

NEWS



Week 2
Term 4
24 October, 2025

KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL

Unity ✓ Knowledge ✓ Respect

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LET'S



CELEBRATE

Let's Celebrate our
Year 8 students on
exemplary conduct and
presentation during their
Mock Interviews!



*Congratulations,
Mrs James and Mr McGilvery, on
their well-deserved
2025 World Teachers' Award!*



*Music Industry students performing live at
Drifters Wharf on Wednesday. The show was fully sold out with great
crowd energy and stellar performances from our students. Well done!*

CALENDAR

MONDAY

27 October

World Teachers' Day
Breakfast
Cultural Bridging Initiative

3 November

Year 12 Construction +
Hospitality Work Placements
Year 10 Exams

TUESDAY

28 October

Year 8 Surf Awareness @
Terrigal Beach
Outdoor Rec Fishing Year 9

4 November

Year 12 Construction +
Hospitality Work Placements
Year 10 Exams
Outdoor Rec Fishing Year 9

WEDNESDAY

29 October

Outdoor Rec Fishing Year 9
Vaping Education
Program

5 November

Year 12 Construction +
Hospitality Work Placements
Year 10 Exams
Year 7 Surf Awareness @
Terrigal Beach
Year 8 Surf Awareness Day

THURSDAY

30 October

Sydney Dance Company
performance @ Opera House

6 November

Year 12 Construction +
Hospitality Work Placements
Year 10 Exams
Sailing: Marine Studies
Somersby Kindy Visit

FRIDAY

31 October

Cooinda Cup Helpers
Outdoor Rec Fishing Year 9

7 November

Year 12 Construction +
Hospitality Work Placements
Year 10 Exams
Outdoor Rec Fishing Year 9



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Week 2 Term 4

Welcome to Term 4!

Welcome back, to our valued and appreciated Kariong Mountains High School community. We hope our students are well rested and ready to do their best this term.

SUCCESFUL START TO THE 2025 HSC

Congratulations, to our outgoing Year 12 cohort, on their positive start to the examination period. We wish them all the best in the next few weeks and look forward to celebrating their achievements at their formal in Glenworth Valley on 13 November.



MUSIC INDUSTRY IN PERFORMANCE MODE!

On Wednesday this week, our Music Industry students completed their assessment task by organising and performing at Drifters Wharf. The students certainly rose to the occasion and had a *'real performance experience'* like no other. Congratulations, to all involved; thanks to Mr Burns and Mr Hutchinson for organising this great experience.



World Teachers' Day 2025

31st October is **World Teachers' Day**, and I would like to recognise the great teaching staff at Kariong Mountains High School, for their care, compassion and commitment to achieve *the best possible outcomes for your children*.

This year, one of our **World Teachers' Day award recipients** is Mr Wayne McGilvery, who I wish to recognise for his dedication and congratulate on his well-deserved award. *The following page includes award citations and photo.*

Additionally, the second recipient this year was actually myself. Mr White and the executive nominated me for the award, of which I am both humbled and appreciative.

To lead this wonderful school is my privilege, and I am grateful to share this journey with our wonderful school community. Our achievements are certainly a team effort, so I acknowledge my award is in fact for all staff at KMHS.

Year 12 - 2025/2026 Transition

KMHS is dedicated to supporting students in achieving the best results on their chosen pathway. As I communicated last term, our 2025 Year 11 students are now transitioning to **Year 12**, beginning their HSC courses from Week 1 this term. To engage in additional support, all students are expected to attend from the start of the school day and will be engaging with Year advisor Ms Richmond and Stage 6 co-ordinator Mr Bath in support programs designed to assist with study skills, time planning, assessment achievement and mentoring. Flexible attendance is reviewed for all students entering Year 12 - a letter of expectations was emailed to students and their parents / carers last week.

Thank you to parents / carers and students who attended the Year 12 2026 information session on Tuesday night. I have emailed all parents / carers and students copies of the presentations. Year 12 assessment schedules were issued this week, and explanation of the assessment process, using the schedule was explained in HUB. Further planning with the students has been conducted this week in the form of transition interviews. Students discussed their attendance, subject pattern and the supports they believe they need to complete Year 12 successfully in 2026.

School Uniform

Thankyou, to all families for your engagement in supporting the KMHS uniform policy. I have no doubt the uniform standard has improved, with students making a concerted effort to follow the guidelines. A reminder that coloured hoodies and leggings of all colours are not acceptable. Plain blue hoodies are acceptable, however, the school hoodies are the preferred option.

From the beginning of next year, a new design of girls' shorts will be introduced. This development has resulted from the work of outgoing school leaders Kiara and Jacinta. The shorts are longer, made of better wearing fabric and more comfortable to wear. The new design is a result of our school leaders surveying female students in respect to what would be suitable as a girls' short. This is a great example of the application of student voice and leadership in making positive change for KMHS. *Thankyou Kiara and Jacinta for your efforts.*

Attendance Matters

Continuous monitoring of student attendance is a major part of school processes. Lateness to school is counted as partial attendance and can have a significant impact on students' attendance. Please encourage positive habits with your son / daughter by ensuring they are arriving at school before the first bell and responding to absences when notified.

Your support is appreciated.

Thank you, to all KMHS families for your ongoing support of the school and most importantly our students.

I firmly believe the success for any students is due to the team effort between families and the school. I look forward to continuing this important teamwork in the term ahead.

Donna James
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Week 2 - Term 4

I hope all students and families had a happy and safe holiday. We are all looking forward to another positive term to finish the year.

As we return for Term 4, I would like to reinforce our school expectations, in which our school values 'Unity, Knowledge, Respect' apply and continue to guide us.

Students are expected to arrive at school on time. The school day commences at 8:50 am. It is also important to be punctual for classes throughout the day.

Attendance will be closely monitored this term. Students who are unwell are expected to stay at home and the absence explained via a note, phone call, email or through the Compass app.

Students are reminded that mobile phones must be placed in pouches upon entering the school. The manner in which students continue to adapt to this change is commendable. Student agreements are retained in their files.

Students are expected to wear full school uniform. This expectation strongly reflects our value of *Unity*. If unforeseen circumstances prevent a student from wearing the uniform, a note from home must be submitted to their check-in teacher. Failure to comply with uniform expectations will result in phone calls, emails and/or detentions.

For me, the most important expectations are that students show respect and do their best by valuing their learning.

Year 11 students continue to have interviews to discuss their progress and future directions. Expectations regarding the finalisation of study patterns will be communicated soon. Year 11 students are to be congratulated for the maturity they have demonstrated throughout this process.

I will be taking three weeks of leave from this coming Monday. **Mr Tagg** will be relieving Deputy Principal and **Mr Gibbs** will be relieving Head Teacher HSIE. *I would like to thank them both in advance for their efforts.*

Mr Scott White
Deputy Principal

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY AWARDS

Congratulations, to our World Teachers' Day recipients, Mrs James and Mr McGilvery.

Award Citations:

Mr McGilvery is an exceptional HSIE teacher whose dedication to student success extends beyond the classroom, including his pivotal role in facilitating student leadership, timetable coordination and his dedicated work on the **Positive Behaviour for Learning** team.

Mrs James' outstanding leadership has led to positive transformation in all aspects of our school. Mrs James is highly respected by students, staff and the community.



KMHS Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL AWARD

Congratulations to our Canteen Voucher winners:

Jake - Year 8
Kara - Year 10
Reuben - Year 10

KMHS STAR ATTENDER

Congratulations!

WINNER of a \$10 Canteen Voucher

Piper - Year 8
Aiden - Year 9
Liam - Year 10

Sponsored by the P&C

ENGLISH

Faculty NEWS

Congratulations, Year 10

to our 2025 Year 12 students on completing their HSC English exams! While English may not always be every student's favourite subject, it is one of the most valuable. The language, communication, and critical thinking skills developed over their thirteen years of schooling will serve them well—whether they're heading into tertiary study, employment, or taking a well-deserved gap year. We hope they feel confident and prepared to navigate the wider world beyond school.

Year 10 are set for a dynamic end to their time in Junior School. They will complete their Yearly Exams in Week 4 across most KLAs before moving into a range of engaging activities including *School Camp*, *Work Experience* and *information sessions*, designed to give students a taste of their future Senior study choices. In English, they are exploring the unit '*Techno Tales*', where they will consider how technology shapes storytelling.



This term, our new Year 12 cohort (2026) begin their HSC journey. As they step into their final year, we remind all students of the importance of consistent effort: **attend every lesson, engage actively in class, complete all tasks on time and seek feedback from teachers to refine the work.** *Every task matters and dedication now will bring great rewards later.*

All Year 12 English courses will begin with the Stage 6 Common Module: ***Texts and Human Experiences***.

English Studies and Standard students will be exploring the film *Billy Elliot*.

Advanced students will study the play *The Crucible*.

Students will demonstrate their understanding through a multimodal speech in Week 8. ***We look forward to supporting our 2026 Year 12 students as they embark on this exciting and important chapter.***

Year 9

Year 9 are developing a portfolio of different writing styles in their unit '*Baby Writers*'. This unit encourages students to draw on real-life experiences as inspiration for their compositions and to learn about how writers transform personal ideas into creative texts.

The **Year 9 Yearly Exam** will take place in **Week 3**.

Year 8

Year 8 are studying *The Camera Never Lies*, a unit focused on novel-to-film adaptations. Students will explore how stories change when moving from page to screen, comparing key similarities and differences to deepen their understanding of theme and purpose.

The **Year 8 Yearly Exam** will be in **Week 6**.

Year 7

Year 7 have shown great effort and growth throughout their first year of high school. This term, they will study '*You're the Voice*', a unit that explores the power of the spoken word and how performance brings stories and plays to life.



We are proud of the hard work and creativity shown across all year groups and look forward to celebrating their achievements as the year draws to a close.



ENGLISH

reading tips...

Raising Teens Blog

30 books for boys aged 13, 14 and 15

<https://www.raisingteenagers.com.au/30-books-for-boys-aged-13-14-and-15/>

Many of these books are available in print and ebook format from our school library.

Miss Courtney Thompson HT English and
Mrs Lisa Bell English Teacher

Why I ♥ Reading



Reading lets me escape from reality and dive into different worlds and stories.



Books help me relax and unwind after a long day.



I learn so much about various topics, cultures, and perspectives through reading.



Reading stimulates my imagination and lets me visualise new and exciting scenarios.



Books provide endless entertainment with captivating plots, intriguing characters, and unexpected twists.



Books provide an emotional outlet, allowing me to experience and process my feelings.

WELCOME to a GREAT Term of LEARNING!

YOU CAN DO IT!

KMHS

Supporting awareness and interest in mental health and wellbeing.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
OCTOBER 2025

CONNECTING MOUNTAINS COUNTS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT KMHS

Regular attendance has countless benefits for students' learning, wellbeing and development.

Every DAY Counts

- ✓ ABOVE 95% - EXPECTED ATTENDANCE
- ➡ 90% - 95% - MINIMUM STANDARD
- ✗ BELOW 90% - EDUCATIONALLY AT RISK

NSW

Days missed = years lost

they will miss

8 weeks of school per year

If your child misses as little as

1 day per week

which adds up to over

2.5 years missed over their school life

EPP Join our **VET Ambassadors**
Educational Pathways Program **DIGITAL FORUM**

Jump ahead with VET!

28 October 2025 online: 6 - 6:30pm

Session 2 of 3 - Register via link below

FREE Event Parents, students, prospective employers and community members all welcome!

Join us to learn about **opportunities** for students in career & learning pathways!

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS:

Head Teacher Careers will provide an outline of the Educational Pathways Program and the many opportunities available to support students in achieving career goals.

VET Ambassadors talk about their journeys, how VET pathways helped them achieve goals and jump start their career.

- Discover how a VET Pathway can lead to success.
- Micro-qualifications to jump start careers.
- Saying YES to school offerings.
- Starting conversations with your Careers Adviser.

COMING UP:

Session 3: 9 December 2025



Jump ahead with VET! Vocational Education and Training

Scan QR Code to Register:



Forum organised and hosted by Head Teacher Careers from EPP Central Coast South Group



You can also register via the following link:

Vet Ambassadors Digital Forum - Session 2

Around the School and beyond...



Congratulations, to Year 11 students Kian and Finn, as well as Henry Kendall High School students, Tom and Jhalaena from Kuthula, on receiving accolades and prizes at the **Creative Engineers Showcase**, for their performances at the recent **Battle of the Bands**, hosted by Central Coast Youth Services.



Lily, our school captain, had a great day collaborating with fellow leaders at the **2025 Central Coast Youth Leadership Forum**, run by Liesl Tesch, Member for Gosford and her team. Thank you, to Mrs Hunt, for providing such a great experience for Lily to be part of.



KMHS representing at Central Coast Mariners Soccer 5's. Four teams played with success, determination and awesome team spirit!