrate:

- you live in NSW or reside here under a valid visa
- you have a severe or profound disability
- due to the impact of your disability you cannot participate at most community events without significant assistance with mobility, self-care and planning and the use of aids and other technologies doesn't meet those needs
- your need for this level of support is life-long

Further information, including an application form, can be found at [www.nswcompanioncard.org.au](http://www.nswcompanioncard.org.au)