FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

Welcome to the 2015 school year at Kincoppal – Rose Bay. I hope you have had a wonderful break with your families. My own family welcomed the arrival of our first grandchild Aidan Brian Croke Barker on the 20 January in London. This has been a time of great joy and blessing for all our family. Aidan is a beautiful baby who already knows his own mind.

The beginning of the school year is always a time of great promise and energy. We are starting this year in a great place with focused strategic directions, a committed and dedicated staff, more campus improvements and great Cor Unum spirit. Our Sacred Heart Goal for 2015 is “A Personal and Active Faith in God”. Our education seeks to develop our students to enter the mystery of God. It helps them to see themselves as lovable so they can open their hearts to God’s love for them and be able to respond. They are part of a community in which they experience love, care, encouragement, joy, hope and faith.

KRB’s Head Girl, Emily Shaw says, “This year’s focus goal represents our ability to not only place our faith in God, but also to place our faith in our own capabilities which God has given us. The Student Leadership Team aims to raise self-confidence in each of the students, making them feel comfortable and content with themselves at school through various plans to raise school morale.”

At KRB we encourage each of our students to be the best they can be in many areas of school life and therefore to use the many gifts they each have in the best ways possible. Within this goal students are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences to deepen the meaning in their lives. They understand that learning involves experiences both within and beyond the classroom and that they have many opportunities for the development of critical thinking, creativity and problem solving skills as well as confidence, persistence and resilience.

New Staff

We welcome a number of experienced staff to KRB who bring great gifts and experience to the KRB community.

• Michelle Chaplin – Head of Junior School. Michelle joins us from Masada College where she was also Head of Junior School. Prior to that she was at KRB from 1997 to 2007, and was both RE and Stage 3 Coordinator. Michelle has a Bachelor of Education from ACU and Certificate of Gifted Education from UNSW.

• Margaret Clemson – Mathematics Teacher. Margaret joins us after 11 years at Kambala. She has a Bachelor of Education (Secondary Mathematics), a Diploma in Teaching (Secondary Mathematics) and a Certificate of Religious Education.

• Renae Lee – HSIE Teacher. Renae joins us after 4 years at Barker College, and was previously in the corporate sector. She is currently completing her M Ed, and has a Grad Dip (Secondary Teaching), Grad Dip Accountancy (CA) and a B Comm (Accounting and Finance).

INSTAGRAM OF THE WEEK

KRB 1Touch Football verses Riverview this afternoon, thanks for a great game boys!
Campus Developments
I am very pleased to see Year 10 students enjoying the new Sister Philomene Tiernan rscj Learning Centre. The Centre will be formally opened later in the year.

“We are very honoured to be the first year group to use the Philomene Tiernan Learning Centre (PTLC). It is a bright, open and spacious venue – a beautiful blend of the old with the new and very welcoming,” says Cheryl Rugg, Year 10 Coordinator. “It incorporates versatile teaching and learning spaces, with four classrooms – three of which can convert to a large open learning space for Assembly. The students are particularly pleased to have access to a communal space, with a kitchen area for before school and wet weather.”

“The new learning space has been a great addition to our school. It is an adaptive space which can be used for our individual classes or whole year group meetings.” – Kiara Reyes, Year 10.

There has also been a lot of construction and maintenance activity on the Campus over the vacation period including:
- The upgrade of the electricity supply for the Campus
- Improved pedestrian safety enhancements made in the underground carpark at MTC. The Blann Family Pool has also been re-painted
- The re-surfacing of the Junior School playground
- The installation of new air conditioning in the top level of the Junior School
- The renovation of the Kindergarten classrooms
- Refurbishment of toilets next to Art Space
- The painting of level 4 Boarding
- Installation of new data projectors across the school and new Smart Boards on the Junior Campus.

Our HSC Achievements
The HSC results from the Class of 2014 demonstrated many outstanding individual achievements across the year group. It is significant to note that many of the students who attained excellent results held positions of responsibility as leaders across a variety of areas and were also highly involved in the life of the school.

Some of the highlights of the Class of 2014’s achievements were:
- Lucy Miller and Zhenyi (Carrie) Wang both achieved an ATAR of 99.85, making them joint Dux of the Class of 2014 and combined recipients of the Distinction in Studies Award.
- Zhenyi (Carrie) Wang achieved first place in the subject, English as a Second Language.
- KRB ranked 17th in the state for English (ranked numerically).
- Four students achieved an ATAR over 99.
- 21% students achieved an ATAR above 95.
- 39% students achieved an ATAR above 90.
- Seven students were All Round Achievers, which means 10% of the year group scored more than 90 in at least ten HSC units.
- Five students were only one or two units from becoming All Round Achievers.
- KRB students achieved 105 mentions on the Distinguished Achievers List for 2014 and 15 mentions for accelerated courses in 2013.
- Claudia Nolan’s major work in HSC Drama has been selected for inclusion in the Board of Studies OnStage.

Students have also indicated to us how delighted they are to be selected for their first choice tertiary courses.

KRB places much emphasis on all of our students becoming involved in every aspect of school life. As I often say to our students, it is important to take advantage of the many opportunities that are offered to them here at KRB. These opportunities develop confidence and resilience, provide them with challenges and pave the way for tertiary options and future careers.

Connecting with Our Community
My husband Brian and I were part of the fantastic KRB student Music Trip and were able to attend the joint Advent Concert at the Sacred Heart School in Vienna on 11 December. We also visited our Sacred Heart School in Graz and did the ‘Sound of Music’ tour in Salzburg. I visited our Sacred Heart sister school in Woldingham a couple of weeks ago where Lucy Cowper (KRB 2014) is currently undertaking her Gap year.

On 15 January I hosted and gave a presentation at a cocktail party at the Royal Overseas League in London for past students (1940s to 2014) and some future families. Lucy Cowper and Nicola Ryan from the class of 2014, who are now Gap students, attended. It was wonderful to see students from many different generations interacting and exchanging contact details.

Welcome Mass
All parents are welcome to join us for the Opening School Mass on Wednesday 11 February in the Edwina Taylor Clark Auditorium in the MTC at 9.00am. Please be seated by 8.45am.

Our students have settled quickly back into school and are looking forward to the challenges of the year ahead. Throughout 2015, we will be encouraging our students to challenge themselves, to stretch themselves and to fully utilise their gifts and talents. We are looking forward to a great 2015 at KRB.

I look forward to talking to parents and students at the Information Evening next week.

With Regards,
Mrs Hilary Johnston-Croke, Principal
REFLECTIONS FROM YEAR 10 STUDENTS ON THE NEW SISTER PHILOMENE TIERNAN RSCJ LEARNING CENTRE

“The new year 10 learning space is great. The classrooms are very good because they can become one if any teacher or speaker comes to address the whole year group. The tables are good because they’re a neutral colour and are large so that we can fit quite a few things on our desk. When we need to use our laptops and books at the same time, there’s enough space to fit both. The glass to separate the classrooms is good because it is actually sound proof and also makes the environment more bright and open. The lockers are spread nicely so the hall doesn’t get clustered. The common room and the appliances are very good. Most girls are using the microwave and the sink. Overall, it gives us a place where we can just be together, hang out and work in a better environment.” – Jasmine Tan

“I am really enjoying getting to spend my year in the new learning centre. I love that all my classes are close to one another as it makes it easier to be on time to class. The actual classrooms are really great because they are spacious and have big desks with lots of room for our books. Finally I love the common room as I am now able to store food in the fridge and I have a place to sit when I arrive early to school. There are also pigeon holes to store our bags.” – Annabelle Stevens

9-12 Study Skills Seminar 2015

Last week Prue Salter from Enhanced Learning Educational Services (www.enhanced-learning.net) ran study skills sessions with Years 9 through to 12. This is an annual program, where each year group is provided with new, age appropriate information to support their independent learning. The Year 7 and 8 sessions will take place on 17 March.

The Year 9 session focused on identifying individual student learning styles to determine if they were a visual, auditory or kinaesthetic learner (or perhaps a combination of these). Students then examined what this meant in relation to the effectiveness of the study techniques they used. Year 9 also completed a checklist of their general study skills in terms of their approach to time management and organisation.

Students in Year 10 covered the importance of using the next 6 months as a training period to prepare for senior studies. The need to learn how to work effectively at home, manage distractions, make brain-friendly study notes and work out which study techniques work best for them was again highlighted. Year 10 students are encouraged to complete the self-evaluation quiz at the back of their handout to give them an indication of how ready they are for senior studies and what areas they need to work on.

Messages from previous years were reinforced for Year 11 students, in relation to setting up an effective home study environment, managing paper and digital resources for school, working effectively at home and dealing with distractions, using the diary as a planning tool, making brain-friendly study notes and using a wide variety of active study techniques.

Year 12 looked at advanced research about the brain and how that could be used to make their study more effective. The focus on the session was looking ahead to the next set of examinations and how students can ensure they are well-prepared. Steps to make effective study notes were highlighted and students also examined the study techniques they traditionally used, exploring new techniques they could try.

Parents are encouraged to review and discuss the handout from the session with students and identify practical changes they can make to improve the home study environment and support system. The Study Skills Tips for Parents website [http://studyskillstopiptsparents.com/] provides additional advice for parents needing more information.

All secondary students at our school also have access to a great study skills website to help students develop their skills. Go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and enter the username: forkincoppalonly and the password: 110results and start improving your results today!

New Batch of Joigny Children Start with a Smile

Our new group of Joigny Children have started the year with a smile and some very interesting discoveries in the vegetable garden. During their first week the children visited the veggie patch to pull some weeds and see if anything was left after the Summer holidays. Much to their surprise there were many things to pull out, pick and carry. They found some juicy limes growing on a tree and hundreds of tomatoes spilling out over the garden beds. However the most exciting find was a number of ginormous watermelons. They were massive and the children showed great strength and muscle power trying to carry them. This has provided us with a lovely investigation already this term looking at just why these watermelons were so heavy and hard to carry. The children will follow on this interest through art, craft, science and developing their thinking skills. Oh and of course getting to sample and enjoy the fruits of their labour – yummy!
YEAR 6 LEADERS

Year 6 have quickly stepped into their role as school leaders this week. They confidently led the 3-6 assembly on Wednesday with each committee giving a quick information session on what they will be doing this year to enhance the opportunities for the students – ideas ranged from lunch time science experiments, dance quest Fridays to recess on the terrace with the senior girls. They have created impressive plans for a good time for all.

Mrs Chaplin worked with Year 6 to explore their personal definitions on leadership through a thinking routine. Their responses should great depth of thinking:

“A good symbol for leadership is an ‘elastic band” as you need to be flexible and able to move in all directions.” Hannah Hunter

“I think a tree because leaders grow wiser as they lead more and trees grow old and wise with us” Millie Smith

“I believe that the colour red symbolises leadership because it is strong, bold and confident. Red is a primary colour so it has to cooperate with other colours (people) to create a new colour (something productive and beneficial for all)” Michaela Sorrenti

Mrs Chaplin hosted a leadership morning tea with the captains and the Car Unum leaders on Thursday. Four of the Senior School leaders joined us and discussed with the team their roles as leaders in the college. It was an excellent experience for the students to connect with the senior leaders and hear a little about life in the Senior School.

Year 6 can be proud of the start they have made to 2015.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

MUSIC TOUR REPORT

Twenty-two members of the KRB Choirs and Orchestra from Years 6–11 embarked on the school’s first European Music tour in December 2014, accompanied by Nicole James, Mark Stubley and Margaret Ferguson. The students visited Prague, Vienna, Graz and Salzburg.

Two real highlights of the tour were our visits to our sister schools in Vienna and Graz. Sasha Danswan (Year 10) wrote in her review of the tour that “the tour has shown me how alike we are to other Sacred Heart Schools and it has shown me how lucky I am to be a part of this wide and welcoming community”.

Mary Franklin (Year 7) also wrote “I have learnt that even though KRB, Sacré Cœur Vienna and Sacré Cœur Graz are really far away from each other and they seem really different there are many similarities like the values and the feeling of being in a Sacred Heart community”. Their comments were echoed by all the other girls and staff.

The students were billeted for five nights in Vienna by Sacré Cœur families. This gave the girls an insight of what the daily lives of the Viennese students are like.

The families organised wonderful activities on the Saturday family day which included Horse Riding, Skating and going to the Christmas Markets and sightseeing.

On 11 December, Sacré Cœur Vienna and KRB students combined into a large ensemble to perform together in a combined Advent Concert. The students had prepared their music in advance and then we rehearsed together in Vienna and presented an exhilarating concert. I was so proud of our students, and we were all so pleased our Principal, Mrs Johnston-Croke was able to join us for the concert and then participate in the rest of the tour with us.

While in Vienna we also saw all the sights, had a back-stage tour of the Vienna State Opera House, learned how to waltz and also to cook in
true Viennese fashion. With the backdrop of the wonderful buildings and historical sites it was truly memorable.

Our visit to Vienna culminated in Mass at the Augustinian Church and then we set out for Graz. We enjoyed meeting students at Sacré Coeur Graz, joining them in their Chapel to sing together and touring their school, which was so like KRB in so many ways.

Our final destination was Salzburg, where we soaked up the musical culture and history of the city. Another highlight was our workshop with the Choral Director at the Salzburg Dom. Following the workshop we were taken to see the largest organ in the cathedral and also viewed the Salzburg skyline from the vantage point on the roof of the cathedral that is not available to most people. We also had much fun on the “Sound of Music” Tour. The students gave an impromptu concert in the Church at Mondsee, which is used for the wedding scene in the film.

The tour group have so many wonderful memories of our time together and the magic of the Christmas Lights and decorations in all the cities, but it was the tour group itself and the way that friendships were formed across year levels and the sense of joy felt by all at the incredibly good fortune we shared to have had this experience that was so special.

Megan Fitzgerald summed up what all the students and staff on the tour felt when she wrote “For me personally, it was the people that made the trip. Whether I was embracing the culture with my host sister Vicki and her family, or listening to our tour guide Ulrike or even just with the students from the other year groups – it was the people that I shared the country and culture with that made the trip special. The cooking and dancing classes in Vienna, the shopping at the Christmas markets and the countless delicious meals were all improved immeasurably because of the company we shared these things with”.

Margaret Ferguson
Head of Music

Vanessa Luvio – The Sacred Heart School of Montreal

My student exchange to the Sacred Heart School of Montreal this past January was such a great and cool experience (literally). After getting used to -30 degrees temperatures and all the snow, I got to explore Montreal and take in its Quebec French culture while also experiencing life at another Sacred Heart school. My exchange family was very welcoming and gave me a great tour of Montreal and its specialties, including Poutine. The school was different in so many ways, starting with the fact that the school had around 200 students and that their one hour lunch break in the cafeteria always started with prayer. My highlights were getting to see a hockey game, going tobogganing, the endless snow, and getting to know my exchange family and the girls at the school so well.

Caroline Reilly, Brooke Long and Lara Parmenter – Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, Boston, MA

The three of us were lucky enough to have the privilege of visiting Newton Country Day School in Boston, Massachusetts. We had a rude awakening as we ventured off the plane into –15 degree Celsius temperatures, we were welcomed with open arms and witnessed the strong sense of a global community that we were yet to experience but had heard so much about! Our trip consisted of many snow days and long weekends, Throughout our stay we were all lucky enough to visit NYC, ski in New Hampshire and doing numerous, eventful trips around Boston getting to know the amazing city! We sit here writing this in Dallas airport, still crying from the heart wrenching goodbyes to the families we had grown so close to! Not only the girls we were paired with and their parents and siblings, but every single girl we met at the school over here was so welcoming and made our trip so amazing! Boston is a unique, beautiful and historical city and we highly recommend doing an exchange to the school over here! This has truly been such an amazing adventure and has instilled in us a more confident belief in our own self sufficiency and growing independence.

Madeleine McDonald – Obayashi Sacred Heart School, Osaka, Japan

I had an amazing cultural experience while on exchange in Japan. My time with the host family ensured I was exposed to various aspects of Japanese lifestyle and daily ritual. While I was there, I took a day trip into the old capital city, Kyoto, where I was introduced to ancient Japanese tradition through various temples. The food was always delicious, and definitely broadened my culinary horizons. At school I helped the younger years with their English pronunciation, attended classes and participated in Drama and Sports lessons. Overall it was a great trip and I look forward to hosting an exchange student later this year.

Stay tuned for more Student Exchange updates!!
BOARDING

THE WELCOME BBQ

The Welcome BBQ for the boarding community was very well attended this year with the majority of families, and some City Host families joining us in the Boarders’ Dining Room for an early meal. Despite the fact that inclement weather kept us indoors, girls and their families were introduced to the KRB Leadership Team, including our new Junior School Principal, Mrs Michelle Chaplin, and P&F President, Mr Hugh Windsor and the Boarding P & F Representatives for each year group. Parents had the chance to catch up with old acquaintances and meet with the new parents.

BOARDING IN WEEKEND

The Boarders’ first In Weekend for 2015 was an energetic event. Activity heated up after school on Friday with boarders calling on all their creativity and raiding each other’s wardrobes and our craft cupboard for inspiration for costumes for the themed weekend disco. Some girls really had some very special ideas and went to extreme efforts to outdo each other in this area. This is testament to the spirit of boarding.

Our huge 5 stage trivia quiz and spelling bee had all girls entertained. Girls were arranged in their boarding house groups for this event and took the competition very seriously. Questions ranged from naming countries beginning with P, to what should every girl do before she gets a spray tan (exfoliate, of course!). The spelling bee was challenging, and students from all year groups participated. Our top speller on the night was Sarah Noonan, from Year 7, who stunned us with her confidence and accuracy. A very close second was Christie Chung from Year 9, who should also be commended for her knowledge of some incredibly challenging words.

On Saturday, our Year 12 boarding leaders ran a range of physical activities for the girls: Zumba and musical chairs, giant rope skipping, dodgeball, and the like. Girls found lots of opportunity to get to know new boarders and make new friends in other year groups. With time to don costumes, girls engaged in prayer together and made their way to a special dinner, followed by a disco, which included a specially choreographed dance by the whole Year 12 group. It was an exciting and exhausting evening for all. The judges found it very difficult to determine best costume prize winners, as all the girls had gone to such effort.

Boarders enjoyed a sleep in on Sunday and a long, late breakfast together and spent Sunday relaxing and tidying up before attending Mass together, in the parish, on Sunday evening.
COMMUNITY

FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Welcome back to a new year at KRB. We hope it is a wonderful year for your daughters and sons and one in which they will benefit from all the opportunities available at KRB. The Development Office is situated in the Senior School upstairs in Claremont. Please don’t hesitate to contact us if we can assist you with questions about class/community/school events that are coming up or if you are uncertain as to the person you need to speak to and would like to be pointed in the right direction!

We will also be organising a number of events during this year including:

1. A function for all parents whose daughters and sons left school between 2010 and 2014
2. KRB Rugby Lunch on Friday 7 August, Four Seasons Hotel George Street, Sydney
3. A number of events for mothers, fathers and grandparents
4. Welcome Dinners, hosted by the Principal for all new families to KRB.

All details of these are included in the calendar which you would have received in December. Invitations for all events will also be included on the KRB Portal.

We also work to raise funds for capital developments. As many of our families would be aware, the Maureen Tudehope Centre, completed in 2011, is a result of the wonderful generosity and support of our families and past students and parents. The development of the Stuart Centre for Year 7 students which was opened in 2013, was also well supported financially. We are now making contact with families to gain financial support for the Junior School Masterplan. We hope to begin this development in late 2015.

As well, we have received much assistance in donations for the KRB Bursary Fund, set up to provide financial support to families who would like their children to have a Sacred Heart education but who are in financial need. Bursaries are different from scholarships in that they:
- Are means tested
- Are given to students whose families are in financial need
- Are not dependent on the student being outstanding in any area – eg academic
- Are offered to students for all the above reasons and on congruence of values with the School

Currently we have over 50 students in the senior school on partial bursaries. This adds a rich diversity in our senior school.

Over the past five months we have been seeking support for the Philomene Tiernan Boarding Bursary, established following the tragic death of Sr Tiernan in the Malaysian Airlines crash in July 2014. We have been delighted with the response and are still seeking donations towards this very important project. The bursary will offer a senior school student full boarding fees during the time she is at KRB.

If you would like to find out any details about ways to offer your support, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to meeting many of our new and current parents throughout this year.

Mary Cook
Director of Development
9388 6024
cookm@krb.nsw.edu.au

SPORT

NSW STATE AGE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS – KRB AQUATICS

Recently at the NSW State Age Championships KRB Aquatics had great representation across many events.

12 & Under – Coco Remond, Amelia Smith and Eva Smith competed in 4 x 50 Medley and freestyle Relay and managed to improve their relay times and gain personal bests. For most of our 12 & Under students, this was their first experience at the NSW State Age Championships and they remained composed and did extremely well.

Valentina Colombini our next young swimmer made it the final of the 50m Freestyle (13yrs) and finished 5th in NSW. Valentina managed to gain National qualifying time for this event and she will be competing at the Australian Age Championship in April 2015.

Georgia Strain hit the water in Girls (14yrs) 4x50 and 4x100 Freestyle Relay and while getting a massive personal best she managed to make the relay team at the Australian Age Nationals held in April 2015.

Rhiannon Carr raced in 4 individual events at the NSW State Age (15yrs) and managed to final in all of these events. Rhiannon won on to winning the 100m Butterfly at the NSW State Age and even swim faster time than the 16yrs (Age Above). Rhiannon also swam faster than YPS Gold (Swim Australia Youth Performance standard) for her age and 16yrs (age above).

Jessica Gardiner also jumped in the pool as part of our 10x50 KRB Aquatics relay swim team and did real well! Jessica’s exceptional commitment to training has assisted her for making our NSW state relay team. Last but not least Luci Gerathy raced in 100m and 200m Breaststroke and managed to gain qualifying times for the National Age Championship in April 2015.

Congratulations to the above KRB Aquatics students at KRB for these outstanding achievements.

Congratulations also to Elly O’Donoghue (3rd place in 200m, 10th in the 200IM and 5th in the Breaststroke) and Laura Salvaggio for also competing at the State Age Swimming Championships.
The “spirit of Anzac” is in the DNA of every Aussie and Kiwi. It is the one thing that unites Australians and New Zealanders from all walks of life and cultures, rich or poor, young or old.

KRB History Department invites all students and families to Camp Gallipoli 2015

24 – 25 April at Centennial Park, Sydney

Camp overnight in Centennial Park

Contact Paul Mogan if you are interested in coming along moganp@krb.nsw.edu.au

Or visit www.campgallipoli.com.au