



NEWSLETTER



WELCOME YEAR 7 CLASS OF 2023

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Well done, KMHS Open Boys basketball team, who showed great sportsmanship and team work in the knockout tournament!



FIND US ONLINE:

- <https://kariongmountains-high.com.au>
- <https://www.facebook.com/kariongmountainshigh>
- <https://www.instagram.com/kariongmountainshighschool>
- <https://www.instagram.com/kmhslibrary>

Phone: 4340 0246



Mr Ben Flakus and our Wellbeing Team for the organisation of our Year 7 'Meet and Greet' last week and the very successful transition of Year 7 students into our school.



Rewarding outstanding levels of school attendance with a \$10 Canteen Voucher
sponsored by the P&C

CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
February 27	February 28	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9	March 10
			Zone Swimming Carnival	Catch up Photo Day		OSSA/Snorkelling			



FROM OUR
RELIEVING
PRINCIPAL

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME YEAR 7 2023!

Well done, to our fantastic new cohort for 2023. Year 7 have begun the term with enthusiasm and such a positive attitude!!

A highlight for the school was the **Meet and Greet Year 7 BBQ** held last Wednesday. It was fantastic to see so many of our Year 7 students and their families come along and meet the staff.

A short survey will be e-mailed to Year 7 parents/ carers to seek feedback on the transition process, which I hope will inform improved practice for next year.

Kariong Mountains High School's transition program is a team effort and I want to acknowledge the support of: our **partner schools** (Kariong, Somersby, Central Mangrove, Kulnura and Peats Ridge primary schools), the tremendous **KMHS Student Services team**, our ever-enthusiastic **Mr Flakus** (Year Advisor) and our **parent/carers school community** for your support of Year 7. We look forward to working with you all in the journey ahead.



YEARS 11 AND 12

Term 1 has been a busy term, especially with Year 11 beginning their Preliminary year for their HSC pathway, and Year 12 already halfway through their HSC year. The rigour of senior study is very different to the junior school, and for some students, the senior course can be challenging.

Kariong Mountains High School has a detailed assessment policy in place to support senior students. A copy is available on our [website](#). Year 12 were issued with their schedules at the beginning of Term 4 last year and Year 11 received theirs last week. Last week I presented to parents/carers and Year 11 students the NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) requirements for their Stage 6 pathway.

Following, are key points for students and parents to remember in relation to the Assessment Policy:

- ▶ **All students are to sign** for the assessment book and retain a hard copy.
- ▶ **Assessment policies** in digital format can be accessed on the [school website](#).
- ▶ **Misadventure:** in the event of a major illness or serious problem, the Deputy Principal, Mr White, must be advised as soon as possible. The student **MUST** see the DP on their **FIRST** day back at school, to apply for a misadventure and submit appropriate paperwork. A medical certificate or statutory declaration needs to be submitted with the paperwork for the task mark to be counted. Examples of required documentation can be found in the assessment policy booklet.
- ▶ **Technology issues are not a valid reason for misadventure.** Students are required to be organised and have a plan for using USBs to **back-up their work** and **print at school** if the need arises.
- ▶ **Plan and organise** - Students are encouraged to map tasks on a calendar or organiser to have a visual reminder for time planning. Both assessment schedules include this organisation tool.

Please head to the NESA website for more information:
<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home>

In addition, the links below can be used to access assessment policy booklets (*Preliminary HSC - Year 11 and HSC - Year 12*) and my presentation from last week:

[Year 11 Preliminary HSC Assessment Schedule \(PDF\)](#)

[Year 12 HSC Assessment Schedule \(PDF\)](#)

[Year 11 Assessment Information Evening slides \(PDF\)](#)

Thank you, to our parent community for your ongoing support of this important process.

YEAR 10 ASSESSMENT BOOKLET

Year 10 Assessment Booklets will be distributed to students by the end of Week 5, when they will also be published on the [school website](#). I ask parents to take the time to review this document with your son or daughter and use it as a planning tool. This process assists students with time management and will help prepare them for the rigours of assessment planning in their senior years. Please contact the Year Advisor, Mr Klempert, or our Deputy Principal, Mr White, should you have any queries.

ATTENDANCE

Critical to student success is consistent attendance in all years. It is recognised that all students, to meet course outcomes in subjects, should have an attendance of 95% or more during the school year. It is also a legal obligation of parents and carers to provide reasons for leave.

The school will send an SMS to parents should your child be absent.



Please ensure you follow up with an explained reason for your child's absence as soon as they return to school. This can be done via the parent portal in Compass or contacting the school via phone or email.

In addition, please remember that being late to school or leaving early can also affect attendance requirements under partial absences. The school is aware there are reasons this may occur, however, it is parent/carer responsibility to provide valid explanations for absences.

Mr McGlynn is the school's attendance officer. He will contact parents should students' absences indicate a pattern of leave without explanation.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Deputy Principal or Year Advisor for your child, to discuss prolonged absences if required.

*Mrs Donna James
Relieving Principal*

CURRENT HOUSE POINTS

 BOUDDI	 DHARUG	 GIRRAKOOL	 POPAN
645	752	627	751



LET'S CELEBRATE

Feedback from KPS for KMHS helpers at the Swimming Carnival:

"Not only was it lovely to see ex-students but they worked hard and were just delightful with the best manners. Thank you, we just loved having them helping us!"



KMHS Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL AWARD

Congratulations to our Canteen Voucher winners:

Vincent - Year 9
Amir - Year 11



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Term 1, Week 4

Term 1 has started very well with students settling in quickly and the atmosphere in the school is very positive. By following our core values: **'Unity Knowledge Respect'**, students should continue to have a productive term.

TIMETABLE

Our final timetable for 2023 began this week and **elective changes** for Years 9 to 11 are now finalised. Any further changes will only be considered for exceptional circumstances. Any timetable concerns are to be directed to me in the first instance. Students in Years 10 and 11 are in the process of checking and signing their NESA confirmation of entries. Students should also have received and signed for their assessment policy and schedules booklets (*available on our [website](#)*).

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Many thanks to parents and students in supporting the wearing of our school uniform. From my point of view, it is the best it has been for many years. Wearing of uniform boosts our culture and pride in our school, which manifests in more effective learning. Students have been repeatedly reminded of the processes and detentions will continue to be given to those who do not comply.

MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL

A friendly reminder that **mobile phones are to be switched off** or put on silent and placed in bags when entering the classroom. They are to remain there until a teacher direction to use them is given. Parents and caregivers are also asked not to ring students during class time. Urgent matters can be communicated through our Front Office.

FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS

Families are asked to **check their Compass portal for contact details and emergency contacts**. If anything needs to be corrected, please contact our Front Office.

EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

Our school encourages participation in **extra-curricula activities** and there are many opportunities provided throughout the year. KMHS has an excellent reputation in the wider community and are frequently recognised for this. **Three recent events** are typical of what I write about. We had students assist at the 2023 Kariang PS swimming carnival and were lauded by their principal. Our boys' cricket and basketball teams were defeated in their matches, but displayed excellent sportsmanship and attitude, making Mrs Sayal, the team coach, very proud.

*Mr Scott White
Deputy Principal*

NAPLAN 2023

Understanding Online Assessment

The following information is sourced from the [NAPLAN website](#), where you can find more information.

NAPLAN online tests include a range of question formats and interactive features. Students answer questions by clicking, typing and dragging; some questions include audio or interactive tools; all questions can be reviewed and answered, flagged and returned to later. The assessments can run through a real-time internet connection or onscreen without an internet connection.

Watch: Understanding NAPLAN online (2 min 11s).



Assessment Tools

[Adjustments for students with disability](#) include **audio** and **visual** alternative format questions to assist students with disability to access and complete online NAPLAN assessment.

Keyboard Shortcuts - can be used to navigate and interact with the online assessment questions.

Audio - headphones are required for some questions that include sound in the spelling, writing and numeracy tests.

Timer - a timer on the screen (can be hidden) shows the time allocated for the test - and displays a warning during the last five minutes.

Numeracy tools - some numeracy questions include access to online tools (ruler, protractor or calculator).

Zoom tool - a magnifying glass icon, located in the top left-hand corner of the screen, enables students to enlarge the view to 150, 200 or 300%.

Progress Summary - can be accessed via the grid icon, which displays questions that have been answered, unanswered, unread or flagged.

Public Demonstration Site Tests

In advance of taking NAPLAN, students are encouraged to explore the [Public demonstration site tests](#) for their year level in order to familiarise themselves with the different item types as well as the features of the test player. Students with disability, their teachers and families can use the public demonstration site to see some of the adjustments available and check the compatibility of assistive technology.



Pop Up Podcast

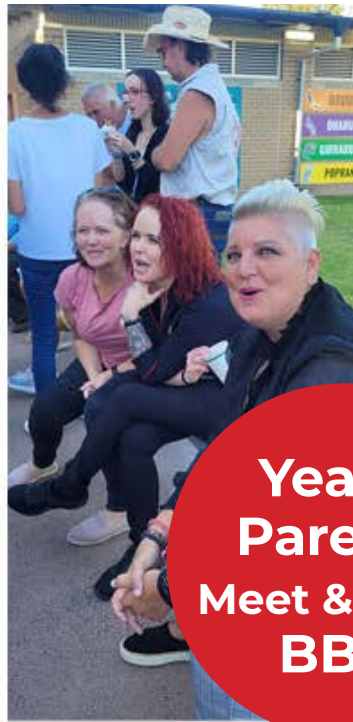
KMHS students made the most of the weather (which was fabulous), while taking part in the Pop Up Podcast workshop, held at the school in Week 3.

Students and staff learnt how to write, produce, host and edit their own podcasts.

Thank you, to the RIEP program for supporting these great workshops!



WELCOMING PARENTS TO OUR SCHOOL



**Year 7
Parents
Meet & Greet
BBQ**



**Year 11
Assessment
Information
Evening**



YEAR 12 CONSTRUCTION

LET'S

CELEBRATE

YEAR 12 VET CONSTRUCTION TEAM

Well Done, Josh, Jack,
Jared and Liran, on their
outstanding performance
in completing their **TILING**
cluster task!



*The photos above show Year 12 VET Construction students honing their tiling skills.
Their planned approach and attention to detail ensured fabulous results for the whole team!*



The first P&C meeting for 2023 was held on Monday 13th February and it was great to see three new faces.

The main items discussed were the **attendance draw**, (in assembly each week, one student with an attendance rate of 95% or above will receive a \$10 canteen voucher donated by the P&C), a **request for funding assistance** by the Aboriginal Dance Group and **P&C future fundraising ideas** for the year.

Some fundraising suggestions included a **Thompson's Pie Drive** towards the middle of the year, (always a huge success and so easy), **Comedy for a Cause night** and a **'Jolly Soles' fundraiser** (socks).

If anyone has any other ideas, they would be most welcome by the P&C and they can be forwarded on to the school.



Upcoming P&C Meeting

The next meeting is Monday 13th March 2023 in the school library. First up is the AGM at 7pm, followed by a general meeting at 8pm. Everyone is welcome to attend one or both meetings and, if you would like to join the P&C, annual membership is just \$2. Only current members can be nominated, and will be eligible to vote, for an executive position at the AGM.

Looking forward to seeing some more new faces. Come along with your thoughts and ideas or just come and listen to what happens and find out more about your child's school.

Carolyn Brierley
Correspondence Secretary

Year 10 students participated a great event thanks to the EDGE team, who visited KMHS on Monday. Students were provided the opportunity to chat about apprenticeships and traineeship options with plenty of tips and hands on experience. Thank you, to Mrs Cutting and Mrs Hawker for organising such a great event!



COMMUNITY NOTICES & EVENTS

BE BUS AWARE

Stay alert and cross with care

Bus Safety Week 2023
Monday 20 - Sunday 26 February



BeBusAware.com.au

Bus Safety Week reminds all road users to 'Be Bus Aware'

Our school bus operator Busways is reminding all road users, parents, and students to 'be bus aware' as part of Transport for NSW's Bus Safety Week campaign, running Feb 20 - 26.

Bus Safety Week, part of the '**Be Bus Aware**' campaign, sees Governments, bus operators, and emergency services raise awareness about the importance of being safe in and around buses and spread the message to '**Be Bus Aware**'.

The initiative provides a timely reminder to **parents** to have a talk with their children about bus safety; to **motorists** when giving way to buses; to **pedestrians** to make sure they are alert of their surroundings; and to **cyclists** to ensure they can see where buses are. **We all have a part to play in bus safety.**

The '**Be Bus Aware**' campaign has been developed with input from Bus NSW, NSW Police and Transport for NSW.

For more information on bus safety or to learn about Transport for NSW's 'Be Bus Aware' campaign, visit:

<https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/be-bus-aware/>
or visit the Busways website: www.busways.com.au

New skate park and pump track at Kariong under construction.



Council has started construction of the new skate park and pump track at Kariong Oval which is designed for a range of ages, abilities, and wheels. Find out more on the council's website: <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/new-skate-park-and-pump-track-kariong-under-construction-0>

Sleep Ninja®

Help teens prepare for a good night's rest with Sleep Ninja®

Information for schools, parents and carers



On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th March, we will be opening the Delprat Garden and Cottage in Mayfield North to visitors and the public.

The Delprat Garden project is collaboration between the School of Architecture and Built Environment at the University of Newcastle, Newcastle Industrial Heritage Association, Bosque Landscape Architecture, and UTS PhytoLab scientists.

This Open Day is generously funded by the Newcastle Port Community Contribution Fund. Across the two days there are a number of activities scheduled for young and the young at heart. For more information about the garden see <https://delpratgarden.com.au/>.

DELPRAT COTTAGE & GARDEN

MARCH OPEN DAY

Dates: Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th March 2023

Times: 10am to 4pm

Location: Delprat Cottage & Garden,
133A Ingall St,
Mayfield North, 2304

For more information visit:
<https://delpratgarden.com.au/>

