Best wishes for a very Happy Christmas to all of our students, parents and staff. Thank you for your hard work this year and I wish you all a refreshing and enjoyable Christmas break.

STUDENTS
I encourage all Year 8 and 9 students to attend school until the end of our program this year. The students will have normal lessons on Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 December, and then a range of interesting educational activities on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 December.

STAFFING
A number of staff are leaving the school on transfer or concluding teaching contracts at the end of this year. Thank you to all of these teachers for their work at the school.

- Ms Amanda Lane on transfer to Ipswich SHS
- Mrs Lynda Marshall
- Mrs Paige Pope
- Mr Ben Lecky
- Miss Erin Watherston
- Mr Kerry Heit
- Ms Paula Bowler
- Miss Mikki Holder
- Mrs Cheryl Mallett
- Mr Chris Platell
- Miss Aleisha Neumann
- Mr Tony Cush
- Ms Natalie Kefford
- Mrs Melissa Young

Best wishes to the following staff who will be taking some long service leave at the start of 2014:

- Mrs Gayle Rankine for all of Semester I
- Mrs Jenny Underwood for all of Term I
- Mr Steve Oliphant for all of Term I and some of Term II.

Best wishes to Miss Renee Cullen, Miss Jessica Boyle and Miss Kristen Freyling who have special leave for all of 2014. We hope you have an enjoyable and beneficial experience on leave and look forward to your return to our school in 2015.

Special thanks to Mrs Diana Wain who is retiring from teaching after many years of working at our school. Thank you for your quiet and thoughtful work with our students and staff and best wishes for the future.

CURRICULUM
Semester II Reports are being distributed as follows:

- Year 12 EXIT CERTIFICATES - Available at the School Office now
- Year 10 & 11 SEMESTER II REPORTS - Available at the School Office on Monday 9 December
- Year 8 & 9 END OF SEMESTER II REPORTS - Distributed to students on final Assembly on Thursday 12 December, 2:45pm.

We look forward to the Year 12 students receiving their Overall Positions on Monday 16 December, and wish them well for their future work and study opportunities.

COMING EVENTS

- Yr 10 & 11 Sem II Reports available for collection from school office.
- Normal lessons for Yr 8 & 9 students
- Alternate activities for Yr 8 & 9 students.
- School Assembly to distribute Semester II Reports and conclude school year.
- Year 12 students receive Senior Certificates
- School Office reopens
- Student Free Days
- Australia Day Holiday
- School resumes for all students.

David Ballin, PRINCIPAL
SUBJECTS FOR 2014
CURRENT YEAR 8 & 9 STUDENTS
By this time students in Year 8 & 9 (Year 9 & 10 in 2014) should have received their confirmed electives for next year. These have been taken from the preference sheets that students filled in and at this stage every student will be studying the listed subjects for one semester each. All students should be aware that there were some subjects that didn’t run due to lack of numbers. In other cases some students may have selected subjects that were on the same line, so their top preference of the two was given to them. In every case we have given students their highest preferences possible. Please note that given the short timeframe of study for the subjects, it is not possible to change. However, if a student believes that there may have been a mistake they are welcome to see me and we can check their preference sheet. If your student has not collected their preferences they have until Thursday 12th to see their Year Level Co-ordinator.

STUDENT NOTEBOOKS & BOOKLISTS
Booklists – all students should receive next year’s booklists when they get their report cards. However, after both of those dates, copies of any year level’s booklists can be collected from the front office.

Notebooks – I would like to encourage every family to purchase separate notebooks for EVERY subject where they are required as per the booklist. It means that students can submit their notebook for teacher corrections/checking without disadvantaging them in other classes and generally assists students to keep their work for each subject in the correct notebook.

General subject requirements – For 2014 it would be great to see every student arrive at class with a pencil case that has red & blue/black pens, lead pencils, sharpener, eraser & ruler at the very least. This, along with their diary should be the absolute minimum that is taken to every class, every day.

END THE YEAR ON A POSITIVE NOTE
Behaviour
It is important that we all finish the year well on a positive note. Please encourage your son/daughter to maintain high standards of behaviour and work right through until the end of the school year. This will not just help at this time of the year but will also set students up for a great start to 2014.

Attendance
There is a direct link between student attendance and results at school. To ensure your child achieves the best results that they can it is important that they attend school on each and every school day.

Mobile phones/ipods
A reminder that mobile phones and mp3 players are to be left at the office before school and collected at the end of the day. Students found with these items will be required to hand them to staff and then collect them from the office at the end of the day. Parents are required to collect these when students are found with them for a second time. This process is about removing unnecessary distractions to allow students to achieve their potential.

Take the time to reflect on the school year. Celebrate the successes and plan the necessary change to improve the other areas. Please work with us to provide your sons and daughters with a smooth and successful finish to the year.

UNIFORM
Over the Christmas break you will no doubt prepare for the year ahead. Please ensure the requirements for our school uniform (as listed on page 17 of the School Prospectus) are met. Our school mission is to prepare students for life. Life requires compliance with rules and regulations in countless areas. There is a need to eliminate distraction of competition of dress and promote the positive link between dress standards, school discipline and school spirit.

Shoes: black only leather/vinyl (fully enclosed/impervious uppers)
Girls: socks, sky blue or white. Tuesdays = sky blue socks.
Boys: socks, white or long grey. Tuesdays = grey long socks.

Pauline Peters & Scott Dempster, ATTP

FROM THE CHAPLAIN
Thoughts on Christmas
Comparing Jesus to Santa Claus
Santa lives at the North Pole...
JESUS is everywhere.
Santa rides in a sleigh...
JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.
Santa comes but once a year...
JESUS is an ever present help.
Santa fills your stockings with goodies...
JESUS supplies all your needs.
Santa comes down your chimney uninvited...
JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.
You have to wait in line to see Santa...
JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.
Santa lets you sit on his lap...
JESUS lets you rest in His arms.
Santa doesn’t know your name, all he can say is “Hi little boy or girl, what’s your name?”...
JESUS knew our name before we were born. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.
Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly...
JESUS has a heart full of love.
All Santa can offer is HO HO HO...
JESUS offers health, help and hope.
Santa says “You better not cry”...
JESUS says “Cast all your cares on me for I care for you.”
Santa’s little helpers make toys...
JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.
Santa may make you chuckle but...
JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.
While Santa puts gifts under your tree...
JESUS became our gift and died on a tree...the cross.
We need to put Christ back in CHRISTmas, Jesus is still the reason for the season.
http://www.thoughts-about-god.com/christmas/jesus_better.htm

For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16
Ruth Wright, CHAPLAIN 41600 686

Keep Christ in Christmas
DID YOU KNOW?
5.4 million Australians suffer food poisoning each year.
Food poisoning is caused by eating contaminated food. Symptoms include nausea, stomach cramps, vomiting, diarrhoea, fever and headaches. Minimise the risk of food poisoning by taking simple precautions.
1. Defrost meat overnight in the refrigerator, not on the bench top or sink
2. Wash hands thoroughly before preparing food
3. Use a separate chopping board and knife for meat
4. Refrigerate perishable foods within 2 hours (leftovers, meats, dairy).

Recommended shelf-life for refrigerated items:
- Seafood: 3 days
- Meat: 3-5 days
- Cured Meat: 2-3 weeks
- Poultry: 3 days
- Leftovers: 3-5 days

If something smells “off” or is slimy then throw it away! More helpful tips are found on the CSIRO website: www.csiro.au/resources/handling-food-in-the-home

Annette Montebello, School Based Health Nurse

LIBRARY NEWS
Congratulations to the Year 10, 11 and 12 students who have returned their library and textbooks. Unfortunately there are 228 resources still outstanding at the time of writing. If you have any school resources ‘on holidays’ at your home, please send them back to school ASAP. Students need to have this sorted prior to collecting report cards.

Year 8 and 9 students have received their current loan list this week. All resources listed must be returned to the library by Friday 8 December. Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Stocktake is underway across the school, with subject area and library resources being checked. Again, if you have any ‘stray’ books at your house, please return them. They may not be on your overdues, but they are probably on someone else’s list. All resources need to be checked and sorted, ready for distribution in 2014. Form teachers will be in contact with students regarding overdues and letters will be sent out at the end of the year, but it is much more convenient for all involved if resources are returned to school as requested.

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their cooperation and support in 2013, especially Mrs Oliphant and Mrs Ahnon who work tirelessly in the library and across the school. I hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas break and that you all get some time to read over the holidays.

Judy Conomos, Librarian

AUXILIARY NEWS
The last meeting for 2013 was held on 20 November and $20000 was donated to the P & C, bringing the total to $90000 for the year. A big thanks to Lorraine and her helpers in the Canteen for making this possible. Also many thanks to the volunteers who have donated their time and cooking for the various events we have catered for during the year. The more helpers, the easier it makes for all. The AGM will be held on 19 February 2014 at 2.30pm and it would be good to see new faces. Positions on the Committee will be open for nominations, so if you can spare the time and interested in this, please let us know. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas break and see you again in 2014.

Tracey Fleischfresser, Auxiliary Representative

SPECIAL CANTEEN MENU FOR LAST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL

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<td>Fish &amp; Chips</td>
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- KINGAROY EMBROIDERY – SCHOOL SHIRT DISCOUNT FOR 2014

- KINGAROY CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL 12 December, 5pm to 9pm. Free Entertainment – See Santa at 6:15pm! Rides, slides, Pony Rides, Food, Craft and Free Animal Farm.

- KINGAROY NETBALL ASSOCIATION AGM will be held on Monday 9 December, 6pm at the Club House.

- KINGAROY TOUCH ASSOCIATION 2014 DATES: Junior Sign-on & Games – Monday 03/02/14 from 5pm Senior Men & Women Mixed Sign-on – Monday 03/02/14 from 6pm Touch Grounds – Contact Lee on 0407 034 021

The BreastScreen Queensland Toowoomba Service

BREASTSCREEN BUS
is coming to
KINGAROY HOSPITAL
From 20 January to 13 February 2014

New Annual Service for NEW and ANNUAL
Clients Only
Regular Service to Return October 2014

For your FREE Breastscreen Call 132050
Women aged 50-69 are particularly encouraged to attend, but the service is also available for women aged 40-49 and women over 70 years.

Happy Holidays