



## Principal's Message

### A message from Mark

Hello parents and friends of Karonga. Welcome to our Term 4 Week 1 newsletter and the first of our newsletters that will only sit in the digital space. We are very much hoping that the shift to online material will enable us to share a broader experience of all that goes on in and around the Karonga community.

### Student Achievement

This week I was struck by something that happens each and every day at Karonga and the impact that a seemingly simple task can have on student learning. Every day, twice a day, students file into and out of the office collecting and delivering class roll bags. I watch from my office the different students that wander past and the level of support given by the teachers and other staff in the process. What is truly delightful at this point in the year is reflecting on the change for many of the students. What we see is students displaying a greater sense of responsibility in moving to and from the office. We see increased independence and less reliance on adult support with senior students able to navigate to and from the office unaided [supervised secretly from a distance]. The communication that happens between the office staff and the students is delightful and ever improving. It is little daily snippets like these that are an encouragement and affirmation as to the achievement of all of our different students in their own individual ways according to their own unique skills and talents. Well done everyone!

### Tell Them From Me Survey

The Tell Them From Me Parent Survey is anonymous, voluntary, and easy-to-use. It is based on a comprehensive questionnaire covering parents' perceptions of their child's experiences at home and at school.




At Karonga the leadership team use this survey to assist in the prioritisation of teaching and learning programs, resource allocation and staff professional development. I would be very appreciative if all parents were able to take the time to complete the survey. The survey will close on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

<https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/xw36m>

### Staff Professional Sharing

This week Janelle attended a special event celebrating and commending the work of a team from various professions in the refurbishment of the Anzac memorial and museum in the city. Over the last year Janelle has provided consultation support to the museum curators and directors on the provision of education services for people with disability. Her work with Karonga students and recent federal awards for education programs for the Centenary of Anzac have made her experience a unique set of expertise in the area. It is great to have Karonga, once again, sharing great programs, skills and knowledge.



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| <br><br> | <b>Celebrating Positive Behaviour for Learning<br/>Congratulations to:</b> |
|   | <b>Winfred for being <b>Kind</b></b>                                       |
|   | <b>Sharon for being <b>Safe</b></b>  |
|   | <b>Mustafa for being a <b>Good Learner</b></b>                             |

## Calendar

### October

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>

Year 12 Graduation Dinner

### November

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>

P&C morning tea 9am-noon

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

P&C meeting – 7:30pm

## Room 1

From Linda and Banu

We had a busy end of Term 3 with the School Musical, Science Incursion and Show us your Colours day. Room 1 performed 'Tale as Old as Time' at the musical. Bavan and Titan demonstrated their musical skills by playing the chimes and drum. Gianni, Massa and Jackson sang the words perfectly and looked fantastic as the Beast, Belle and Lumiere. We were so proud of their performance.

Room 1 thoroughly enjoyed the Science Incursion. They were given the opportunity to perform and engage with a variety of different science experiments that involved experiencing a variety of textures, sounds, light and magnetic force. Gianni especially liked being able to step inside the large Hoberman sphere. We also enjoyed wearing a jersey to school in support of 'Show Us Your Colours Day'. Jackson is wearing his sister's Knights Football Jersey



Above left: Gianni inside the Hoberman sphere



Above right: Jackson wearing his jersey on 'Show us Your Colours' day

Towards the end of Term 3, Room 1 started going out on Community Access. Titan demonstrated good listening skills when learning to board and exit the school bus in a safe manner. All students practised listening and following the teachers instructions whilst out at Carlingford Court. We will be continuing this program during Term 4 and hope to purchase an item each week for our cooking sessions on Fridays.



Left: Titan demonstrating his safety skills during Community Access

We have been very creative in Room 1. All of the students have enjoyed learning and using a variety of painting techniques to produce a unique canvas to take home at the end of the year. Massa has shown a flare for art and is very careful when painting and colouring in to stay inside the lines.



All the students are looking forward to a busy Term 4.

Left: Massa painting her canvas.

## Room 2

From Sabrina and Jenny

Between the time of writing our last newsletter article in week 5 of Term 3 and the start of this term, the students in Room 2 have been involved in many activities and are making excellent progress towards their learning goals.

We represented Karonga School at the Combined Metropolitan Athletic Carnival in week 6 and followed that up with a great performance at the school concert in week 8. Our selection of the song 'Bounce Back Again' was no coincidence. It captured the students' learning around their emotional wellbeing and resilience, through the 'BounceBack!' program in the KLA: Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).



Above: Room 2 dressed up for the school concert.

Week 10 saw us learn heaps of scientific principles at the Science incursion, which tied in neatly with our class program about the properties of magnets. Joshua surprised and impressed the presenter when he spontaneously used the terms 'attract' and 'repel' in this context!





*Above left:* Jaehyun and George at the Science incursion.  
*Above right:* Omar using magnets to create a photo frame.

The students continue to work on their individual and group learning programs. Chris has commenced work skills training at David Morgan: an Australian Disability Enterprise and Joshua is gaining experience at Studio Artes. Joshua is also demonstrating spontaneous use of language by asking questions and making comments and observations. He is responsible for answering the phone in room 2 and as school Vice-Captain, reads the 'Acknowledgement of Country' at assemblies. George, Omar and John are demonstrating excellent listening skills in the community and are practising being 'safe'. Jaehyun has nearly mastered the concept of addition.



*Above left:* Josh in his role as Vice-Captain.  
*Above right:* Chris at David Morgan.

We are also looking forward to extending many of our existing learning programs this term. For instance, our community access program in term 4 will involve a visit to North Rocks Shopping Centre. The students made excellent progress using Opal cards on public transport (trains) last term and will extend this learning to negotiate bus travel to North Rocks in term 4. They will consolidate many of the skills around community access learned in other settings such as Carlingford Court and Chatswood.

In addition, our group TAFE program this term will see us assist the instructors in redesigning the oval garden in front of the hall bus bay and laying an irrigation system for the olive grove and orchard.

As active members of the senior school, the students are familiarising themselves with the Epping Club in preparation for the 2018 Graduation. We hope to see you there!



*Above:* Room 2 at the Epping Club in preparation for Graduation

### **Riding for the Disabled (RDA) Program**

From Susan

The Riding for the Disabled (RDA) Program has been underway this semester and is in full swing. This year, the riders are Aria, Jordan, Louisa, Leron, Geonwoo and Timothy. RDA at Box Hill has provided a therapeutic, sporting and recreational riding program. We have witnessed first-hand the positive benefits of this stimulating activity, combining both physical and psychological aspects.

Through our weekly Thursday horse riding sessions, the riders have shown great progress in developing core strength, upholding their balance, sensory integration, improving their coordination, increasing student motivation levels and confidence as well as providing enjoyment. Each rider has strived for their personal best during every RDA lesson. All students have achieved Rider of the Week.

Timothy is a content and astute rider who displays great balance and coordination. He maintains a strong upright riding position. He thoroughly enjoys partaking in the various obstacle courses in the arena especially activities that includes different colours, toys, animals and flags. Timothy is usually disappointed when it is time to leave and clearly communicates by vocalising, and requests "more horse riding, please."

The first week of RDA, Geonwoo was apprehensive with wearing a helmet. He has since made advancements with tolerating wearing a helmet to ride safely on a horse. He is to be congratulated on his consistent effort, diligence and perseverance with practicing at school which has certainly paid off! Geonwoo is excited and driven when riding his horse. He feels calm and is energetic when participating in all activities.

Only having attended RDA for the second time, Leron received the Rider of the Week award this week. Well done, as it was your first time yesterday riding the horse. He is a keen rider and has already accomplished most of the core riding skills.

Louisa is a steady and cooperative rider. She follows direction of the instructor and safely mounts and dismounts the horse.

Louisa enjoys completing the obstacle course and particularly likes the activities that include an assortment of flowers.

Jordan is settled and lively when riding the horse. He joins in all activities and is great at balancing on the saddle, has made significant improvements with keeping his legs still on the horse and following instructor's directions when leading the horse.

Aria has gone from strength to strength each week. He is an enthusiastic and active rider who gets involved in all horse related activities. Aria is able to instruct and guide the horse to "walk on" and "whoa" to stop. He has also led the horse and showed his appreciation by his gentle pat to thank his horse. Aria is an encouraging friend and was heard saying "Good job, Jordan (with his thumbs up), you did it." He brings a smile to his side walkers. Aria has achieved Rider of the Week twice, riding 'Ozzy'. As Aria states "I love horse riding, that was so much fun".

It is very satisfying for each of them to be involved in such a feel good program. The students who ride get so much out of it! It's lovely to watch them really develop and grow stronger and become more confident every week. We are very impressed by the progress you have all made in such a short period.



Above: Jordan is all smiles after successfully aiming the hoop in the white basket.

Below: Timothy is focused on balancing the ball in the 'egg and spoon' race



Top: Aria composed on the horse.

Bottom: Louisa participating in the hoop activity.



Top: Geonwoo putting the flag into the pole

Bottom: Leron listening to instructions.



## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) @ Karonga

From Murray, Assistant Principal

Karonga school PBL expectations:

### KIND SAFE LEARN

Three words the Karonga Community will see, hear and learn about in the future.

Karonga is a PBL school, and all expectations at Karonga will fit under our three school values of: KIND SAFE LEARN.

These expectations provide a common language and are used throughout the school as a system of positive reinforcement and recognition at all times, by all adults.

During Term 3 we have made our schoolwide expectations features of our school, ensuring all areas of our school have our expectations on display.

Classrooms have our three expectations and our learning matrix displayed, playgrounds and walkways have had aluminium signs manufactured with notice boards for students displaying appropriate behaviour as a reference.



Our newest inclusion of our three banner signs next to the pathway to the entrance of the Administration block, provide a fabulous inclusion for the Karonga community stating our school expectations.

If you have visited the school passing the three banners entering the office, you would have been greeted at the office with our new 'welcome' sign. The sign was developed by Mark and Ruth and celebrates cultural diversity with the word 'welcome' written in 18 of the most common languages at the school. Huge thank you to Ruth for organising the production of the signage.



As a school we are taking our community on a journey, as we grow as a PBL school creating a positive predictable school environment.

## Karonga P&C Bits and Pieces

The next P&C meeting is scheduled for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 7:30pm.



Parents are invited to our second P&C Parents' Morning Tea set to take place on Friday 2nd November from 9am to 12pm in the Karonga Parents' room. Please feel free to pop in and have a chat and a cup of coffee.

We look forward to catching up with you.  
RSVP to Muriel on 0425 202 938

If you have any queries about the great work being done through our P&C please feel free to email at [karongapc@gmail.com](mailto:karongapc@gmail.com)

## Live Life Well @ School

### HEALTHY SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

*From birthdays to holidays, there are many celebrations in schools. Each student's birthday can mean multiple birthday cakes and party foods in the classroom...*

**Let's help kids celebrate with some FRESH ideas:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Hello Creativity</b></p> <p>Make a birthday sign, stickers or a badge for your birthday boy or girl to wear</p>         | <p><b>Eat a Rainbow</b></p> <p>Pack a NEW fruit or vegetable for Crunch &amp; Sip for the whole class to try or send in fruit kebabs or a fruit platter</p>                                    |
| <p><b>Move More</b></p> <p>Think of presents that help kids get active at recess or lunch – balls, frisbee, skipping rope</p> | <p><b>Mini Masterchef</b></p> <p>Whip up some tasty fruit or veggie mini muffins or pikelets. Search for recipes at <a href="http://www.cancerCouncil.com.au">www.cancerCouncil.com.au</a></p> |

**More tips:**  
[www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au)

**Health**  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District