Kananook Students using earphones donated to the school through the Earn’ n Learn programme. Thank you to everyone who provided their shopping docket to the school!

2016 School Captains

Finn & Ashleigh

2016 House Captains

Zach, Charlee, Liz & Jacob
Huge congratulations to all students. We have had a wonderful start at Kananook Primary. Welcome also to families and new students in all year levels who are joining our school community.

Welcome to our new students for 2016:
Year 2: Memory, Hannah
Year 3: William, Ninjah, Lucky, Ethan, Charlotte, Jye
Year 4: Caelan
Year 5: Naomi, Harlem, Lily, Tasha
Year 6: Nate, Joshua

Keeping Up To Date. There are always many things happening at Kananook Primary School and there is always a need to keep informed. Communication of these events is important to allow everyone to know, not only about the event. But also if any action is required at home e.g. returning permission slips or if there is an opportunity to be involved. Classroom teachers will let you know of events via notes, classroom blogs or notices at the classroom. Please sign up to the TiqBiz app and also subscribe to the newsletter via our school website. We also need to have your latest contact details - in the event of an emergency we want to be able to contact you a.s.a.p. At Kananook we encourage the sharing of information which is relevant to your child’s program or requirements with the classroom teacher. Of course questions can also be directed to the Office or Stuart Gilchrist or myself.

Being Involved: There are many ways to be involved in the school. This may be as a helper in the classroom, at activities or in the PTA or School Council. Your help is always appreciated. Your child/ren love to see you involved and many long term friendships have been formed at school events. The School Council election process will be starting shortly and initial information is included in this newsletter as well.

Kiss and Go Parking: Have you tried the new Kiss and Go parking drop off zone at Kananook Primary School? An area of the drop off parking has been zoned so you can drop your child/ren right at the school gate. You don’t have to find a park or get out of the car! The aim is to stop people driving into driveways and changing direction in a dangerous manner. We are encouraging parents to drive down the end of the road and use the court instead of neighbours’ driveways. Your support is appreciated.

I am really looking forward to an exciting year in 2016!
Kind regards, Michael Block

School Council Election 2016 - Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies who are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved? The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider

- Standing for election as a member of the school council

- Encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

☐ Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
☐ Consider standing for election to council this year
☐ Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact Michael Block, Principal, 9786 6066
for further information

Parents, Teachers and Friends (PTF) News

The PTF is a group who meet on average once a month to discuss school issues and organise events and activities that help make Kananook Primary School a better place for all our children and raise funds for the school.

Thank you to everyone who attended our meeting this morning. Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 3rd March at 9.15am. The meeting will be held in the KOOSH room. All parents, teachers, grandparents and friends are warmly invited to join us.

Special Lunch Our first special lunch for this year will be on Friday 26th February. More information and notices will come home next week. We welcome helpers to come and give us a hand with the lunch.

School Banking School Banking is back up and running on Tuesdays. Please remind your children to hand their bankbooks to their teachers first thing in the morning, particularly if they are going straight to a specialist class. Bankbooks can also be handed directly to the office before school on a Tuesday.

The School Banking program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit. Regular saving is a great lifelong habit to get into! We can accept deposits as little as 5c. School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit). All families should have received a Commonwealth Bank information pack with details of this year’s rewards and how to join school banking. There are more packs at the office if you would like one.

Mailing List The PTF have an email mailing list which is used to send out information and reminders about school banking and other PTF events. If you would like to join the mailing list, send us an email at ptf1@kps.vic.edu.au. If you have any questions or suggestions, please come along to our meetings, see the school office, send an email or come and see us in the yard!

Jenny and Trish
Presidents

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<th>Term 1</th>
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Birthday Celebrations at Kananook

February 10th Michael Damon
11th Rachael
13th Teri Kristine Harrison

Remember - 'Every Day Counts’
Please be at school every day – even on your birthday
Friendly Stars this week:
Students proudly taking pride in their school environment.

Friendly Stars are children who have been observed in the playground helping others, playing happily and safely with their peers and voluntarily taking care of their school environment.

KAAPA CUP: Starts next week
SPECIALIST CUP: PK

Kananook ‘Sponsor of the Week’