



Kandos HIGH SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back everyone, I hope that all of the students and staff had a fabulous break and are ready for another productive and enjoyable year. We ended last year with some of our students enjoying our annual Privilege excursion. It was also my first Presentation Day at Kandos High School and it was great to see the students recognised for their success throughout 2019.

Last Wednesday it was great to see all the staff and new year 7 students and parents that attended our welcome barbecue. It was an opportunity to meet and have a friendly chat, over a sausage sizzle, getting to know each other or catching up on what has been happening. Thank you Mr Vaughan for co-ordinating the event.

2020 sees some new faces and known faces join our school team, please join with me in welcoming them into our school community: Ms Jennifer Seach, Miss Shannon Pennell, Mrs Jess Jenkins, Mr Daniel Skourmallas, Mrs Natasha Vidler, Mrs Brittany Anderson and Mr Gianluca Della Libera.

Our students have hit the ground running: electing Sports House Captains; harvesting honey; visiting University of Wollongong; Year 7 have participated in their Best Start Assessment. Unfortunately we had to post-pone today's swimming carnival, hopefully it will be next week.

Some general house keeping in regards to students attendance at school:

- Formal supervision of students commences at 8.30 am each day. It is expected that when students arrive at school that they move directly into the school's playground and not leave the school grounds, or loiter at the school gates. There is always a Head Teacher on duty monitoring uniforms and students behaviour, in case any students need assistance.
- Students are invited to attend "Breakfast Club" from 7.30 am where they participate in a workout before having breakfast.
- Roll Call is at 9:00 am each day. Any late students need to report to the Front Office.

PERIOD TIMES	
Roll Call	9:00 - 9.20
Period 1	9:20 - 10:10
Period 2	10:10 - 11:00
Recess	11:00 - 11:20
Period 3	11:20 - 12:10
Period 4	12:10 - 1:00
Lunch 1	1:00 - 1:20
Lunch 2	1:20 - 1:40
Period 5	1:40 - 2:30
Period 6	2:30 - 3:20

What's on?

2020

Monday 10/2/20

Tuesday 11/2/20

Wednesday 12/2/20

Thursday 13/2/20

Friday 14/2/20

Study Break Cafe

Monday 17/2/20

Tuesday 18/2/20

Maths Tutoring 3.30 - 4.30pm Rm 3

Wednesday 19/2/20

Thursday 20/2/20

HSC Student Day, excursion to University of Sydney

Friday 21/2/20

Study Break Cafe

- When a student is absent from school on their first day back they should bring a note to explain their absence unless contact has already been made with the school.
- Please remember that students retain more of what they are learning at school when they attend regularly and take an active role in their learning.
- If parents need to contact students throughout the day, please don't call them during lesson time. If it is urgent, please call the office and a staff member will get the message to your child.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."
C.S. Lewis

Until next time....

Dyanna Thommeny
Principal



WELCOMING NEW STAFF IN 2020



Mrs Jess Jenkins

I have just recently got married and moved to the area. I have been teaching at Scone Grammar School for the last 8 years.

Prior to that I taught here at Kandos High School and loved it. I am now teaching PDHPE and excited to join the team again.

Ms Jennifer Seach

Originally from Campbelltown in South-Western Sydney,
I relocated to Mudgee in 2018.

During 2019 I taught across a range of subject areas at Mudgee High School. This year and into the future, I am delighted to be teaching English at Kandos High School.



Miss Shannon Pennell

After completing my high school studies at Kandos High itself, I began a Fine Art degree at University of Wollongong on the South Coast of NSW. After a year of studies at Wollongong I headed to Curtin University School of Design and Art in Perth, WA where I completed my bachelor degree in Fine Art. After about a year of working in and out of the art industry in Perth, I moved back to NSW and completed my Master of Teaching in Armidale.

I am the Kandos High School Visual Arts teacher for Term 1 and am very happy to be back in the mountains where I grew up. This community helped me to become who I am today, and I am very excited to be able to help our young people reach their own potential both within and beyond the classroom!



Mr Gianluca Della Libera

My name is Gianluca Della Libera, I am 20 years old and one of the newest SLSO's for Kandos High School. I was born in Bankstown but have lived in the Capertee Valley for the best part of my life. I graduated from Kandos High School in 2018 and took a gap year before coming back to school again. I'm looking forward to forming new relationships with the staff and students.



Mrs Brittany Anderson

I finished at Kandos High in 2013 and went on to study Science Teaching at the University of Newcastle. After managing a Dominos Store for the duration of my studies, I've moved back home, bought a house and hope to spend many years teaching back in Kandos.

Mr Daniel Skourmallas

I was born and raised in Wollongong and recently completed my Masters of Teaching last year. I was lucky enough to be granted a rural scholarship through the department which allowed myself to have a full-time position at the completion of my degree.

I was lucky enough to be placed at Kandos High School as my first teaching job as a full time Science Teacher.

In my first year here I will be teaching junior science and STEM; which covers years 7, 8 and 9.



Mrs Natasha Vidler

I am a local community member with 3 of my children attending or having attended Kandos High School.

I have been undertaking further studies to extend my knowledge of inclusive education. I love spending time with my family playing board games, swimming and of course Netflix! I have been lucky enough to teach many of the students in Kandos High when I was a teacher at Kandos Public School.

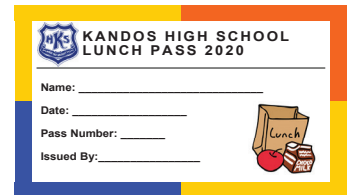
I'm looking forward to working with the staff and students at Kandos High School!

SCHOOL INFORMATION

STUDENT LEAVE

No student is to leave the school grounds without a parental note and permission from the Deputy Principal.

Students leaving the school grounds at lunchtime must either have a regular lunch pass (only to be used to go home for lunch) or an authorisation note signed by the Deputy Principal. Those with a lunch pass or an authorisation note must sign out &/or in at the office on leaving and returning to school. At other times during school hours, students must obtain permission from the Deputy Principal or Principal but still sign out &/or in at the front office.



A yellow and blue form titled 'KANDOS HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH PASS 2020'. It includes fields for Name, Date, Pass Number, and Issued By. There is a small illustration of a lunchbox with a sandwich and a drink.

Parents need to write an annual letter to the school requesting a lunch pass.

SICK STUDENTS

Sick Students must report to the office if unwell. Students **must not** contact parents directly, unless instructed by a staff member. The office staff may decide to allow the student to lie down in Sick Bay; administer first aid, organise medical help (ambulance or doctor) or telephone for a parent to take their child home as necessary.

LATE STUDENTS

Any students arriving late to school must bring a note explaining their lateness, **go to the office** to register their arrival and check the daily notices before going off to class.

If students are late to class, they will not be admitted unless they have a clearance slip from the Principal, Deputy Principal or previous teacher.

BUS CONCESSIONS

All enquiries relating to bus travel, subsidies and student concession passes are to be directed to the office. To see if you are eligible go to www.transportnsw.info/school-students

SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY

Subsidy is available for eligible school students, who are residents of NSW and where there is no public transport available for all or part of their journey to school. School Drive Subsidy is paid based on the distance between the student's home and the nearest transport pick up point or school. The School Drive Subsidy may also be available on medical grounds. To see if you are eligible go to www.transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive



SCHOOL LEAVERS

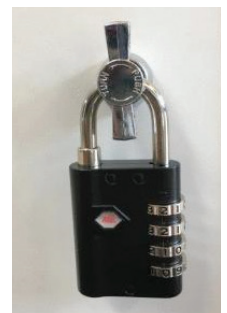
School leavers should bring a note from a parent and report to the office before undertaking a similar procedure as for new enrolments. All items on loan from the school must be returned during the 'leaving process' and monies outstanding paid.

LOCKERS

Lockers are available to all year groups and cost \$5.00 per year to hire.

VALUABLES

The school cannot take responsibility for personal items brought to the school. Valuables must be left at home except in special cases. If it is necessary to bring valuables to school, please see the Deputy Principal. Students are encouraged to take their bags into classrooms with them, except the specialist rooms, in order to discourage theft from their bags.



2020 GENERAL PERMISSION NOTES

Upon enrolling at Kandos High School, all parents / caregivers complete general permission forms that include: participating in local excursions; acceptable use policy for technology; BYOD; and a parental agreement to grant KHS permission to collect data and publish information regarding their child. This information will remain as stated and granted by parents / caregivers from the previous year. Parents and caregivers can visit or contact the office if they wish to make changes.

ENTRY & EXIT OF BUILDINGS

The Glass security doors into the office area are not for student use. Students should use the breezeway doors and doorway near the back ramp for entry and exit from the main building.

PARENT PAYMENTS

Cash, cheque or EFT payments can be made directly at the school office. Alternately, parents have the option to pay online, the Parent Online Payments (POP), via Kandos High School's website, by clicking on the "Make a Payment" tab: kandos-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Payments include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other' and this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings. 'Other' can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the \$ Make a payment you must enter:

- the student's name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the student's name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields OR there is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number these are not used at our school this year, please leave blank. Parents will be advised in the new year when changes come into effect.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

EXPLAINING ABSENCES

Absences are recorded by the classroom teacher and monitored by the school and the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) in Mudgee.

To explain the absence parent and carers may:

- Send a note, SMS, fax or email to the school;
- Telephone the school; or
- Visit the school.

It is important to explain the reason for the absence.

Reasons that sick leave will be granted include:

- Illness - such as having a tummy bug, the flu, vomiting, strong pain/headache/migraine, nose bleed, rash, asthma, temperatures, infection illnesses eg chicken pox etc
- Injury - such as breaking a limb, spraining an ankle or a broken tooth
- Medical appointments - such as a Paediatrician, Optometrist, Physiotherapist, Speech Therapist, Hearing and Dental appointments
- Family – such as funeral, moving residences, arrival/departure of an immediate relative from overseas, unavoidable involvement in a serious family incident, etc.
- Other reasons – such as transport difficulty, misadventure and unforeseen events eg fire, flood.

In accordance with the Department of Education, reasons that you **CANNOT** receive leave for and that will be recorded as an **UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE** include:

- Slept in
- Helping with housework
- Mental health day
- Relatives visiting / family business
- Haircuts / shopping
- Birthdays





Love Your Library on February 14

Move over St Valentine! February 14 is now also known as 'Library Lovers' Day'. To celebrate, in 2020, we are trying to help people (both students and staff) to reconnect with the library – be it our school library or a nearby public library.

Too often, we librarian staff, hear comments such as 'who needs libraries when we have Google?', or, when they hear that you work in the library, the response is 'so you just spend all day reading and telling people to be quiet!'

Today, more than ever, libraries play an essential role and events such as Library Lovers' Day aim to raise the profile of the services that most people don't even realise are freely available to them in this information age.



What can your library and/or librarian do for you, that Google can't?

1. Provide access to curated information that specifically meets your needs

Trying to find quality information on the internet has been described as trying to take a sip of water from a fire hydrant. Even choosing a novel to read can be an overwhelming experience when faced with the millions of titles available through providers such as Amazon.

Your library provides access to information and resources that have been carefully curated, chosen because they are of high quality and will meet local needs. What's more, your library staff has been specifically trained to help you find the information you want; they know tips and tricks for searching online, have access to databases and indexes that allow them to drill down into areas that a simple surface search will not reach, and are familiar with the collection of resources that are currently available.

Library staff take pride in developing rich library catalogues that take users directly to high quality resources; the ten top 'hits' on a catalogue are probably much closer to what you need than the ten top 'hits' from a simple Google search.

2. Provide access to resources and items which may not be practical to purchase

Not everyone can afford to buy every book they want to read. Educational resources, used once in a classroom, can be difficult to justify, and technology is so expensive that it is often not worth buying something that you just want to play with to see if you like it.

Libraries can come to the rescue! Loaning out expensive items that are often used as a 'once off' makes economic sense, and in an age of sustainability also reduces waste. KHS library has access to increasing numbers of kits such as the Despatch Box and realia such as Indigenous and religious artefacts, which schools can borrow for the period of time in which they require these resources. Expensive texts can be borrowed so that teachers can peruse them before making the decision to invest, and DVDs, CDs, puppets and posters are available for effective lessons that involve multimedia, without the need for purchase.

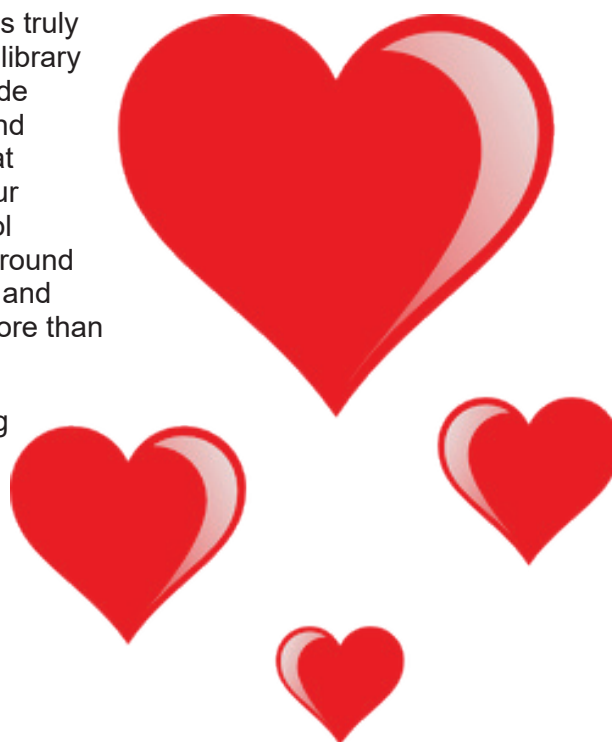
3. Provide a social space to meet, collaborate, research, learn, share, relax!

The library provides one of the last public spaces which is truly free. While some may insist that the stereotypical 'silent' library still exists, in most places you will find that libraries provide spaces for meeting, talking, working, studying, playing and more. With great examples of modern libraries we here at Kandos High School are also working towards making our space a welcoming, flexible learning environment. School libraries have long been a place of refuge from the playground for many students, and now, with changing technologies and concepts, libraries are even more exciting places to explore than ever before.

By promoting Library Lovers Day this year, we are asking everyone to share why they loved their library! So send us a comment or message.

If you haven't visited your nearest library recently, take the time to drop by. Make it a date!

Kandos High School
Friendly Library Staff
Mrs Fuller & Mrs Murray

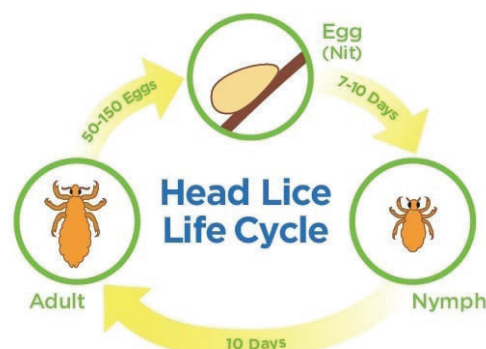


HEADLICE

Headlice have been reported to be present in the hair of some students at our school, please check your child's hair for nits/lice tonight using the methods recommended in information from NSW Health (<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx>).

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website (details above) or through the Department's website at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>.



2019 PRESENTATION DAY

What a way to finish our school year, celebrating our student's academic and sporting achievements! Congratulations to all of the award recipients. Thank you to our guest speaker Mr Wes Rohr and Kandos Community Charity Shop for their generous donation.

Our school would like to thank everyone from the community that attended supporting these student's and give a shout out to all of our sponsors that contributed towards the students awards: 29 Nine 99; Bowden's Silver Mine; Buckley Family - Mr & Mrs O'Connell; Cafe Family - Mrs Adele Cafe; CGB Services; Cudgegong Bus Line- Mrs Kim Clarke; DHL Solicitors; Dream Dance Academy; Kandos Community Club; Kandos Family Medical Practice; Kandos Hotel; Kandos Rylstone Teachers Association; Kandos RSL Sub Branch; Mid-Town Fuels Kandos; Mudgee Vet Hospital; Peters Refrigeration; Roach Family Trust; Rylstone Ag Supplies; Rylstone Home Hardware; Rylstone Kandos Rotary Club; S&S Wholesale; Skillset; and YanCoal - Moolarben Coal Operations; your generosity and support for this event is very much appreciated.

More photos can be found on our school's website: <https://kandos-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/gallery/presentation-day-2019.html>







Menu

Breakfast & All Day Foods

Raisin toast	
Half melted cheese	
Half melted cheese w/ ham	
Yogurt muesli fruit cups	
Fruit pieces	
Whole fruit	
Egg & Bacon roll	
Half ham & cheese wrap	
Half chicken & cheese wrap	
Ham, cheese & pineapple wrap	
Snacks & Nibbles	
Jelly (GF)	\$1.00
Jelly & Custard	\$1.50
Chocolate mousse (GF)	\$1.50
Mini Muffins - choc, vanilla, banana (GF available)	\$0.20
Yum Yum balls (variety of flavours available)	\$0.30
Mini cookies	\$0.30

Hot Foods

Small pie	\$1.00
Large Pie	\$4.20
Large sausage roll	\$2.60
Spaghetti Bolognese (GF)	\$3.50
Lasagne (GF)	\$3.50
Veggie Lasagne (GF)	\$3.50
Veggie Bake (GF)	\$3.50
Sweet potato bake (GF)	\$3.50
Beef hamburger	\$5.00
Grilled chicken burger	\$5.00
Grilled chicken wrap w/ mayo or sweet chilli sauce	\$5.00
Chicken nuggets	\$0.80
Chicken coujons	\$0.80
Chicken tenders (GF)	\$1.50
Fried rice	\$3.00
Toasted sandwiches (variety of flavours)	\$3.50 – \$5.00
Toasted Pocket	\$5.00

***Daily variety of foods may differ due to availability of produce**



CANTEEN PRICE LIST



CANTEEN PRICE LIST

Cold Foods

Fruit salad (Sml, Med, Lrg) (GF)	\$1 - \$3
Plain Salad (Sml, Lrg) (GF)	\$3 - \$4
Extras – Chicken or Ham	\$1.00
Roast pumpkin salad (GF)	\$3.50
Egg salad	\$3.50
Pasta salad (GF)	\$3.50
Greek salad (GF)	\$3.50
Fetta salad (GF)	\$3.50
Mango salad (when available, GF)	\$3.50
Sushi - tuna, salmon, chicken, veggie (Sml, Lrg) (GF)	\$3.50 - \$4.50
Sushi sandwiches x 4 (GF bread available)	\$4.00
Rice paper rolls (variety of flavours, GF)	\$4.50
Ham pockets x 4 (GF)	\$4.00
Sandwiches (variety of flavours, GF bread available)	\$4.00 - \$6.00
Pockets (variety of flavours)	\$4.00 - \$6.00
Wraps (variety of flavours)	\$5.00

***Daily variety of foods may differ due to availability of produce**

Frozen

Quelch sticks (99% juice)	\$0.50
Monys (Variety of flavours)	\$0.80
Ice cream cups	\$1.00
Juice ice cups (orange and apple)	\$1.00
Bulla frozen yogurt cup	\$2.80
Frosty fruits (GF)	\$1.50
Mini frozen yogurts (variety of flavours)	\$0.80
Splice (pine- lime)	\$2.00
Sorbet cups (flavours vary)	\$2.00

Drinks

Water	\$2.00
Juice cups	\$1.00
Chocolate/strawberry moove	\$2.50
Berry pop-top juices	\$2.00
Sml Plain milk	\$1.00
Medium milkshakes (variety of flavours)	\$3.00
Hot chocolate	\$1.50
Hot milo	\$1.50

HOUSE CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS

Last week each house group voted in 4 student representatives to lead their sporting house at the three annual carnivals in 2020.

This year they will also be involved in organising and running an inter-house competition during lunch on a weekly basis.

Congratulations to the following students.

HOUSE	CAPTAINS	VICE CAPTAINS
KING	Flynn O'Brien Jessica Reynolds	Fletcher Etherton Lainey Fuller
MACQUARIE	Oden Osgood Lalara Hammond	Raymond Sack Chloe Mackander
PHILLIP	Ty Stone Miah Currie	Nathan Boyd Coco Della Libera
HUNTER	Mitchell Godwin Raynor Pearce	Peter Keeley NFP



BUSY BEES

Our Senior Agriculture students have started the year as Apiarists. With the drought causing a pollen shortage, the students fed the bees pollen patties to ensure that breeding continues into the future. In addition, students took frames of honey, removed the wax cap so honey could be spun out and then finally bottled the honey for sale.

Deb Johnston
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning





**You are cordially invited
to the opening of**

February 15 to March 14
Opening Hours: 10-4pm Thu Fri Sat

Opening: 4-6pm Sat
February 15
WAYOUT ArtSpace
71 Angus Ave

DISQUIET

an exhibition of artworks by melanie e khava and Gordon Smith
curated by Leo Cremonese and Georgina Pollard

The establishing exhibition for 2020 at our brand new WAYOUT ArtSpace features the work of melanie e khava and Gordon Smith in a conversation between two practices that each begin from a place of disquiet but arrive at very different results.

Disquiet will be open from February 15 to March 14, 2020

Join us for drinks and nibbles 4-6pm Sat Feb 15

WAYOUT ArtSpace 71 Angus Ave
Opening Hours: 10-4pm Thu Fri Sat



Cementa inc. is supported by the NSW Government through CreateNSW

WOLLONGONG DISCOVERY DAYS

On Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 February, Year 12 students participated in the 'Discovery Days' program at Wollongong University.

This is to provide students with an opportunity to experience, first hand, what university life is like and is geared to get students thinking about their future.

Julie Parsons
Careers Advisor



STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK FOR JANUARY: TOP TIPS FOR A NEW YEAR

With the beginning of the new year, it's always a great time to reassess your academic approach. The key to making the most of this opportunity is focusing on the things which will bring the biggest return.

1. Simplify Your Organization System

Every student has an organization system. True, the definition of "organization" may be looser for some students than others, but everyone has a way they stay organized (or attempt to).

Maybe you're the "Type-A" student and you have a clearly defined system. You'll know that you're "Type-A" by the file folders you both own and use, the folded socks in your drawer, and all the lists by which you keep track of important information. You probably have a calendar, a planner, and you know exactly which clothing is clean and which is dirty.

But not everyone fits in such a naturally organized world. These students can be called "Type-B."

If you're a "Type-B" student, you're not alone, but organization probably requires more effort. "Type-B" students tend to prefer "piling systems" to filing cabinets. Calendars often seem like too much work, so they'd rather just put everything in their backpacks and find it later. Students on the far end of the "Type-B" universe may even find themselves sorting laundry via the "smell check" method.

Regardless of whether you are a Type A or B student, though, one of the biggest difference-makers this year is your organization system. Few things will save time and improve academic performance the way an effective organization system will.

A great organization system has at its centre one goal: replace your brain.

The more organized you are, the less you have to think. Your organization system should be simple enough that you don't have to make any decisions about where you put new assignments, where to find completed assignments, or what to do with graded assignments. You shouldn't have to go through a mental checklist every time you study because your organization system does it for you.

The fewer decisions you need to make, the more your thoughts and energy can focus on things that matter. Consider these four questions to determine how simple your organization system is right now:

- Do you have good systems in place to manage and organize both the paper and digital resources for school?
- Do you have a system to make sure that all assignments and due dates are marked on your calendar / planner?
- Do you have a system to focus on what needs to be done today and not just what's due tomorrow?

When you can answer each of these four questions without thinking, you'll know that your organization system is simple enough to be a major asset this year.

2. Break the "Cram Cycle" Before it Starts

By the end of the semester, students often find themselves overloaded and overwhelmed, having to rely on cramming for final exams to get through to the break. They are exhausted and in survival mode. Thriving academically no longer matters. All that matters is the break at the end.

If you've ever felt this way, you've experienced what we call the "Cram Cycle." Students get busy during the semester, which leads to exhaustion. When you're exhausted, the only thing you want to do is zone out for a bit. After an afternoon of zoning, students are forced to put all their effort into completing assignments that are due tomorrow. We call this "cramming." As students work on only that which is due tomorrow, long-term assignments pile up and create even more busyness, which leads to exhaustion, and the "Cram Cycle" begins to accelerate.

Most students only get out of the "Cram Cycle" when the semester ends.

But this year can be different. If you want to stay out of this dreaded cycle, commit yourself to doing some independent learning at least five days a week, even when you don't have anything due the next day. Use every day as a review day, spreading out your study sessions for big tests and projects across multiple days instead of letting them pile up. This approach takes more effort initially to create these habits, but you'll reap the benefits when you're free of the "Cram Cycle" and the stress that follows it come finals season.

3. Supercharge Retention with Scientifically-verified Study Strategies

Everyone knows that taking notes is a good idea. Reading your textbooks seem like a great thing to do. And you've probably learned that it's best to have a consistent place to study, one which is quiet, clean, and comfortable enough (but not TOO comfortable).

But what are the strategies that have been scientifically-verified to boost your retention?

One of the best things you can do is to take a break in the middle of your study sessions. In one study psychologists wanted to find out whether there was any difference in "spacing" a study session (this means to take a break in the middle) or "massing" instead (which means that you hammer it out all at once).

The researchers took two randomly-chosen, equal groups of students, gave them the same amount of study time, gave them the same material, and tested them on the material afterward. The only difference was that one group took a short break in the middle and the other group didn't. The results were incredible.

The group that studied with "spacing" did 50% better than the group that studied with "massing." That means in the same amount of study time, you could potentially boost your retention by 50% by just taking a ten-minute break.

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au . Our school's access details are:

Username: kandoshs
Password: 28success

BANARDOS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all students and staff who donated gifts for the Banardos Christmas appeal. The donations were collected and distributed to registered families within our community.

Thank you to Mrs Cheryl Murray for co-ordinating this appeal.



PARENTS!!! We need your support

*Encourage your child to read
EACH night for 15 minutes.*

Year 7 and 8 students will soon be introduced to a new reading program at Kandos High School. The purpose of the Renaissance Accelerated Reading Program is to support the improvement of reading skills in **all students**.

Whilst the purchase of this program has been relatively expensive, we believe that the money is a great investment in student learning. However, the benefits of the program rely on the practice of students reading on a **regular basis**. Therefore, we ask that parents help support their child's learning by **encouraging and monitoring** their regular reading at home.

The program is systematic in its approach, designed around students reading at or just above their individual reading capability level. Books will be evaluated and identified to show which levels they correspond with, allowing students the chance to read at their own capability.

Through the program students will be engaged with developing skills in comprehension, developing reading strategies and making connections with a story.

An additional purpose of the program is to foster a **love of reading** and a recognition of the **benefits that reading offers us** as lifelong learners.

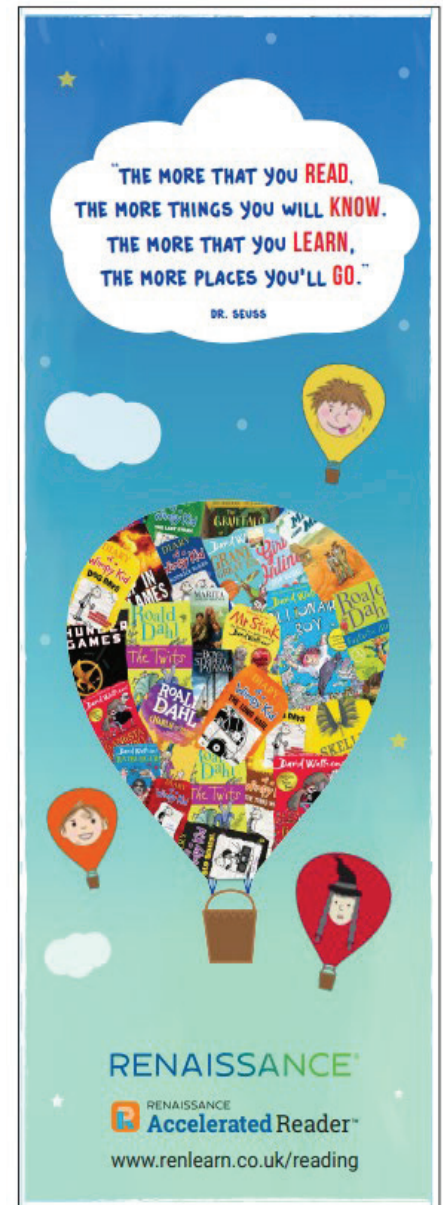
The program aims to be a positive approach to reading and comprehension development with rewards being given for achievements, effort and engagement.

Student reading will be monitored and reflected on by staff at Kandos High School. Staff will identify students who need support and the specific support that is required. Staff will monitor student's reading practises, reading regularity and comprehension of what they are reading.

Students will be issued with a reading diary to record the reading they do at home or throughout opportunities offered to them in class time.

Other schools in our region are using this program and have seen very positive results in the development of student's capabilities and engagement. We believe that this will be the result at Kandos High School as well.

Through taking quizzes about books they have read, students will show their comprehension and understanding of their reading. Staff will get a comprehensive set of reports which reveal how much a student has been reading, at what level of complexity and how well they have understood what they have read. Vocabulary growth and literacy skills are also measured, giving teachers insight into how well students have responded to the reading scheme and the class instruction. The reports that staff receive will allow them to see how well students are performing at class, group and individual level. It will also help teachers to recognise and diagnose problems and direct the interventions needed.





Sample report showing a student's growth and achievement in reading

If you have any questions regarding the Renaissance Accelerated Reading program, please contact me and I will answer your queries.

Helen Fuller
Renaissance Reading Co-ordinator

BEST START YEAR 7 ASSESSMENT 2020

This year our school will participate in Best Start Year 7, an online literacy and numeracy assessment available to secondary schools at the start of Term 1.

Best Start Year 7 assesses key literacy and numeracy skills of Year 7 students. It is designed to assist teachers to identify students who may require additional support in developing their literacy and numeracy skills.

Best Start Year 7 is just one of a range of assessments the school uses to assess students.

Please inform the school if your child has special needs requiring support to complete an online assessment.

Mrs Nikki O'Brien
Acting Learning and Support Teacher



UPCOMING PAYMENTS & PERMISSION NOTES

Just a reminder that payments and permission notes are due for the following:

- Course Fees and Voluntary Contributions
- HSC Science Study Lab, online access \$25
- 20th Feb - 2020 HSC Student Day, University of Sydney, note and \$50 due by 14th Feb 2020
- 1st to 3rd April - Year 9 Excursion, notes and \$300 due by Friday 27th Mar 2020



PARENT PAYMENTS

Cash, cheque or EFT payments can be made directly at the school office. Alternately, parents have the option to pay by using an online option, the Parent Online Payments (POP), via Kandos High School's website, by clicking on the "[Make a Payment](#)" tab and following the instructions.

**Give life.
Give blood in
Rylstone.**

**Australian Red Cross
Lifeblood**

Tuesday 18th February

Rylstone
Mobile Blood Donor Centre
Rylstone Showground
Cudgegong Street
Open 9am - 2.15pm

give blood

Kandos High School and Community Bus proudly sponsored by

BOWDENS SILVER