



Kurmond Public School

Effort Courtesy Safety Responsibility Achievement

494 Bells Line of Road KURMOND 2757 | P (02) 45731648 |

E kurmond-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 Week 8 10th – 24th March, 2025

Principal's message

I can't believe we are at the end of Week 8. I am delighted to share how wonderfully settled our students have been. It has been heartening to see their enthusiasm and engagement in learning, as well as the positive relationships they are building with their teachers and peers. A calm and focused learning environment is essential for our students to thrive, and I commend them for their efforts.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all parents and carers to participate in our upcoming 3-way parent-teacher interviews. Invitations will be sent out next week, and I highly recommend securing your timeslots as soon as possible. These meetings are a valuable opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress, share insights, and collaborate with our dedicated teaching staff.

Additionally, I want to emphasise the importance of attending school every day. At Kurmond, we pride ourselves on having outstanding attendance, as we understand that every day counts in our students' education. Regular attendance not only helps students keep up with their learning but also contributes to their overall growth and success.

It was truly wonderful to have so many parents attend our P&C AGM on Tuesday night. We warmly welcome the newly elected P&C executive and look forward to working with them throughout the year. Their involvement and support play a vital role in our school community, and we are excited about the initiatives we can achieve together.

I would also like to express our pride in how our students have participated in the NAPLAN assessments over the past fortnight. Their dedication and effort during this period are commendable, and we appreciate their commitment to doing their best.

When schools and families work together, we create the best outcomes for our students. Your involvement makes a significant difference in their educational journey, and we appreciate your continued support.



DATES TO NOTE

March	
12 th – 24 th	NAPLAN Years 3 – 5
17 th – 24 th	Harmony Week
Tues 18 th	P&C AGM & March meeting
Tues 25 th	Meteors @ Try Athletics
Wed 26 th	Easter mufti
Thurs 27 th	Sydney West Swimming
Mon 31 st	Last day to submit Yr7 HS forms

April	
Thurs 3 rd	Colo HS visit the Rockets PSSA Soccer Knockout
Wed 9 th	Cross Country Carnival
Thurs 10 th	K-2 Easter hat parade & raffle draw
Fri 11 th	Last day of Term 1
28 th 29 th	Staff development days
Wed 30 th	First day of Term 2 for students

May	
Fri 2 nd	OC & Selective HS tests
Thurs 8 th	Mothers Day Stall

Note: These dates may be subject to change. Don't rely on previous newsletters for correct dates. Always check latest newsletter or note on website for most up to date information.



Student learning at Kurmond ...

K/1 Rockets

Kindergarten had a go at independently writing a sentence about an animal using words they are learning and sounds they know. It is a big step to try something so tricky and they were so enthusiastic to give it a good go. Year 1, had a challenge to write an informative sentence about an animal including an adjective, a preposition and make it a compound sentence.



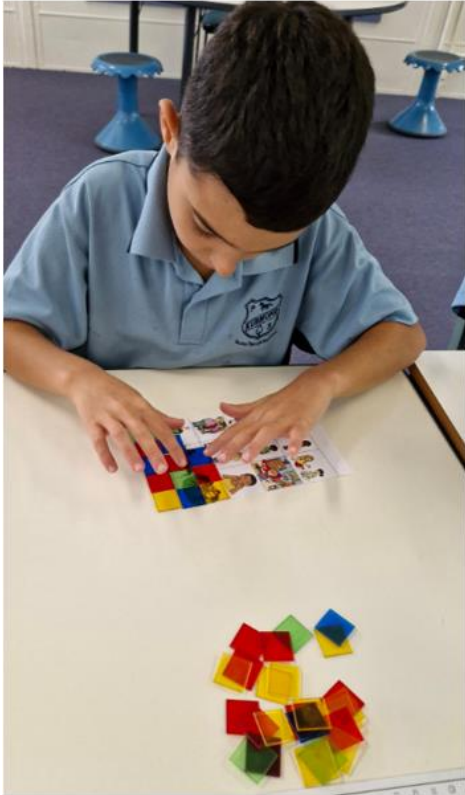
1/2 Light Years

The 1/2 Light Years have been estimating lengths of straight and curved lines and then measuring them using footsteps and rulers. Working hard and proud of their achievements every day. They are also the class who have the most students attend the PALS program before school as they are determined to be the best learners they can be!



1/5 Meteors

The Meteors have been learning all about area in mathematics and have been using manipulatives to measure spaces. In Science they are learning all about forces, push and pull. Last week, the Meteors started their 28 Days of Mental Fitness as part of the Gotcha4Life program. Their first task was to ask a friend how they were feeling. Way to go, Meteors!



3/4 Galaxies

Last week in science, the Galaxies explored the way that light is reflected off different surfaces. They then played an interactive digital game where they had to change the path of light rays using mirrors to hit and light up the target.



4/5 Shooting Stars

The 4/5 Shooting Stars love volleyball on Tuesdays with Ty and gymnastics on Fridays with ZingActiv! They have been working on awesome artworks using wool and string to represent different environments. They have been focusing on mathematics warmups and using number lines to solve addition and subtraction problems. Great work, Shooting Stars!



5/6 Comets

This week the 5/6 Comets enjoyed a hands-on lesson where they explored different measurement tools and discussed which ones they could use for various objects. Students had the opportunity to step outside and practise measuring real-world items, from lengths to areas, using rulers, measuring tapes, and more!



Staff learning

Last week, we focused on our whole school writing task, where students completed a writing task to allow us to work on consistency of teacher judgement. We reviewed the marking criteria for each grade and assessed how students are progressing towards meeting these standards. This process allowed us to identify gaps in learning and determine the next steps for our students. This week, we convened to discuss some of our administrative practices such as Performance and Development Plans, classroom observations, and provide some updates on Workplace Health and Safety (WHS).



Kurmond students are attendance champions

Congratulations to our Week 8 attendance champions: In 1st place K/1 Rockets 93.84%, in close 2nd place the 1/2 Light Years with 93.55% place and in 3rd place the 4/5 Shooting Stars with 93.41%. Our whole school attendance rate is 92.41% this week. Well done, Kurmond we are ahead of other schools in the Hawkesbury Network.



A message from Mrs Tomlin, Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction

Introduction to

SOUND WAVES

LITERACY

A 2025 school excellence initiative

Term 1 2025

SOUND WAVES

LITERACY

This year we have implemented the Soundwaves program across our 3-6 classrooms. This initiative is research based and designed to enhance our students' success with spelling.

What is soundwaves?

Soundwaves is a systematic synthetic phonics program that involves explicitly and systematically teaching the relationship between phonemes and graphemes. Classroom instruction focuses on developing our students' ability to segment words into sounds and synthesise, or blend, sounds to form words. Lessons are sequenced so students progress from learning simple, broadly applicable phoneme-grapheme relationships to studying those that are more complex and unusual.

More information regarding Soundwaves will be available at our next Kurmond Connect session on:

Tuesday May 20th at 6:30pm

SOUND WAVES

Peer Support – A message from Miss Leishman

During Peer Support this week, students looked at how to play in a friendly way in order to maintain friends and build positive relationships. Through various activities students discovered the importance of taking turns and having consistent rules throughout a game. This week, you may like to help your child practise these skills by encouraging them to play games with siblings, family or friends.



PALS (Parents as literacy supporters)

Thank you to all our volunteers who have been attending PALS in the past fortnight. Students love to see their parents at school so if you have a spare 20 minutes at drop off time from 8.50am - 9.10am from Tuesdays – Thursdays we would love to see you in the library to listen to some students read.



P&C AGM & March Meeting

Congratulations to the newly elected 2025 P&C Executive.

President: Alyssa Adams

Vice President 1: Rachel Scott Vice President 2: Matt Vella

Treasurer: Amber Duff

Secretary: Jane Vella

We look forward to working with the P&C for another great year!

At the March meeting, we discussed the Mothers Day morning tea, the Eater raffle and the P&C's commitment to subsidising the CPR Help program

and the funding of the Chaplain program.



School hours at Kurmond

Our school hours at Kurmond are 9.10am – 3.10pm. Formal supervision at school starts from 8.40am. Prior to this time there is no teacher on duty to supervise children and therefore children should not be dropped off at school. If you require care before or after school hours, please contact Inspire, our Out of School Hours provider on 1300 665 275.

Sporting News ...

Congratulations to all our students who received ribbons for their achievements at last week's assembly for their achievements at the 2025 Hawkesbury Zone Swimming Carnival.

Good luck to our Swimming champions who will be representing Kurmond Public School and Hawkesbury Zone at the Sydney West Swimming Championships next Thursday at Homebush. We can't wait to see you compete next week!



Volleyball program

All classes love their sessions with Ty on Tuesdays. We were excited to see the sun shine this week instead of the rain. Only A few weeks left of the program and the students are definitely showing signs of great improvement in their skills.



Gymnastics program

The Gymnastics program with Ben from ZingActiv is continuing to be a great success with our students. Balancing, turning, lifting and jumping are all part of the weekly skills they are building on.



Canteen News...

Thank you to Leah, Darren, Di, Jayson and Meike for volunteering in the canteen in the past week. We are extremely grateful for your support of our school. An extra special thank you to Di Phillips for her magical Slushie making skills for Harmony Day and orange jellies. The kids loved them!



We only have two vacancies left for the remainder of the term. Can you help on Friday 28th March or Friday 11th April? If you can help, please contact Rachel Bennett 0425 101 475 or the school office 4573 1648. When the canteen is open, parents will be able to order using the following link: <https://myschoolconnect.com.au/kurmondps>.

School uniforms

All uniform orders are to be placed **online** through My School Connect. Please follow the link – [uniform orders](#). Orders will be filled by one of our P&C members, on Mondays and Wednesdays. Orders will be sent home with your child on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure uniform items are clearly labelled with names so we can return any found items promptly.

Parenting ideas article

At Kurmond, we have a subscription with Happy Families. They have free webinars for parents and school staff and a fabulous library of articles with parenting tips.

The link to access these is as follows: <https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/kps>

The password is: happykps

This week, I have attached an article on some ways you can have your children talking to you about their day at what ever age. I hope you find it of interest.

Kind regards.

Mrs Patricia Beggs

Principal Kurmond Public School

Success through Endeavour

Help! My Child Has Been Replaced by a Human Shrug!

The Simple Tricks That Get Kids Talking at Any Age

Your child climbs into the car after school, and you eagerly ask about their day. You're genuinely excited to see them.

The response? A mumbled "fine"... and that's it. Whether you're facing a tight-lipped five-year-old who's suddenly turned into a mime artist or a teenager who communicates exclusively in shoulder shrugs, cracking the code of kid communication can feel like trying to solve a Rubik's cube in the dark.

But here's a ray of hope: research from the *Harvard Family Research Project* reveals that persisting with open dialogue doesn't just improve today's family dynamic—it weaves stronger decision-making abilities into your children's future and creates family bonds that can weather any storm. In short, it's worth the effort to make conversations happen.

If you pause and think about it, though, you'll find that they usually do happen. Often more than we realise.

Understanding the Science Behind the Silence

While teenagers often cop the blame for becoming human clams, the truth is that children of all ages surf waves of uncommunicativeness. Our littlies might be wrestling with emotions bigger than their vocabulary can handle. Or they're tired and don't want to talk. Primary schoolers often retreat into quiet harbours when navigating the choppy waters of friendship dramas or classroom challenges.

For teenagers, there's fascinating brain science at play. The adolescent brain undergoes a dramatic renovation project—imagine trying to have a quiet chat while major construction work is happening upstairs. Their emotional responses are cranked up to eleven, while their ability to regulate these feelings is still very much a work in progress.

The truth is we often don't feel like talking either. When you walk into the house at the end of the day and your spouse or partner expectantly encourages you to "tell me about your day", do you open up and spill it all? If you're like most of us, you want to get in the door, get settled, and tick off a few things like dinner, washing, and getting kids to bed. And you're about ready to talk when you're lying horizontally in bed.

Making Connection Easier: Practical Strategies That Work

The good news? There are tried-and-true ways to pierce this bubble of silence, no matter your child's—or no matter how you're feeling.

Create "Side-by-Side" Moments

Magic often happens when you're not eyeball-to-eyeball. For younger children, it might be while their hands are busy with Lego or when they're elbow-deep in craft glue. With older kids and teens, car rides

become confession booths on wheels, and dog walks transform into walking talk sessions. These moments, free from the spotlight of direct eye contact, often unlock the floodgates of conversation.

Master the Art of Active Listening

When your child does crack open the door to communication, resist the urge to burst through with solutions or life lessons. Instead, become their emotional echo: "That sounds really rough" or "I can hear how excited you are about this." This approach works whether you're validating a preschooler's theatrical meltdown over the wrong-coloured cup or a teenager's complex social algebra.

For younger children, physically coming down to their level can help them feel seen and heard. With teens, acknowledge their growing independence by treating them as the experts of their own experience—at least initially.

Make One-on-One Time Sacred

In the whirlwind of modern family life, individual connection time often gets sacrificed on the altar of busy schedules. But carving out regular one-on-one time—even just 10 precious minutes—can work magic. For little ones, it might be bedtime stories where you do all the silly voices or morning cuddles that start the day with connection. With older children, it could be a weekly hot chocolate date or shooting hoops in the driveway as the sun sets.

The Secret Ingredient?

Your undivided attention. Yes, that means letting your phone gather dust for a few minutes. This dedicated time whispers a powerful message: "In this crazy-busy world, you're worth pausing for."

Remember, nurturing open communication isn't about forcing conversations or expecting overnight miracles. It's about creating little pockets of safety where sharing feels as natural as breathing, whether your child is four or fourteen. Plant these seeds of connection consistently, water them with patience, and watch as they grow into something beautiful—a relationship that can withstand any season.



Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting.



March Birthday Celebrations

Alexander L	Anna G	Buster R
Bryce R	Lorelai S	Jessica V
Olivia C	Amber C	Amelia D
	Logan W	



Tap on and tap off every time

because it tells us how many people are using public transport. This allows us to better plan services for you.



It is a condition of the School Pass Terms and the Student Codes of Conduct when travelling that students in possession of the School Opal card must tap on and tap off every time when using public transport to travel to and from school. Per section 3.2 of the Opal Privacy Policy, Transport for NSW collects information from taps on and taps off to support coordination, planning and policy development for transport, transport services and transport infrastructure.



Tap on and tap off your
School Opal card every time

School Holiday Activities

Autumn 2025

LIBRARY

(Ground Floor) 300 George Street,
Windsor NSW 2756
02 4560 4460
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library

BOOK TICKETS



WRITING WORKSHOP

Tuesday 15 April

10 - 12 YEARS: 10:30AM - 12PM

13 - 17 YEARS: 2 - 3:30PM

These creative writing workshops, presented by **WestWords**, will be hosted by local professional writers. They aim to improve your craft in short story and poetry while helping to generate ideas to create an entry for the **Living Stories Writing Competition**.

FREE - Bookings Essential



HOLIDAY MOVIES

Tuesday 22 April | 2 - 3:30PM

Enjoy a fun movie at the Library! Bring your own snacks and drinks. Movie title can be found on Eventbrite, by calling the Library or find out on the day!

FREE - All Welcome



LEGO PLAY SPACE

14 - 24 April

You are never too old to create with Lego! Drop into the library and have fun building your own world in a quiet environment. There will be loads of Lego pieces available for builders to produce any creation they desire.

FREE - Drop in - No Bookings Required

MUSEUM

8 Baker Street,
Windsor NSW 2756
02 4560 4655
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum

BOOK TICKETS



THE ART OF PROTEST

Thursday 17 April

10:30AM - 12:30PM

Learn how powerful words can be used to create your very own positive protest sign!

\$18 - For ages 7 - 12

MINI MUSEUM MAKERS

Thursday 24 April

10:30AM - 12:30PM

Become a curator for a day and build your very own mini museum.

\$18 - For ages 5 - 12

GALLERY

(First Floor) 300 George Street,
Windsor NSW 2756
02 4560 4441
hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/gallery

BOOK TICKETS



PAPER MARBLING MASTERPIECES

Wednesday 16 April

10:30AM - 12:30PM

Create a gorgeous, kaleidoscopic landscape inspired by artworks in the gallery and the Hawkesbury's landscape.

\$18 - For ages 5 - 12

COPYCAT LANDSCAPES

Wednesday 23 April

10:30AM - 12:30PM

Learn how to recreate artworks in your own style using different painting and drawing techniques.

\$18 - For ages 7 - 12

NEXT TERM

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON ART CLUB

7 May - 25 June

For ages 6-12 years \$130 (8-week term)



8 | motivasports 2 DAY SUPER CAMP SPORTS FESTIVAL

* 14 & 15 APRIL - 2 DAY SUPER CAMP
* 24 APRIL - 1 DAY SOCCER CAMP
ARNDILL COLLEGE, OAKVILLE
2-day camp pass - \$125 non sleep over | 1-day soccer - \$70

APRIL 2025

KINDY - YR 6

8.30AM TO 3.30PM

motivasports.com.au
hawkesbury@motivasports.com.au
0414 891 802



8 | motivasports FOOTBALL FANATICS

IF YOU LOVE SOCCER
YOU'LL LOVE THIS 1 DAY EVENT!

* THURSDAY 24TH APRIL
ARNDILL ANGLICAN COLLEGE, OAKVILLE

\$70- 1 DAY PASS

8:30AM- 3:30PM | KINDY - YEAR 6

motivasports.com.au
hawkesbury@motivasports.com.au
0414 891 802



#LIKENOOTHEROSHC



Inspire
Program Australia



Offering Taekwondo, Homework Club and Inspire Time

ENROL NOW FOR 2025!

www.inspireprogram.com.au/enquire

1300 665 275



BEFORE SHCOOL Tennis Coaching TERM 1, 2025

KURMOND PUBLIC SCHOOL	MONDAY'S
Years 3-6.....	8:10 - 8:40am
Kindy - Year 2.....	8:40 - 9:10am

- Cost \$10 per student per class
- Limited spaces available, maximum 8 students per group
- Racquets provided

CONTACT US

P) 4578 8999

E) tennis@insidethelines.net.au

REGISTER



Scan the QR CODE

or go to:
<https://bit.ly/41cUhgJ>



RICHMOND RSL SUB-BRANCH

of the
The Returned and Services League
of Australia
(New South Wales Branch)

ANZAC SERVICES 2025 RICHMOND WAR MEMORIAL

ANZAC SUNDAY MARCH and COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

We would like to encourage members of the community and their families to attend this Commemoration and line the streets of Richmond to support the procession in recognition of those who served and those still serving for our country.

Date: Sunday 13th April 2025
Where: Richmond War Memorial
Time: March commences from West
Market Street at **2:30pm**

**Commemorative Service at Richmond War Memorial at
approximately 3:00pm**

Members of the public who are a descendant of a former Veteran, of any conflict, are also invited to participate in the March wearing the medals of their Veteran, and/or carrying a photo or displaying the name of their Veteran.

ANZAC DAWN SERVICE

The community is invited to join members of Richmond RSL Sub-branch in solemn observation of the Dawn Service at 4:45 for a 5am start at the Richmond War Memorial in Richmond Park.

Date: Friday 25TH April 2025
Where: Richmond War Memorial
Time: 4:45am for a 5:00am start

For additional information about the ANZAC Day commemorations, marching as Descendants and the laying of wreaths, please contact the Richmond RSL Sub-branch Secretary, Gillian Fletcher on 0438782419 or the Publicity Officer, Lynette Bowles, on (02) 4578-2804.

LEST WE FORGET

Assembly Merit Awards

Effort, Safety, Responsibility, Courtesy and Achievement

Term 1 Weeks 7 & 8

White Class Merit Awards

Class	Name	Reason
1/5 Meteors	Finn J	Effort: Diligent effort and dedication in NAPLAN.
K/1 Rockets	Lacey B	Achievement: Being determined to use noun groups in her writing.
	Madison M	Courtesy: Being kind and including others during learning and play.
1/2 Lights Years	Angela W	Courtesy: Always being a courteous student and peer.
	Eli B	Responsibility: Showing responsibility inside and outside of the classroom.
3/4 Galaxies	Riley M	Responsibility: For having a dedicated and responsible attitude towards his schoolwork.
	Xavier V	Effort: Trying hard in all areas.
4/5 Shooting Stars	Phillip C	Effort: Always putting in a consistently strong effort towards tasks.
	Logan W	Effort: Trying his best in all class activities.
5/6 Comets	Holly S	Responsibility: Consistently demonstrating leadership and responsibility in the classroom and on the playground.
	Jenson B	Effort: Showing effort and enthusiasm through active listening, questioning and contributions to discussions.



Learner Quality Awards

Class	Name	Reason
1/5 Meteors	Aria Q	Motivation: Being a motivated learner and showing maturity in her interactions with peers.
K/1 Rockets	Joel V	Curiosity: Displaying curiosity and enthusiasm.
1/2 Light Years	Elias S	Determination: Showing determination in all areas of learning.
3/4 Galaxies	Ruby D	Determination: Demonstrating determination throughout mathematics and literacy tasks.
4/5 Shooting Stars	Alyx P	Curiosity: Being a curious learner. Alyx always asks questions when she is unsure.
5/6 Comets	Brooklyn T	Curiosity: Displaying curiosity and asking thoughtful questions in all class discussions.

Weeks 7 and 8	1/5 Meteors	K/1 Rockets	1/2 Light Years	3/4 Galaxies	4/5 Shooting Stars	5/6 Comets
50 Merits	Finn J	Adeline R Ruby M		Juno O Lana M Ariana F		Brooklyn B Eloise M
100 Merits	Aria Q	Arlo D Liam C	Elias S	Aurelia D Sonny S Tanner S	Amelia D	Jacob H Jenson B Briody D Jessica V
150 Merits			Cooper M Henry P Marco D	Marceline F Xavier V Malakye G Aurelia D Minty R Tanner S		Lewis B
200 Merits				Lacey G Malakye G Elsie A	Jack R Ryan V Lorelai S	Braxton G Bryce R Zara M
250 Merits					William S Riley S	
300 Merits				Imogen M Marley M	Willow B Alyx P	