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Wednesday, 6 April 2016

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AUTUMN VACATION

School resumes for all students on Wednesday 27 April.

Winter Uniform is to be worn in Term 2.

From the Principal

Ross Kirbyshire, Killara High School 2003 – 2016

Mr Ross Kirbyshire, our Head Teacher Computing Studies, is retiring from the Department of Education. Ross intends to take leave in Term 2 prior to his official retirement date.

Killara High School has been extremely fortunate to have prospered under the services of such a professional and dedicated teacher and technology leader. Ross was initially appointed to the HSIE Green Faculty, where he served as a teacher of Social Sciences for two years. In 2005, following a period where the Head Teacher Computing Studies position was vacant, he gained the position through merit



selection. Everyone at the school at the time was enormously relieved that again we had an executive technology role, and that it was to be filled by someone as capable, professional and conscientious as Ross.

For the last twelve years Ross has been the face of technology in our school. I cannot possibly list here everything that Ross has done to ensure that our students and staff are comprehensively served by information and communication technologies. Ross' expertise is called upon every day, and he never fails to provide support. His students benefit from his deep knowledge of understanding of curriculum and learning styles. Staff have been well-supported by Ross in all areas of technology. His vision for education in the twenty-first century has informed our school's technology plan, and ensured that access to technology has been generous and that students have been well-led in its responsible use.

We will miss Ross, not just for his outstanding service but also for his gentle and friendly personality. Everyone who meets Ross likes him. What a gift to education he has been.

On behalf of the entire Killara community, I wish Ross a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Staff Promotion

Mr Duncan Smith, PDHPE Teacher, has gained the position of Head Teacher PDHPE following a merit selection process. Duncan replaces Ms Megan Clarke, who was appointed as Deputy Principal to Baulkham Hills High School.

Duncan brings a wealth of knowledge about our school and expertise in PDHPE and student wellbeing. I am delighted to welcome Duncan into an executive role on a permanent basis.

Calendar

- **APRIL 2016** 6 KHS Cross Country Carnival MADD - 7.00pm - 9.00pm 7 Year 12 University/Scholarship **Applications Master Class** 2.00pm - 3.00pm MADD - 7.00pm - 9.00pm Year 11 PDHPE White Water 8 Rafting Excursion Last Day of Term 1 25 Public Holiday - Anzac Day 26 School Development Day 27 Whole school returns Term 2 **MAY 2016** 2 Year 9 Camp (3 days) 7 North Shore Schools Spectacular 4.00pm - 8.00pm 9 Year 12 Drama Excursion 10 Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN (3 days) Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh 13 Bronze Practice (3 days) Year 12 Physics – Sydney Uni Excursion - Lines 4 & 6 Only 14 Mock United Nations Assembly (2 days) 16 Year 11 Gibberagong Excursion Year 9 and Year 12 Student **Progress Review Meetings** (SPRM) 3.30pm - 8.00pm 17 Year 7 Vaccinations Ku-ring-gai Zone Cross Country at St Ives Show Ground Year 11 Science Excursion 20 21 CB1 & CB2 North Shore Schools Spectacular 4.00pm - 8.00pm 23 Killara Gift - lunchtime (5 days) Year 12 Biology Excursion 24 KSP Strings Rehearsal and Concert 4.00pm - 7.00pm SB1 Big Band Blast - Port 27 Macquarie (3 days) 28 School Tour 8.45am - 10.15am **JUNE 2016** Year 12 Music Night - 7.00pm 2 Year 12 Japanese Excursion 3 Year 12 Music Night - 7.00pm
- 13 Public Holiday Queen's Birthday

Continued from the Principal

Staff movements

There have been a few permanent and temporary adjustments to staffing.

Mr John Genca has been appointed as Learning and Support Teacher, to commence in Week 1 next term. We welcome John, and thank Ms Margo Mahony for filling this position since Term 4 2015 on a temporary basis.

Mr Owen Telfer will serve as Acting Head Teacher Computing Studies in Term 2.

Ms Jane Rountree, Head Teacher Wellbeing, is on leave in Term 2. Her position will be filled by Ms Melinda Buxton.

Ms Josie Tomlinson, Year 8 Adviser, will be on leave in Term 2 and most of Term 3. Her Year Adviser duties will be fulfilled by Ms Caitlin Whitby and her classes taken by Ms Chloe Raines.

Finally, I will be taking a short period of long service leave during Weeks 1 - 3 of Term 2. Ms Carla Marchesin will relieve as Principal, and Ms Liesl Williamson will relieve as Deputy Principal.

I hope everyone has a happy, safe and relaxing vacation.

Bon voyage

Safe travels to Ms Ruth Charles, Mr Charles and students of Chinese who travel to Shanghai and Beijing this week on the inaugural visit to our sister school, East China Model School in Shanghai.

Arts Council Hat Day



Thank you to the Arts Council, who are raising funds for improvements to the Theatre.

Jane Dennett Principal