Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we conclude this term, I would like to extend my thanks to the outstanding team at Kaleen Primary. Throughout Term 3 we have celebrated our students’ achievements and opened the doors to our school for Book Week, Numeracy and Literacy week, Grandfriends Day, Father’s Day BBQ and Learning Journey to name a few. It has been pleasing to see the strong sense of shared pride in our academic growth across the school. Kaleen staff work extremely hard to provide our students with extension, enrichment and leadership opportunities. It has been an amazing term with Kaleen students showcased:

- Preschool students performing entertaining concerts with Mr Tim.
- Student Representative Council (SRC) has been very active and recently was successful with their submission to the Parents and Citizens Committee to improve student resources in the library.
- The Green Team has been working to keep our school clean and has been involved with Gnome painting supporting Floriade and Nude Food day to highlight responsible packaging and reducing waste.
- Our athletes competed in local, regional and national Cross Country and Athletics events. Congratulations to Evija, Fiti Fiti, Kassidy, Layla R and Mackenzie who competed in the ACT Primary School Athletics Carnival on Tuesday this week.
- In performing arts we have been inspired by our amazing Limelight performers, Senior Concert Choir, Glee Club, Dance Group and Year 5 and 6 Bands. Our Year 6 Band performed on centre stage at Floriade last Tuesday.
- Our girls and boys basketball teams were outstanding with the boys performing strongly and both the Year 5/6 and Year 3/4 girls’ teams winning finals to become district champions.
- Our chess teams again performed strongly and it is great to see students turning up to Monday lunchtime sessions.
- ICAS provides excellent extension opportunities for students to test themselves in a variety of disciplines involving science, numeracy and literacy.
- Year 5 Camp with stories of team work, rock climbing, archery and pillow fights!
- And finally our terrific Year 6 team facilitating Kaleen’s Got Talent. What a fantastic way to showcase the hidden and not so hidden talents of our junior and senior students. I congratulate all participants – you are all winners. We look forward to the finals on Friday.

The behaviour of our students at all these events has been outstanding and reflects your children’s commitment to our shared school values. Congratulations to all students involved and thanks to the parents and staff who made it all possible.
STAFFING

Ellen Caulfield will be on leave from the beginning of Term 4 until Week 9. During this time we are very fortunate to be joined by Mrs Amanda Downing. Mrs Downing is a very experienced early childhood educator and we look forward to her working in our Preschool.

PARENT FORUM - 23 OCTOBER 6-8PM

I am seeking expressions of interest for a parent from each class to attend a forum on Thursday 23 October from 6-8pm. The purpose of the forum is to continue our commitment to school improvement and build on the strong foundations already existing at Kaleen Primary. The forum is an opportunity for parents to share positive and constructive ideas and provide feedback to support the continuing improvement of our school.

We are seeking expressions of interest from parents who can represent the broader views of parents across your child’s class and are committed to supporting our school’s continuous improvement. If you are interested please email your name, child’s class and best contact number to admin@kaleenps.act.edu.au by no later than Wednesday 15 October. If parent nominations exceed spaces the school will contact those involved and negotiate to achieve a class representative. Parent representatives will be joined by our School Board members.

ACT PUBLIC EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS

On 11 September, Kaleen Primary was represented by two of our school’s outstanding educators at the ACT Public Education Excellence Awards. At Kaleen Primary we have exceptional educators and many more could have been nominated. These awards recognise staff contribution to public education as highly regarded and effective educators. Our nominees were Julia Tapp – Primary Teacher of the Year and Lynn Leon - Indigenous Educator of the Year. I am delighted to share with you that Lynn was awarded the ACT Indigenous Educator of the Year. Please join me in congratulating Lynn and Julia on their achievements.

STUDENTS ACCESSING PLAYGROUND AFTER SCHOOL

The YMCA under contractual arrangements provides a highly valued and important ‘After School Care’ service to our Kaleen school community. To ensure the safety and wellbeing of students in After School Care, I need to ensure access to a range of school facilities to comply with our responsibilities under these arrangements. These facilities also include the school’s playground. YMCA staff are required to easily identify students within their care at all times.

Parents have also indicated that they value the opportunity to connect with other parents after school and would like access to play equipment. In consultation with the Kaleen Primary School Parents and Citizens Association and the YMCA staff, an arrangement is to be trialled from Term 4 where ‘After School Care’ students will wear coloured bibs. Your child’s safety and wellbeing is our priority and I would ask you to support me in ensuring that all children can play in safety during the time immediately after school. These arrangements will be in place as a trial for Term 4 at which time I will make a decision based on the outcomes of the trial.

I will remind all students that they are not to be on the schools’ playground equipment after school unless directly supervised by their respective parent or carer. Should a conflict situation arise, the matter should be referred directly to me or one of the school’s executive staff.

AVA FROM 1Q

We received the good news last week that Ava had undergone a successful kidney transplant and is recovering well in Sydney. Given the nature of the operation there is an extended recovery process. She will be based in Sydney with her parents during this period. I know you will join with me in wishing Ava a speedy recovery.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION CHANGES

From Term 4 2014, we will be forwarding newsletters in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9.
WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY

As World Teachers’ Day falls during the holidays on 5 October, we celebrated the day with a morning tea on Wednesday. It was a great way to acknowledge the contribution teachers make to children’s learning. A big thank you to all parents and carers who contributed wonderful treats for staff and our P&C committee for their support and organisation of the celebration.

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

On behalf of all staff, please enjoy a safe and relaxing break with family and friends and we look forward to your return on Monday 13 October for our continuing learning journey.

Laurie Campbell – Principal

KALEEN GNOMES AT FLORIADE

Thanks to the terrific enthusiasm and efforts of the students of the Green Team over recent weeks, a team of gnomes now take their rightful place at the ‘Gnome Knoll’ of this year’s Floriade. The gnomes were painted as a cooperative project between junior and senior pairs of students.

The gnomes will remain on display at Floriade until Sunday 12 October. We hope you have an opportunity to see them during the spring school holiday break. Well done to all the students involved and to Mrs Prior for all her assistance during this project.

Melissa Chiles – Green Team Coordinator

SEPTEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to:

KD Alwyn  
KCK Eva  
1L Alexis  
2T Levi  
2KS Dustin  
3G James  
4W Jack  
4MB Evija  
5W Asher  
6S Tenielle  
6V Kristi

KALEEN GNOMES AT FLORIADE

Kaleen Primary’s gnomes ‘exploring their world’ at Floriade

ICAS SPELLING RESULTS

Congratulations to the following students on being awarded Distinctions (top 10%) in the recent UNSW ICAS Spelling tests:

Year 6  
Year 5  
Year 4  
Year 3

Spencer  
Ananya  
Ryan  
Matthew

Alyssa  
Lucy  
Samuel  
Yasidu

Stanley  
Sriya  
Nikhil  
Thomas

Day  
Sajid  
Ryan  
Keira

Lachlan  
Katie  
Brianna  
Faith

Distinction recipients in ICAS Spelling

Allan Wylie – ICAS Coordinator
ACT FRED HOLLOWS SCHOOLS AWARD

Jithmi, Chelsea, Callum and Ben with Mrs Gabi Hollows, Mrs Sheville and Mrs Turner. (Thanks to Phil Styles for the photograph.)

On September 11, the School and Vice Captains went to represent Kaleen Primary at the Fred Hollows Awards ceremony. Kaleen Primary was nominated because we donated resources and money to the school in Bhutan that Mr Stretton works at. Mr Stretton used to teach here. Mrs Sheville, Mrs Turner, Mr Burridge, Mrs Leon, Miss Swift and Mr Vearing had got us all to write pen pal letters to the school. We found out a lot about their culture, country and also their lifestyle. They also wrote to us. When we went to the SRC meeting Mrs Chiles helped us to hold a fundraiser for the school. We raised over $1000.

At the awards we had the honour to speak to Gabi Hollows, Fred’s wife. She was very impressed at what we had done. Callum and Chelsea got to be interviewed on ABC radio about our school. It was an honour to represent the school.

Ben and Jithmi

READING REWARDS

What a super star! Brooklyn (2T) has been working very hard in his reading at school and at home, and has moved an amazing 10 levels already this year. Congratulations on this fantastic effort, Brooklyn. Keep it up!

YEAR 3/4 BASKETBALL - SUE GEH & JAMIE PEARLMAN CUPS

Some happy shots of our representative basketball teams who competed in the northside interschool Sue Geh and Jamie Pearlman Cups earlier this month. Congratulations to you all on being such terrific sports.

Year 3/4 girls’ basketball team

Year 3/4 boys’ basketball team

Craig White – Representative Sporting Team Coordinator

Dianne Frame is the Community Representative on our School Board and is a Real Estate Agent with LJ Hooker, Manuka. Dianne is happy to donate $500 to the school from every sale when she lists and sells any property introduced to her by school parents or staff.

Contact Dianne on 02 6239 5551 or 0411 092 990
LIFECYCLES AND JACK AND MOLLY

During Term 3 the Preschool children have created the lifecycle of a butterfly and to coincide with this we had Jack and Molly come in and engage the children in music and stories. The program called ‘Green Grows My Garden’ encouraged an understanding of the different types of fruit and vegetables and how they grow in our gardens. What an amazing show!

SPRING WALK

As the season has changed during the term we went on a Spring walk out among the trees and discussed the various noises we could hear. We noticed a bridge, some bark that was rough and smooth and the amazing colours of the blossoms growing around the school environment. We took our drawing books with us and it is astonishing to see the illustrations created by the children.

ACT PRIMARY CONCERT CHOIR

The ACT Instrumental Music Program is seeking students who will be in Year 4 to Year 6 in 2015 to audition for the Primary Concert Choir (PCC). The PCC rehearses on Thursday afternoons from 4:30-5:30pm during school terms at the IMP in Kaleen and is conducted by Katharine Finlayson. The choir is an excellent opportunity for enthusiastic and talented young singers to work together in a supportive and fun environment. The PCC is a performance ensemble and children auditioning will need to be prepared to make a strong commitment to rehearsal and performance attendance for the year. Further details are available from the Instrumental Music Program website at www.imp.act.edu.au. The application form and audition timeslot booking form can also be accessed through this site. If you do not have internet access please telephone the IMP on 62058265. Applications are now open and close Monday 27 October.

Ellen Caulfield – Preschool Teacher

MR TIM

Over the past three weeks we have been learning songs and actions with the hilarious, Mr Tim. The children have developed some creative moves to the song Everybody Dance Now. We have been learning the words to three songs I think I’m getting a cold, Peas Porridge Hot and Everybody Dance Now. We enjoyed performing for our families this week.

Katharine Finlayson – Instrumental Music Program
P&C NEWS

The P&C met on Tuesday 9 September. Thank you to all that attended. Mr Campbell provided updates about staffing, curriculum and program updates and possible improvements to buildings and grounds. There are some fantastic ideas and lots of interesting suggestions were brought forward. The P&C highlighted that a larger parking area would be advantageous to the parent community. Mr Campbell also talked about the upcoming Parent Forum. It is indeed a very interesting time at Kaleen Primary with lots of changes afoot and various opportunities to be involved. In a new initiative, the SRC brought a proposal directly to the P&C which asked for funding to upgrade seating in the library. The meeting was very impressed with the quality and persuasive nature of the proposal and agreed to approve $1200 to fund the purchases. The next P&C meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 28 October, at 7pm in the staff room. Sharon Pike will resume as P&C President. Thank you very much to everybody who made the effort to attend P&C meetings over the winter.

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY MORNING TEA

Yesterday the parent community hosted a morning tea for all staff at Kaleen Primary to celebrate World Teachers’ Day. Thank you very much to everybody who donated food items. The spread was delicious and the staff enjoyed it immensely. It was very good to see some parents were able to join us.

CANTEEN

Last week the canteen held another successful special lunch. Thank you very, very much to Michaela, Melissa and Lisa who helped on the day and also to those that said they could but weren’t needed. We really appreciate help on special lunch days. The lunch made approximately $300. Our next special lunch will be Sushi and coincides with Japanese Day.

Next term we will adjust the menu for summer and will send home a new copy with the youngest child in the first week of school.

Kate Rowntree – P&C Vice President

BOARD REPORT

The Board met on Tuesday 16 September. The School reinforced its intent to ensure that our school continues to provide quality teaching every day. The Board discussed staffing and, in particular, the ongoing selection process for the Deputy Principal position. Lynne Sheville will remain acting until the new Deputy Principal commences. The School discussed the staff’s professional learning focus on the Australian Curriculum and in particular ICT, Numeracy, Literacy, Science and KidsMatter.

The Board discussed the proposed Parent Forum scheduled for 23 October. The School will facilitate the forum to explore key topics through discussion which will inform future directions for the school. The Board is excited about this new initiative. The School advised of the need to develop a 3-5 year master building plan. The School is seeking suggestions for redeveloping existing work and play spaces. It is intended this will result in a prioritised list of ongoing projects which we as a school community can be actively involved with and contribute to. An emphasis will be in connecting the Preschool to the Primary School.

The school website is currently being updated to resemble other ACT Government websites, for example, Libraries ACT. The aim is that the website will be a useful tool providing up-to-date, relevant information for the Kaleen Primary community. The revised website will replace the current KPS mobile phone App and have website accessibility on most devices to make content available for all users.

The Board was informed of student activities throughout the school. It was emphasised that the school’s aim was to provide a range of opportunities to ensure students have a voice in their education and demonstrate leadership.

The school has been reviewing what was known as the Gifted and Talented program and how it is currently delivered. The School has been researching how it can strengthen and broaden the program to ensure enrichment and extension opportunities for all students.

Anne-Maree Wigney – Parent Board Representative
London - May 1787
Today I am about to leave and I am feeling scared and nervous. I am starving and I have been sitting on the boat for days. I miss my family. I want to get off I am so squished. There are about 100 people here. I want to be sick but I am not going to. I do not even know where I am. I think I am getting transported. I don’t even know where we are going. Everyone is crying. I do not want to leave my family. Oh no, we’re leaving now.

By Chloe

London - May 1787
I am so upset. I am just about to leave London by ship as a convict. I can see my family crying. I have chains on my legs. They are very heavy and they hurt. I’m always stuck with other people. I was put into a cell with other people. There is practically no room. We are now moving away from the port. Some of the crew came down to give us some food. I got salted meat. It tasted DISGUSTING. At dinner, I was given mouldy bread and water. How I wish I was at home. This can’t get any worse. I find it really hard to sleep. Some people are seasick and they vomit. It makes me feel like I would vomit as well. I might even stay up all night! All of us convicts are stuck in cells. There is barely any light in this ship. I would love to go on the deck. There, I could get fresh air. It makes me quite upset. It’s so stuffy down here. I sweat a lot.

By Huy

Rio de Janeiro - 25th June 1787
We have just stopped at Rio de Janeiro and we are running low on water and it’s hot and sticky. On the bright side I got 10 oranges but there is lots of fighting and arguing because were let out of our chains. The only food I’ve had is onions and they’re not very nice. Most of the crew has gone ashore and are getting in trouble and getting 200-300 lashes. I’ve heard news that some sailors have fallen off the ship and just been left there. We’re going to leave in five days and down here it’s all smelly. The fresh fruit I had earlier really made me feel better but I still feel sick.

By Jack

Rio de Janeiro - 24th June 1787
We have arrived at Rio. It is currently night. It is dark. There are no lights. I’ve heard that in October the Fleet will arrive at Cape Town, South Africa. Today, Captain Arthur Philip (the Fleet’s leader) was welcomed to a palace for dinner. The soldiers chained us up again. We were given fresh fruit to eat. The soldiers and sailors are allowed on land at certain times. Lots of them got flogged for trying to escape (They don’t want to help with the fleet anymore). Isn’t that weird? See you, Journal.

By Jarell

Botany Bay – January 1788
It’s dark down at the bottom of the boat. When we went up to the deck it didn’t look like a very nice place to live. There are a lot of weird animals and there are no houses. It’s hot and dry. All the soil is sandy. We can’t grow anything here so we have decided to move to another bay. All the weird animals make strange noises. It’s hot and dry and horrible here. I wish I was back in England. I don’t have any one to talk to now my friend died but I have been getting more to eat.

By Paige

Children as young as 11yrs of age were transported with the First Fleet. Some for 7 years, some for 14 years, and some for life!
Term Three SRC Report

This term, the Student Representative Council has been involved in a range of fundraisers, events and proposals to make Kaleen Primary the best school it can be. Some of the things we have initiated include:

New Library Furniture
In SRC, we walked through the library and saw that there weren’t many places for the juniors to sit down and read a book. So we looked through some furniture catalogues and wrote a proposal to the P&C to buy an alphabet rug and a set of 24 donut cushions. We felt like it was our responsibility to order them so everyone has somewhere to sit. This proposal has been accepted and we will be ordering the furniture this week.
Nikky, Jamie and Ananth - 2KS

Playground Roster
We voted to remove the senior playground roster as we didn’t feel it was needed anymore as there weren’t many kids playing on the playground each day.
James and Adithya – 3G

Jeans for Genes Day
On Jeans for Genes Day, we raised $503.90. We were allowed to wear our jeans. We raised the money for the Children’s Medical Research Institute for kids with genetic illnesses.
Sophie – 4MB
John and Cara - KD

UNICEF Youth Ambassador
Last week, we had a UNICEF youth ambassador attend our SRC meeting. We had a talk about children in other countries and how they live. We also spoke about how children in countries such as Africa don’t always get things they need such as food, water and education. We also talked about feeling safe in our community. Our feedback will now go into a report, along with information from kids around the world to be presented to the United Nations.
Katie – 4H
Olenka – 4W

Schools Bells to Music
For the last few weeks of this term, the SRC has been trying to change the school bells to music. We surveyed our classes and the results were:
55 people voted to keep the school bells
315 people voted to change the bells to music.
We want to try and have music from all cultures. We have written a proposal to Mr Campbell to see if this can happen. We will need to get a new sound system.
Methuli -1Q
Anya – 1L
Aditya – 4W
Kindy’s 3 Bears Picnic

On Wednesday 17 September the Kindergarten unit was bursting with teddy bears. Kindergarten students participated in a Maths investigation requiring them to make a picnic lunch for Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Students had to set a table for their guests, make honey sandwiches and decide how to share them fairly. All students then enjoyed a picnic lunch out in “the woods” with their teddy bears. There was plenty of hands-on Maths and lots of problem solving discussion.

I enjoyed making honey sandwiches because I like cooking on my own.

Jayson KD

I loved making sandwiches and eating with my bear.

Dion KD

The thing that I liked best was making honey sandwiches because I like making things by myself.

Alice KD

Carly Duncanson - Kindergarten Teacher
Science Festival – Week 4, Term 4

Next term, Thursday 6 November, our school will host its first Science Festival. Year groups will be showcasing some of the great science learning going on around the school and the way in which our school embraces the inquiry process. There will be displays, demonstrations and some hands on experiments.

Former Kaleen Primary student, Dr Graham Walker, will be putting on some dynamic science shows. Without giving away too much, we have been guaranteed some exciting explosions – in the name of Science of course!

We would also like to tap into the wealth of knowledge that exists within our school community. As well as content created by classes, we will be exhibiting displays made by families. If you would like to participate you can start thinking about some ideas. Displays can be on any scientific concept and will need to fit on a desk, be free standing or able to be hung on a wall.

We will also be running a number of competitions with some great prizes on offer:

**Science Photo Competition**

Do you have an eye for interesting phenomena?

Take a photo that relates to one of our four categories:

- Biology
- Earth and Space
- Physics
- Chemistry

Accompany your photo with a brief outline explaining the scientific phenomena it shows (50 words max)

**Recycle Robot**

Using recycled parts construct a robot - it is not expected that your robot will be functional.

The robot must:

- *not* be powered by electricity (including batteries)
- *be* made mostly out of recycled components
- *be* safe, have all parts securely attached and be easily transported

Prizes will be awarded to the most creative and well-constructed robots.

*Please check with an adult to make sure that the tools and parts you use are safe. Some electrical items, such as LCD screens, contain toxic materials.*

**Gravity Racer**

Create a functional model racer that is powered solely by gravity.

The racer must:

- *not* exceed 40cm X 30cm X 20cm in dimensions
- *not* have a motor, spring mechanism or any other power source
- *be* safe, have all parts securely attached and be easily transported

Prizes will be awarded to the racers that travel the furthest distances.

The launching ramp will be approximately 2 metres in length and at an angle of about 15°.

**Straw Construction**

Create a tower, bridge, dome or any other structure out of drinking straws.

The construction must:

- *not* exceed 1 metre in length, width or height
- *be* made mostly of plastic drinking straws
- *have* all parts securely attached and be easily transported

Prizes will be awarded to the most creative and structurally sound constructions.

*Please work with an adult when using epoxy or a hot glue gun.*