

Karonga Courier



Karonga
School

Issue 2 - Term 1 - Week 5

Friday, 1 March, 2019

Principal's Message

A message from Mark

Hello parents and friends of Karonga. Welcome to our Term 1 Week 5 newsletter.

Caretaker Period

In the lead-up to the 2019 State Election, all NSW Department of Education websites and other channels will operate in line with the caretaker conventions. This means there will be limited updates from 1 March 2019 until the election is finalised.

As a part of the conventions schools are not to add new material to their websites or social media pages during the caretaker period (which runs from 1 March 2019 until the election result is clear), except where it is clearly in the public interest to do so and there is no risk that the material could be interpreted as promoting a particular party or its policies.

Student Achievement

I had occasion to visit with Room 3 this past week. It was lovely to see all students settled and ready to learn. Zena was working hard paying attention to Kamal, Genevieve was participating in morning circle, Ria was listening carefully and following instructions, Yeting and Dakotah listened and responded to supported instruction from the teacher. All students were clearly engaged and classroom teacher Kamal showed an excellent understanding of the needs across the class. A lovely morning indeed.

Principal and PBL Recipients

Room	Principal	PBL
1	Jackson	Massa and Louisa
2	Jaehyun	Omar and Tomochika
3	Zena	Ria and Genevieve
4	Jayden C	Jayden F
5	Winfred	Joseph and Gavin
6	Julian	Sarah and Sadev
7	Rajveer	Harry and Sidney
8	Julie	Genesis and Elijah
12	Chris	Jordan and Sheresh
13	Anaya	Aria and Geonwoo

Meet the teacher night

We had a terrific evening meeting some new parents and catching up with mums and dads in new classrooms. Our next parent event will be the senior information evening on 15th May followed by the post school options bus trip on 19th June. This is a great opportunity to discover more about the transition to life after school – a must for senior school parents.

Seniors Week at the Epping Club

Congratulations to our signing choir for their extraordinary performance at the Epping Club Seniors Week morning tea. The morning tea was attended by some 150 members of the club. The students performed 2 songs to the captivated audience and received a raucous applause for their efforts.

We were very impressed by the new choir members who had only been to a couple of practices before being required to perform. Well done everyone.



Calendar

March

Thursday 21st Harmony Day Lunch

April

Friday 5th Key Word Signing course for parents

Friday 12th Last Day of Term 1

Room 3

From Kamaldeep and Rupak

In Room 3 this year there are 5 young ladies Dakotah, Genevieve, Ria, Yeting and Zena.

The students have settled in and have been working beautifully. We did a creative artwork using okra to allow students to experience a different texture.



We have continued our focus on 'The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Framework' and its three school rules of being kind, being safe and being a good learner.

Together we can do great things. To celebrate Chinese New Year and the Year of the Pig, we did craft and painting while listening to Chinese music.

Yeting has been making a huge effort with her walking, improving in her balance, Dakotah is enjoying playing the piano, while Genevieve, Ria and Zena are exploring cause and effect programs on the touch screen computer. Students have also been regularly going for a walk up to the office as a part of their physical activity.

Last but not the least, Room 3 & 4 made a beautiful card for Yeting for her 8th birthday.



Room 3 students are looking forward to community access program to Carlingford Court, hydrotherapy, music therapy and library sessions.

With all these wonderful activities, semester one is proving to be an exciting time for our students!



Room 11

From Karen and Wendy

The 'Princess Class' has returned again this year. In Room 11 there are 6 fabulous students; Suzie, Naya, Ruby, Anita and Sophia. Our newest princess is Princess Phoebe. Phoebe is 4 years 8 months and she has settled well into our class. Phoebe likes to interact with staff, playing with a variety of clay and listening to music.

Throughout this term our class will be participating in community access at Carlingford Court. Each week we will purchase items for our weekly cooking lesson. We will also be enjoying a gardening program and a cognitive play program with the students from Room 13. We are looking forward to another exciting year.

Room 5

From Susan and Emma

Welcome to Room 5 with Susan (teacher) and Emma (SLSO)! We have six students in the class: Sharon, Gordon, Gavin, Joseph, Winfred and Kugan. Gordon and Gavin are both new to Karonga School this year. We have been off to a flying start! We are settling in very nicely to our classroom, and our new routines and timetable.

Within the classroom setting, we have been using the interactive whiteboard for morning circle activities. A big part of our learning is based on English skills in communication. Our class uses several communication systems including a combination of Key Word Sign (KWS), verbal language, Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) and visuals.

Joseph has made admirable progress with using his iPad to make requests for food and activities. Gordon has been enthusiastically practising extending phrases during conversations with class staff. Gavin has engaged in learning basic KWS and PECS to assist with his communication and Sharon tries hard to use her words in the classroom to make her needs known.



We have really enjoyed exploring the different areas of the school including the sensory room, school oval, bike track and especially the new gym. We are making great use of this learning space (particularly since it has been raining) to keep both our body and minds active as well as maximising our physical fitness.

Above: Sharon on the exercise bike in the gym room.



Above: Joseph (left) on the elliptical cross trainer and Gavin (right) on the treadmill.

Gordon has set a record for the class, 25 mins walking on the treadmill while Winfred has shown good co-ordination by using the dumbbells and the step during our fitness sessions with Michelle. Sharon is great at pedalling on the bike, followed by bouncing on the exercise ball. Joseph enjoys using the elliptical cross trainer and balancing on the 'beam'. Kugan has fantastic accuracy in throwing bean bags towards the target and developing his skill on the rowing machine. Gavin has explored all gym equipment and has become increasingly more confident on the treadmill since his first attempt when he was feeling a bit nervous.

Room 5 have been involved in developing their independent living skills by taking turns and rotating classroom jobs including taking the roll call bag to and from the office, wiping and cleaning the tables, bringing the lunch basket to the lunchroom, washing the dishes and taking plastic bottles to the science lab.

This Thursday, we begin our TAFE program and work skill elective activity. We will have more to share with you, as it progresses. We also can't wait to commence our swimming program next week.

Right: Sharon carefully and safely drilling during the TAFE program



We are looking forward to strengthening our friendships with our peers and are excited for the year ahead. Thanks for getting to know us!



Left: Winfred meticulously writing his name during deskwork.

New Student – Jonathon

From Sherie and Craig

Karonga warmly welcomes Jonathon to the school community. Jonathon is in Year 11 this year and is an active and valued member of Room 14.

He is a caring and compassionate student and is often willing to help or assist other students who appear in distress. In class, Jonathon always takes pride in completing his desk work and has a particular interest in the iPad and computer technology.

In addition, Jonathon enjoys dancing which becomes evident when one of his favourite songs is chosen for the class. We look forward to learning more about Jonathon during his journey at Karonga.

Employment, Leisure and Life Skills Expo 2019 for students with (dis)abilities and their families

- Confused about the types of services or support you can access after school?
- Looking for a job but need some help?
- Need help finding information about continuing education?

Here's your chance to find out.

Date: Wednesday 26th June

Time: any time between 12 noon and 6pm

Venue: Blacktown RSL Club, Second Avenue, Blacktown

Updated information about providers and information sessions will be listed on the following Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/WSEmploymentLifeSkillsLeisureExpo/>

Or, you can contact your Support Teacher Transition: Lin Strachan 9416 1087 for Northern Sydney.

Enhancing the Links 2019

A seminar series on post school pathways for students with disability

Register your interest at <http://bit.ly/ETLInterest> for information about the seminars, which will be held on Wednesday 3rd July at Camperdown from 5:30pm to 8pm

Brought to you by the National Disability Coordination Officer Program in Sydney and North Sydney.

**Eastwood Patchwork Quilters
Raffle 2019**

**\$2 a ticket
Drawn 5th May, 2019**

Prizes

- 1st Modern colourful Queen size quilt**
2nd Kaffe Fassett floral Queen size quilt

Proceeds to Allowah Children's Hospital

For over 60 years Allowah has been supporting children with complex disabilities and medical needs.

Allowah is a modern and bright facility in Dundas Valley, NSW. It supports children and young people from birth to the age of eighteen who have moderate to severe disabilities and medical needs – such as genetic or chromosomal disorders, birth trauma, cerebral palsy, head injuries, and conditions acquired after birth.

Raffle tickets are available at the office desk at Karonga.



Advertisements published in the Karonga Courier are provided for information only and their inclusion in no way constitutes an endorsement of the product or service by Karonga School.

Links to information on websites are for your convenience only and are not an endorsement or recommendation of those sites. Please note we do not guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness or completeness of any information on these external websites.