



Korowal School

47587466 54 Hall Parade Hazelbrook
info@korowal.nsw.edu.au
www.korowal.nsw.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

19/5/2009 Vol 32 Issue 6

CALENDAR	
Saturday May 23 rd 3pm	Community forum & AGM 3 pm
May 27 th – May 29 th	Year 8 Camp
June 3 rd	Italian puppet show K - 6
June 3 rd 2.15pm	School Fair meeting, staff common room
June 3 rd from 4.30pm	Parent/teacher interviews years 7 to 10
Monday June 8 th	Long weekend
June 11 th	Vaccinations years 7 & 10
June 17 th	School Photos
June 18 th , 19 th & 22 nd	HSC mid course exams
Saturday June 27 th 10am - midday	Information Morning
Friday July 3 rd	Last day term two
Saturday August 22 nd	Open Day

This Saturday May 23rd from 3pm

tree planting
AGM
community forum
afternoon tea

Child care will be provided during the AGM. Please let the office know by Friday morning if you require child care.

TREE PLANTING AND AGM THIS SATURDAY

Everyone is welcome this Saturday as we put down some roots and conduct our first annual general meeting in our new home. Child-care will be provided for the formal part of the AGM. Please let the office know by Friday if you require this. The formal AGM will be followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion. The meeting will be held in the dining room (G1).

THANK YOU VITTORIO

This will be the last AGM chaired by Vittorio Cintio who is standing down from School Council after ten years. During this time Vittorio facilitated the introduction of our new constitution, establishing our current School Council structure in which teachers and parents share equally in decision-making. He has been central to the achievement of our long-term aim ... obtaining security of tenure for the school. Later in the term we plan to hold a dinner at school to say thankyou to Vittorio and also to celebrate our ownership of the school. Details will be advised in the next newsletter.

INTRODUCING.....

parent nominees for School Council

There are only four parent nominees, so an election will not be necessary.

MICK BARRATT

Mick has been a member of School Council since 2007.

“I have two children at Korowal: Emma (Year 8); and Jack (Year 6).

I subscribe to the human centred philosophy of the school. I am inspired by the personal growth my children have experienced through the school. I am interested in how the school community can develop the positive culture within the school. My career has included 13 years working with children and young people, before turning to community work. I am currently the manager of Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre.

Skills that I have developed in these recent positions, relevant to the Korowal School Council, include a working knowledge of governance, community based management, project management, community development, personnel management, and mediation.

I have high esteem for the executive teaching body and the School Council of Korowal. I feel that involvement via the Council may be the best way for me to contribute to the school community.”

ANNIE CARMENT

Annie has not previously been a member of School Council.

“I have been a Korowal parent for over twenty years. Two of my children are still at school – Luciano (yr 11) and Johnson (yr 4). My oldest three children attended Korowal and have now graduated.

My first career was in education – teaching in alternative schools and to education students at university. My second career was in welfare. My third career was in law. I worked in the children’s courts, in law reform and as a university teacher. When I grow up I want to be a songwriter.

For several years I have worked on marketing and publicity for Korowal, and during the past 18 months I have worked almost full time on the school’s relocation and on sourcing funding. I plan to continue in my marketing role but hope that the other work I have taken on will soon be finished.

I have nominated for School Council because I would like to be there at this crucial time while the school settles into its new home and establishes itself financially as a property owner.

I have strong views about the importance of Korowal retaining its small school model and not succumbing to the “bigger is better” mantra. I also believe that we should be guided by human centred principles that evolve through practice, discussion and reflection – not by any top-down philosophy”.

ROSEMARY DILLON

Rosemary has been a member of School Council since 2006

"I have two children David aged 17 (Pathways Year 12) and Joshua aged 12 (Year 7) who have both attended Korowal since Kindergarten.

I have a doctorate in Human Geography and an Urban and Regional Planning degree. I have worked extensively in the fields of strategic planning, organisational and community development and am currently employed as the Manager of Corporate Planning and Community Outcomes with Blue Mountains City Council.

I am committed to facilitating and supporting positive social, economic and environmental transformation within organisations and the community.

I bring skills in business planning, project management, sustainability, conflict resolution, community development and consultation to the Board.

I see the need for the Korowal Board to continue its focus on supporting the school to thrive and become sustainable in its new location. I believe this will be achieved by teachers, parents and students working together to build on the excellent foundation established by the school over the last 30 years. I am passionately committed to the principles and practice of education at Korowal.

DEBRA KEENAHAN

Debra has been a member of School Council since 2008

"I am the parent of Sarah Elizabeth in year 3.

I am a registered psychologist working as an academic at the University of Western Sydney (UWS). The area of both my teaching and research is that of Humanitarian and Peace Studies. In each of my academic positions (3)

I have been actively involved in Equity and Diversity Committees and Working Parties - becoming very familiar with various issues pertaining to the education sector.

For the past year I have been a member of the Korowal Board. My activities in my role as a parent representative have had a particular focus on Policy Review and Development, which is an activity I would like to continue.

As a Director I think accessibility and approachability are particularly important given the representational role of Board members. As such, I would welcome all members of the Korowal Community to discuss with me any cares, concerns, criticisms and compliments about Korowal so I may accurately and adequately represent the Korowal Community."

The teacher nominees for School Council are ...

MARK THOMAS, school co-ordinator.

BARB FITZGERALD, high school co-ordinator and drama teacher

STEVE GARTHWIN, high school co-ordinator and science teacher

NANCY OOSTERHOFF, primary school co-ordinator and K/1/2 teacher

KATH VEEL, high school art teacher (previously high school co-ordinator)

All are current members of School Council.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING TO ORGANISE THE SCHOOL FAIR?

A school fair is planned for late term 3 or early term 4 – the date is yet to be decided. A preliminary meeting will be held on Wednesday June 3rd at 2.15 pm in the staff lunch room to begin the planning. Please come along if you are interested. If you are interested but unavailable on that date, contact Annie on 47573239 or acarment@bigpond.net.au.

SCHOOL PHOTOS: note the date has changed (again!) to Wed June 17th.

ARE YOUR FEE PAYMENTS UP TO DATE?

At this time of the year we rely on regular fee payments to pay our teachers, our bills and our mortgage. Government funding for the second half of the year arrives in July. If your fees are overdue, please pay them!

eBay eNthusiast ReQUIReD

Last year Leanne Kent and Nigel Ryan established an eBay site to generate funds for Korowal and raised several thousand dollars selling items donated by other Korowal parents. This is potentially a simple and lucrative means of fund raising and recycling. Leanne and Nigel would now like to hand to project on to another parent or parents. If you are interested, please contact Leanne on 57512774 or lkent@netspace.net.au.

INFORMATION MORNING Sat 27th June 10 -12

There will be an information morning at school on Sat June 27th from 10am until midday for families wishing to find out about the school and talk to teachers. If you know of families who might be interested, please let them know.

Our regular open Day will be held on 22nd August.

Here are two of the “archi-lanterns” created by year 7 and 8 design and technology students.



Kalon's lantern



Albert's lantern

TAX TIME

Donations to our building fund are tax deductible

and are always needed to fund building and grounds upgrades and upkeep.

Here is some information about the Education Tax Refund:

What is an eligible education expense?

An eligible education expense is:

- incurred by an eligible person
- relates to a child or independent student's education
- an item that is specified in the legislation as an eligible education expense, and
- incurred on a day when the child or independent student satisfied the schooling requirement.

You cannot claim the Education Tax Refund (ETR) for an expense if:


- it is an allowable tax deduction or subject to another tax offset, or
- you received or are entitled to receive payment or property as reimbursement or payment for the expense under a Commonwealth Government or legislative prescribed benefit, grant or subsidy.

What items can I claim?

Eligible expenses include the cost of buying, establishing, repairing and maintaining any of the following items:

- laptop computers and home computers
- computer-related equipment such as printers, USB flash drives, as well as disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs
- computer repairs
- home internet connections
- computer software for educational use
- school textbooks and other printed learning material, including prescribed textbooks, associated learning materials, study guides and stationery, and
- prescribed trade tools for secondary school trade courses.

**FUN INTRO TO
BELLY DANCE WORKSHOP
AT KOROWAL**



Dip your toes into the wonderful ocean of Oriental Dance with award winning Middle Eastern Teacher Shemiran Ibrahim. All funds raised go towards improving the primary school playground.

Tickets only \$20 - School aged daughters come with Mum 2 for the price of 1. Traditionally Belly Dance is enjoyed in strictly women's gatherings: mums, grand mums, sisters, daughters all welcome!

BOOKINGS A MUST! Please put your enrolment fee and name on envelope and drop off at school office in "Belly Dance Workshop" collection box.

Any questions please call Shemiran - who is a Korowal mum - on 0425 838 159

Workshop Sat 20th June - 3pm - 4.30pm
G1 - The Dining Room (near Canteen)
Bring a plate for arvo tea after workshop

FUNDRAISER FOR PLAYGROUND

CONNECTIONS

Community events, notices, businesses. Korowal does not specifically recommend or guarantee any of these events or services.

**Your Special Invitation to the 2009 Blue Mountains Women's Spirit Event:
'Opening Hearts and Minds'**

10 am—3pm Friday 29th May 2009

Santa Maria Conference Centre -

253 Great Western Highway LAWSON

(Parking in Kitchener & Mary Streets)

Join us in building bridges of understanding and healing towards the future; sharing with women from different backgrounds, cultures and experiences.

Come and join with us through song, art, story and dance - energising our lives.

Share your insights, dreams, strengths, gifts, wisdom and hope.

For all ages – young women and wise elders.

FREE event—lunch provided.

Transport from Lawson Railway Station - 9.15 onwards.

This event is auspiced by the Blue Mountains Women's Health Centre (BMWHC) in partnership with:

**BM ANTaR & BM People for Reconciliation,
Mountains Outreach Community Service (MOCS),**

Blue Mountains City Council,

Mountains Community Resource Network (MCRN) and

the Women's Reconciliation Network (WRN).

CONTACTS:

For more information call Blue Mountains Women's

Health Centre on 4782 5133 or *Email*

***Suzie:* suziebmwhc@pnc.com.au**

***Vicky:* - swanblack59@yahoo.com.au**

***Elaine:* thetelfords@gmail.com**

The Upper Mountains youth circus troupe Circo Blurto needs new recruits!

Are you (or do you have a child) interested in learning & performing circus skills?

We meet weekly during school term & have regular gigs at local events.

We take members from age 8-24.

For more information please call Toni on 4782 5595