Welcome to our Kinders 2013
Our 2013 Kinders commenced school on Monday after completing their Best Start Assessments last week. They have had a wonderful start to their formal years of schooling and were very eager to get into their classrooms to meet up with their teachers and friends again. The children are all very familiar with the school routines and activities. This is largely due to the extensive preschool to school transition program that has once again proven very popular.

Swimming Carnival
Students have been busy preparing for our school swimming carnival. Students have been training, swimming in heats and preparing their chants to support their team. Students spent yesterday at the pool swimming heats for their races in preparation for today’s carnival. A full wrap up of the carnival will be in next week’s newsletter.

Permission Notes
A huge thank you to all the parents/carers who returned the school permission notes so promptly. We have had a huge return rate so far. For those still to come back in, please return them as soon as possible to ensure there are no delays to planned activities.

Life Education Unit
The Life Education Unit will be visiting the school from Thursday, 14 February until Tuesday, 19 February. The program offers lessons promoting a healthy lifestyle for children from Kindergarten through to Year 6. This year the price has been reduced to only $4 per student so it is encouraged that all children attend this valuable program. Money and notes are due to the school office no later than Monday, 11 February.

Welcome BBQ and Information Night
Our welcome BBQ and information night will be held next Tuesday, 12 February in the 5/6 area (near the canteen). This is a wonderful opportunity to come along and meet your children’s teachers, other parents and also get an understanding of what is happening in the school throughout the year. The invitation was sent home on Monday this week. Please return the cut off section to school for catering purposes. We look forward to seeing you all there.

School Uniform
It has been wonderful to walk through the school and see everyone wearing their school uniform with pride. The uniform shop has been very busy and a big thank you to our P&C volunteers who have donated their time to ensure that every student is looking smart in their uniform at the beginning of the school year. It is also great to see so many of the girls beginning to transition to the green polo shirt and black skirts/shorts/skorts. Don’t forget that a wide brimmed hat is also part of our school uniform and students who do not have one will be required to sit in the shade during play times.

Lock Down
Last Friday, our school was required to go into lock down for a short period of time. This was a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of our students. Thanks to the quick thinking and actions of staff, students and many parents who were on school grounds at the time, we were able to move very swiftly and have everyone locked down efficiently. This is a procedure that we practice throughout the year to ensure that it is done quickly and safely and obviously that practice has paid off. We were commended by the police and staff from the high school as to the quick response of our staff and students during this time.

Change of Details
Attached to next week’s newsletter will be a change of details form. If any of your information has changed could you please fill out the information on the form and send it back to the school office ASAP. This ensures that the school has all of your child/ren’s correct information on record.

Working with Children
If you are planning on volunteering your time to help in our school in any way we would be more than happy to have you. It is very important that you fill out a working with children form at the school office before commencing your time with us. Even if you filled one in last year you are required to fill in a new form this year.
Positive Behaviour for Success
This year we continue our focus on rewarding positive behaviour. We will be introducing the concept across the school of 'Doing the Five' which will focus on five key expectations. At KPS we want our students to be: cooperative, respectful, honest, responsible and safe. Teachers have already begun lessons focused on introducing these concepts and educating students about how to follow the five expectations across all school settings. You will also see information about these expectations in the newsletter throughout the year. Our whole school reward system will also continue to run in all classrooms. Students will again this year accumulate stamps/stickers in the classroom for working well and being a positive member of KPS. When they receive 10, a card with the stamps will go home. Each group of 10 will combine to achieve a major award of Bronze (4 groups of 10), Silver (9) and Gold (15) to be presented at assemblies. Students will also receive 10 stamps/stickers for receiving an assembly award and participating in additional school activities throughout the year.

Students who work hard all year and receive a Gold Award will be invited to attend a special function with the Principal at the end of the year. Students who receive NO plans in the playground or classroom will be rewarded with a special stage activity at the end of each Term. The level system for students who struggle to follow our school rules remains the same this year. Bullying and other behaviour that could result in having a negative impact on safety or learning are not tolerated at Kyogle Public School and will be dealt with using the school discipline policy. As with the positive reward system, communication with home is vital.

Congratulations to our Captains and Vice Captains

Zoe, Khy, Keia, Zoe

Kids Connexions
Interrelate Family Centres is offering Kids ConneXions for free to all Year 6 students at Kyogle Public School. This program is focused on improving the welfare of children by developing healthy relationships through school-based education. The overall aim of the program is for children to build resilience in their relationships, specifically to increase the child’s:

* Recognition and understanding of healthy and unhealthy relationships
* Skills and strategies in problem solving and communication
* Confidence in being assertive when relationships are unsafe or unhealthy

This specialised program consists of 2 x 1 ½ hour sessions, conducted during school hours. Sessions are interactive and questions are encouraged and appropriately addressed as an integral part of this program. If you have a student in Year 6 please complete the permission note and return it to school ASAP.

Thank You
A huge thank you to the Webb family for the donation of mangoes to the school breakfast club.