Principal's Comment

'Kanker' - A Great Success
Congratulations to all students and staff for a wonderful show. I thoroughly enjoyed the performance which was a lot of fun. Each year is different, however some things remain constant: enthusiastic and talented students committed as a group to the success of the production; talented musicians being given the opportunity to perform; the support of 'Entertainment' students on lighting, sound and 'the house' and dedicated and supportive staff going an extra mile for the good of the students involved and the school.

Congratulations to all concerned and my genuine thanks to all staff who contributed to the success of the 2013 production.

Gonski and School Funding
It is frustrating that this important reform to the way schools are funded is being derailed. Some things to think about in this election year:

- The Gonski Report is a report to government from an expert panel who had the task of examining the funding of all schools in Australia. It is not a policy and it was drafted following a process that included thousands of submissions from all sectors.
- The report dealt with the current funding inequities in the system.
- If the Gonski reforms are not implemented those inequities will remain.
- The current federal government has pledged to implement the reforms but the opposition has indicated that they will not. The State Government support the implementation of the funding reform because they see the benefits that will flow to NSW and in particular to government schools such as Kooringal High School.

This is a critical area with billions of dollars of support involved and I urge you to think about it in the months ahead.

Gambling and Sport
Recently I wrote about the dramatic increase in advertising for gambling agencies in relation to sport. I was gratified this week to see the Commonwealth Government finally moving to restrict this exposure on our TV screens. I don't believe we need to see our sport framed through the prism of the latest odds and I would rather the conversation be about the merits of the team or individual.

Facebook
In the few short weeks since launching our Facebook site we are approaching 500 people who have 'liked' it. Many parents and students have commented to me that they have found it an excellent way to stay in touch with all the happenings at school and I have been impressed with the ability of the site to advance the communication from the school to the community.

Shortly we will also launch a Kooringal High School app. that will be available free on iphone and android devices.

Planning is currently underway for an electronic booking form for Parent Teacher nights. This is shaping as a big year for enhancing school communication.

School Review-Mathematics
Each year our school undertakes reviews in a number of areas. This year the teaching and delivery of the Mathematics curriculum will be reviewed by a team chaired by a School Development Officer from our local office and comprising a teacher from another school and a teacher from KHS.

Next week the team will interview a range of parents, teachers and students and will present their recommendations on Friday. The results of the review will form part of our school plan and will be acted on over the next year. Parents wishing to be involved in the Review can contact the school for an arranged telephone interview.
Year 10 Work Experience

Tayla—Tolland Hotel

Ben—Royans

Kayla—Lake Albert Primary

Elisa—Wagga Primary School

Nicholas—Parasol Training

Emily—Lake Albert Primary

Kate—Workout Gym

Hannah—South Tahara Park
Students enjoying a presentation by indigenous students from the University of NSW.
Dear Parents and Caregivers

Our school is always interested in improving the way we cater for our students’ education. Sometimes this can be done by changing our organisation, offering new courses or developing further what we are already doing. The Department of Education and Training conducts program reviews of schools to help schools improve programs for the benefit of all students.

A program review of our school in the area of Mathematics has been scheduled from Monday 3rd June to Friday 7th June. A team will be visiting us at that time, and parents will be asked to meet with the team to talk about the school in a relaxed atmosphere. Your ideas for improvement will be most welcome.

A group of parents will be randomly selected to talk with the review team here at the school, or to have a telephone discussion with a team member. If you are not selected but would like the opportunity to speak with the Review Team, please contact me here at the school.

A random sample of students will also be involved in discussions with the review team. Parents have the right to exclude their children from the review process. If you do not wish your child to participate in discussions with a member of the review team, please contact me.

If you would like to contribute your ideas and opinions there is an online survey available for both students and parents.

Parents- https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KK96SHW
Students - https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KK8G96D
The links for both these surveys are also available on the Kooringal High School Website: www.kooringal-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

The outcome of the program review will be a review report which we will be able to use for further planning. We look forward to your support and contributions.

G.W.Leyshon
Principal