



**Kandos**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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Official Kandos High School

[kandos-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://kandos-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

# Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 2022



## WELCOME BACK!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome staff and students back to a new school year at Kandos High School. We would like to welcome our new Year 7 and 11 students who have joined us this year and their families into our school community. We also welcome new staff to the team: Mrs Alisa Burlington who has joined us from Kandos Public School as an SLSO and Miss Emily Gardiner in English.

Miss Thommeny will be on leave for the first 5 weeks of the term and as a result, I will be relieving as Principal. Miss Kelson has accepted the role of Relieving Deputy Principal and Mr Skourmallas will be Relieving Head Teacher of Science during this time.

We were fortunate to have 3 members of our school community nominated for local Australia Day Awards. Halli O'Brien was successful with her nomination for the Sports Award. Mrs Cheryl Murray and Ms Theresa Therese were nominated for the Glen Johnston Memorial Award – Arts and Music for their contribution to school musicals.

Year 12 received their HSC results during the holidays. Well done on your achievements, you triumphed during challenging times and we all wish you well in your new endeavours.

COVID continues to be a consideration with school based activities and we are following NSW Health and Department of Education guidelines to ensure the safety of students and staff. As a result, we have had to postpone our Swimming Carnival and our Year 7 Welcome BBQ. New dates for these events will be announced when restrictions ease.

A fortnight supply of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) were available for collection at the end of the holidays and we thank parents and students for their understanding and support with this voluntary process. The use of RATs, at this time, is for the first 4 weeks of term. Next week students will be issued with more tests. These tests for weeks 3 and 4 will be distributed to students during period 5 and 6 on Wednesday 9 February.

As always, our focus this year will be on providing a quality public education to students in a supportive environment. If you have any concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact their Year Adviser:

Year 7 – Mrs Vidler

Year 10 – Ms Besant

Year 8 – Ms Toufayli

Year 11 – Mr Skourmallas

Year 9 – Mr Vaughan

Year 12 – Mrs Reynolds

*Deb Johnston*

**Relieving Principal**

[kandos-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kandos-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) | [www.kandos-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.kandos-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

### What's on?

## 2022

Monday, 7 February 2022

Tuesday, 8 February 2022

Wednesday, 9 February 2022

Thursday, 10 February 2022

Friday, 11 February 2022

Monday, 14 February 2022

Tuesday, 15 February 2022

Wednesday, 16 February 2022

Thursday, 17 February 2022

Friday, 18 February 2022

**Unfortunately we have had to postpone our annual Swimming Carnival and Year 7 Welcome BBQ - new dates will be advised.**

## AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Three of our school community were recognised for their contribution and achievement in sport and performing arts.

Halli O'Brien was awarded the Sports Award for her representation in squash, touch football, rugby union, rugby league, athletics, basketball and soccer. She was runner up in the NSW combined High Schools Under 15 Girls Squash Championship and won the NSW Combined High School State Squash Titles. Halli also represented in the Western Region Under 15 Girls Combined High Schools Touch Football Team who made the semi finals at the State Championships. In her spare time, she umpires and coaches teams.

Mrs Cheryl Murray and Ms Theresa Therese were nominated for the Glen Johnston Memorial Award - Arts and Music. This nomination recognised the time that they have spent over many years developing Kandos High School Musicals. Following 2 years of postponements, fingers crossed that 2022 will be the year of "Priscilla".

Well done on these achievements.

*Deb Johnston*  
**Relieving Principal**



## INTRODUCING EMILY GARDINER

My name is Emily Gardiner, and I will be teaching at Kandos High School as an English/HSIE teacher this year. I recently graduated from the University of Wollongong with a Master of Teaching (Secondary) in 2021, and before that my Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English Literature and Creative Writing. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone and settling back into my hometown. I've missed it here!

*Emily Gardiner*  
**English/HSIE Teacher**



## BIRTH OF NEW KHS FAMILY MEMBER

We would like to wish a huge congratulations to proud parents, mummy Millie and daddy Johnson, on the birth of their son Johnnie!

Welcome to the KHS family!



## FENCING CONTRACTORS IN THE MAKING

At the end of last year, students from Year 8 through to Year 12 who study Agriculture contributed in various ways to a fencing project at the Ag Plot. With financial support from Nanna's Haberdashery, materials and equipment were purchased to replace the existing boundary fence on the Howard Park side of the Ag Plot.

Students worked as a team, under the guidance of Will Derwent and Logan Perry in all types of weather to remove wooden posts, dug holes for new steel replacements and ran and strained wires. The project developed many qualities in students including team work, problem solving and patience.

*Mrs Johnston*  
**Agriculture Teacher**



### NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2022 the following vaccines will be offered:

YEARS	VACCINE	NUMBER OF DOSES
Year 7	Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	2-doses at least 6 months apart
	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine	Single dose
Years 10	Meningococcal ACWY vaccine	Single dose

*Parent Information Kits* that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child's school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Please note that, to improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered catch-up vaccination for any missed doses, including:

- during Year 8 (for HPV and dTpa vaccination) and during Year 11 (for Meningococcal ACWY vaccination) for consent signed in 2021
- during Year 9 or Year 12 to students in Years 9 and 12 (who were in Years 7 and 10 respectively in 2020) who missed vaccination during 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 disruptions. PHUs will minimise school disruptions by offering extended catch-up vaccination during routine Year 7 and 10 clinics.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/).

***A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic either as a physical card or a text message sent to the mobile number recorded on the consent form. Details about vaccinations given at school will also be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to support complete vaccination histories.***

Western NSW Local Health District  
ABN 50 629 556 404

**Public Health Unit**  
covering Western NSW and Far West  
Local Health Districts  
PO Box 143  
BATHURST NSW 2795

Telephone: 1300 066 055 Fax: 02 6332 3137

# 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 - application form attached) or an authorisation note signed by the Deputy Principal. Those with a lunch pass or an authorisation note must sign out and/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 and/or in at the front office.

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](http://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](http://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.



## 2022 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, unless presenting late for school.

## 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](http://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. It is important to explain the reason for the absence.

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.

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





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## LUNCH PASS APPLICATION

Students at Kandos High School may apply for a 'Lunch Pass' which gives them permission to leave the school grounds to go home for lunch. Students in Year 11 and Year 12 with exemplary behaviour may also be granted permission to walk to the Kandos CBD for lunch.

### To be eligible for a lunch pass a student must:

1. Complete and return a signed Kandos High School Lunch Pass Application.
2. Reside within a 4-kilometre radius of Kandos High or have a family member who resides within this radius where the student may go for lunch.
3. Students must use their lunch pass to go directly to and from the nominated address only.
4. Any exceptions to these conditions will only be approved via consultation with the Principal or a nominated delegate.

### Additional requirements for students in Year 11 and Year 12

5. If driving, students must reside within a 10-kilometre radius of Kandos High or have a family member who resides within this radius where the student may go for lunch.
6. If driving, students must not transport other students in their vehicle unless they are a sibling with permission from a parent.

### Students in Year 11 and 12 with exemplary behaviour

7. Students in Year 11 and 12 with exemplary behaviour can apply for a lunch pass to walk to the Kandos CBD to purchase lunch.
8. To be eligible for this privilege students must have no negative Sentral entries for a minimum period of four weeks prior to application and no prior violations of a lunch pass.
9. The student and parent must also sign the Year 11 and 12 section of the lunch pass application.
10. Any exceptions to these conditions will only be approved via consultation with the Principal or a nominated delegate.

### Expectations of students with a Lunch Pass:

If students do not adhere to these expectations, their Lunch Pass will be suspended or revoked.

1. Students must sign out at the office at the start of lunch and sign in at the office immediately on their return to school, **before** the end of lunch bell.
2. Students must go to their nominated address only.
3. Students must uphold the Kandos High core values whilst they are in the community by being responsible, respectful, and maintaining positive relationships.
4. Any student who is placed on Level 2 or above will automatically have their lunch pass suspended until they are able to complete their monitoring card.
5. Students who receive a lunchtime detention will be permitted to use their lunch pass but must complete the detention the following day.

### Consequences for not meeting expectations:

1. First offence- a minimum two-day suspension of Lunch Pass and parent phone call.
2. Second offence- a minimum one-week suspension of Lunch Pass and parent phone call.
3. Third offence- Lunch Pass will be revoked.

Please complete the following details to apply for a Kandos High School Lunch Pass:

<b>Name of Child</b>		<b>Will child be going home or to a relative?</b> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Relative <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>If relative, relationship to child</b> _____
<b>Address where child will be having lunch</b>			
I have read and understand the conditions which my child must abide by, and I have discussed these conditions with my child. I understand that any variation of these conditions will only be granted via consultation with the Principal or a nominated delegate.			
<b>Student Name</b>		<b>Parent Name</b>	
<b>Student Signature</b>		<b>Parent Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>		<b>Date</b>	
<b>CBD Lunch Pass- Year 11 and 12 Students Only</b>			
I give permission for my child to walk to the Kandos CBD to purchase lunch. I understand that this is a privilege and that if my child does not adhere to the additional expectation of upholding exemplary behaviour whilst at school and in the community this privilege will be revoked.			
<b>Student Name</b>		<b>Parent Name</b>	
<b>Student Signature</b>		<b>Parent Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>		<b>Date</b>	
<b>Permission to Drive - Year 11 and 12 Students Only</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> I give permission for my child to drive home for lunch. <input type="checkbox"/> I give permission for my child to transport their sibling/s home for lunch. <input type="checkbox"/> I understand that my child must not transport other students in their vehicle, or this privilege will be revoked.			
<b>Student Name</b>		<b>Parent Name</b>	
<b>Student Signature</b>		<b>Parent Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>		<b>Date</b>	

Please return this form to the Kandos High School Office. If approved your child will be given a Lunch Pass. If denied, a staff member will be in contact with you to discuss your application.





**Kandos**  
HIGH SCHOOL

Dyanna Thommeny, Principal  
Debbieann Johnston, Deputy Principal

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28 January 2022

Dear parents and carers,

**Year 7, 11 and 12 students (who are well & not identified as a close contact) return Tuesday 1 February 2022.**

**Year 8, 9 and 10 students (who are well & not identified as a close contact) return Wednesday 2 February 2022.**

Welcome to a new school year, we are looking forward to seeing students back at school next week. While this is not going to be a normal school start to the school year, we know that being together in the classroom is the most effective way for our students to learn and grow. We will be continuing to safeguard our school community, while keeping our school open, the health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority.

We will start with a layered approach with COVID-smart measures developed in partnership with NSW Health.

These key measures include:

- Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits will be provided to all students to help monitor your child's health and minimise the transmission of COVID-19 across our school.
- Wearing of surgical masks indoors is required for all staff and students and visitors onsite.
- Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can come onto our school site.
- Two parents or carers are allowed to accompany their child into school on their first day, starting at a new school.
- Students will be managed in cohorts and we will continue to use good hygiene, enhanced cleaning, good air flow and ventilation in learning spaces, as well as physical distancing practises.

#### **Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)**

The use of RAT kits is an important step to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. Results can be ready in 15 minutes. It is a simple process of placing a nose or throat swab in a chemical solution, which is put onto a scanning device. The use of these kits are highly recommended, but not mandatory. Please find enclosed RAT kits for your child/ren, instructions are included in the kits with contact numbers for the supplier if you need additional support.

Key points:

- School staff will not be administering the rapid antigen tests to students.
- RAT kits should be collected from school by a parent or carer.
- Each student will receive an initial supply of 4 RATs to be used twice a week, they are recommended to be completed at home in the morning before attending school each Monday and Wednesday.

**What to do if the RAT kit is positive:**

- Record the positive RAT result through the Service NSW website, <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe/testing/register-positive-rat-test-result> or Service NSW app.
- Notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR test result as soon as possible by emailing our admin staff [kandos-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kandos-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- Follow NSW Health advice, <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/infectious/covid-19/pages/self-isolation-and-testing.aspx> to isolate for 7 days.

**Negative** results do not need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.

**Unwell at school:**

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.

- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.
- If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative, the student or staff member can return to school.

**What happens when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19:**

Under the new close contact rules, schools are no longer included in contract tracing. I will inform the school community when there is a positive case in our school and advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms.

**Use of surgical masks:**

- All secondary school staff and students will be required to wear masks indoors.
- No vented or cloth masks should be worn, these will be available at school.
- Masks are still required to be worn when travelling on school buses / public transport.
- Your child can remove their mask when eating, exercising, or playing a musical instrument.
- For more information, refer to face masks in NSW, <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe/wearing-face-masks-during-covid-19>

**Visitors on school sites and vaccinations** - no parents, carers or visitors will be allowed on school sites until further notice with the following exceptions:

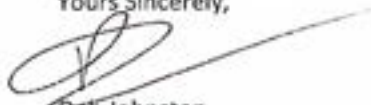
- Two parents or carers are allowed to accompany their child into school on their first day of Year 7 or students starting a new school.
- Staff and volunteers operating in canteens must be fully vaccinated.
- Visitors supporting school operations and curriculum, and allied health partners must be fully vaccinated.

All staff on school sites are required to be fully vaccinated, including having their booster when eligible.

We strongly encourage our students and their families to consider vaccination when eligible. Find a vaccination clinic <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking/> to book an appointment near you.

Thank you again for your continued support during this term.

Yours Sincerely,



Deb Johnston  
Relieving Principal

# Give life. Give blood in Rylstone.

Cudgegong Street, Rylstone, NSW-2849

15 February



Tuesday 15 February

09.00am – 02.15pm

 **give blood**

## HATS IN AGRICULTURE

Students in Year 7 through to Year 12 should bring a cap or hat to wear during outside lessons in the Ag Plot. All students in Year 7 and 8 have been issued with a school cap and these should be worn to avoid sunburn while working in gardens as well as during recess and lunch. The wearing of sunscreen that is supplied is, also encouraged.

School caps are available for purchase from the uniform shop.



## OFFICE REQUESTS

Just a reminder to families if any student medical, contact or address details have changed over the Christmas period, please contact the office on 6379 4103 to enable us to update our records.

Student Statements for course fees and voluntary contributions will be sent out in the coming weeks. Thank you for your support.



*Kandos High School proudly supported by*

