Welcome Staff, Students,
Parents and Community to
our first newsletter for 2016. I
am proud to be returning as
the College Principal and look
forward to being here for
years to come.

This year with the help of our pro-active Parents
and Citizens (P & C) Association, we introduced a
new system which allowed us to ensure that all of
our students and staff had all of their resources
and materials organised and ready for learning
from Day 1. Thank you for a fantastic response to
this initiative. We have had 95% of our families
join the scheme and have received valuable feed-
back on how we can improve this service for 2017.

Again with the support of the P & C, and in part-
nership with Camp Australia, we have commenced
our Outside of School Hours Care Service. The
feedback from parents who are using the service
has been very positive.

Congratulations to our Year 12’s from 2015 who all
achieved a Queensland Certificate of Education or
Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement.
We are one of two schools in the Far North Region
who achieved 100% attainment. Even though this
is a great result, Further we have areas where we
will strive for improvement.

In 2016, our work will focus on:

- School Culture and Being Safe, Respectful
  Learners (In particular our behaviour
  expectations and wearing our correct
  college uniform with pride)
- Engagement and attendance
  (Target 100- every day counts!)
- Completion of our KDSC Curriculum plan
  and pedagogical framework which outlines
  our expected standards of teaching across
  the college.

On Sunday 14th February, Hando Smith, one of our
College Captains and I had the opportunity to
represent KDSC at an afternoon tea to meet the
Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon Malcolm
Turnbull MP. Thanks to the Federal Member for
Leichhardt, The Hon Warren Entsch for the
invitation.

I look forward to working with the community in
2016 to ensure the best education for your
children.

Sharon Jones                             College Principal
Welcome back to 2016. It has been a very exciting start to the year with students quickly settling into their new classes. During daily classroom walk-throughs it has been a pleasure observing a genuine focus on quality teaching and learning with students already taking great pride in their work. I would like to acknowledge the expertise, commitment and enthusiasm of primary staff all of who have contributed significantly to such a positive and productive start to the year.

A priority for this year is to implement our Kuranda District State College Whole School Approach to Reading. Vision, values and given for teaching of reading have been developed; we are now working with teachers to ensure consistency across the college and to build on their professional knowledge. Our well-being room is now open and running with many students enjoying the opportunity to utilize this service. Lunchtime activities run by Beau Cox our Student Well-being Officer have commenced and been well received by students. Your support is needed to maximize your child’s potential, please ensure your child/children arrives on time and attends school every day.

I have met many parents who have given very positive feedback about the year so far. Please do not hesitate to make a time to meet with if you have any thing you would like to discuss. I look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Hi Parents and Carers,

My name is Karl Gunter, I’m the Acting Head of Curriculum at Kuranda District State College. This year my work involves working with the support for student learning team to implement a whole school approach to teaching and learning. This is achieved by producing curriculum documents that map out when units of work are to be implemented to achieve the best results. This work aligns with the KDSC 2014-2018 Improvement Agenda, focuses on increasing teacher capacity to deliver high yield lessons using best practice. The Head of Curriculum works closely with teachers to observe their practice, give constructive feedback and model lessons. In the first semester of 2016 in conjunction with the leadership team we will develop plans for the systematic delivery of the key learning areas of English, Maths and Science. In the second half of 2016 we will develop plans for the other key learning areas of the Australian curriculum. I have been duly impressed by the dedication and sense of urgency in which the teachers at KDSC go about their work. All teachers have worked very hard to build productive relationships with their cohort and improve their students’ attitudes and perceptions towards learning. I look forward to working closely with the teachers this year to lift the performance horizons of all students at KDSC.

It has been an excellent start to the year for our Senior Students and across the College in general. We began the year by celebrating the outstanding outcomes for our Yr 12 Graduates of 2015, all of whom received their QCE or QCIA, a fabulous result for them all and for Kuranda District State College. Our 2016 Yr 12’s know how hard they will have to work to meet these high standards and are already stepping up by working hard in classes and setting their goals.

Assessment calendars for Senior Students are being distributed this week so they can plan their home study time to be prepared for all assessment tasks. Students are reminded that assessment must be submitted on the due date and extensions can only be arranged prior to the due date through negotiation with the Deputy Principal. Assessment calendars can also be accessed by students by logging into the One School application. Parents, carers and students are also reminded that attendance at school is vital to success. We are aiming to have all of our students present in class and learning 100 percent of the time. To support this the College will text parents and carers when students are absent from school so please ensure your contact details are up to date so we can keep communication between school and home strong. We are looking forward to a great year of hard work, study, and building on the great results we all expect at KDSC.
2016 is off to a great start with students and teachers ready for a successful year. We have a big year of teaching and learning ahead of us with an explicit improvement agenda which focuses on curriculum development and differentiation in key learning areas. I would like to acknowledge the hard work that goes into preparing for the return of the students, so thank you to the teachers and support staff for their efforts in analysing data, planning units of work and engaging in professional development to improve teaching and learning. Years 3, 5, 7, 9 will sit the NAPLAN tests from 10-12 May. Maximum effort from students, coupled with expert teaching, will prepare the students for participation in the Literacy and Numeracy testing. Teachers are using consolidation and daily activities to revise previous learning and are using Explicit Teaching to continue to teach new content. Please liaise with your child’s teacher to ensure we are best supporting your child in their readiness for the national testing. For those who haven’t yet met me, I am the newly appointed Head of Department for Junior Secondary. Previously, I was Head of Curriculum P-10 at Yarrabah State School. Kuranda District State College students and families have been very welcoming and I have quickly recognised that I am part of a team committed to the students and their futures. With school and community working together we can look forward to improving outcomes for all students. Happy learning everyone and don’t forget to come and say hello!

“If a child can’t learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn”
Ignacio Estrada.

We are off and swimming again this term with the nice warm weather making the pool very appealing during the Hydrotherapy sessions on Thursday morning. Everyone is building their skills in stroke development, while some continue to work very hard on their leg exercises to build muscular strength and tone. With class swimming lessons starting Week 5, our students should be well on their way to accomplishing their personal swimming goals.

Welcome back to Term 1 2016 We have exciting news that our funding application for Federal Funding for Chaplaincy was successful and for the next 3 years we have funding for a Chaplain at Kuranda for 3.5 days a week. This time will be split between both campuses. The Chaplain is part of our KDSC Wellbeing Team, along with our Guidance Officer, Wellbeing Officers, School Nurse and Community Liaison Officer. They are involved in pastoral care and emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing of our students. The Chaplain role will now encompass various lunchtime programs and life skill programs across the college. If you would like to be involved as a parent or carer, in what Chaplaincy looks like at KDSC, please come to our first Local Chaplaincy Committee meeting for the year on Friday 4th March at 10am in the Secondary Wellbeing Room (sign in at the office and we will meet you there). Boost Breaky has kicked off for the year on Thursday mornings, with much excitement for some hungry mouths. This is a great opportunity to connect each week with students and offer extra support to some. Thank you as always to our generous sponsors at Woolworths, Smithfield and our wonderful, faithful parent helpers.

Have a Blessed Term Chappy Deb debbieb@chappy.org.au
Before Care
6:30 AM - 8:45 AM

After Care
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Please note students in the community that don’t attend Kuranda District State College also have access to this service.

Firstly I would like to say hello and introduce myself. My name is Rebecca and I am the coordinator for the Before and After School Care Service that is available through Camp Australia. At Kuranda District State College we have had a quiet first couple of weeks with only a few children. This has given us the chance to get to know those children and what they enjoy to do. We have played games of soccer and cricket as well as having the children forming and competing in their own cross country. On the days that were hot or raining the children opted to stay inside and play a range of board games and make a map of their community, pointing out their favourite places. At Camp Australia our main goal is to make sure your child is safe and has fun while in our care. Each day the children are provided with a nutritious breakfast or afternoon tea, consisting of a fruit platter and a range of sandwiches and muffins etc. If you are interested in finding out more about this service please don’t hesitate see information in H block on the Secondary Campus call 0447 139 602, or visit www.campaustralia.com.au

Immunisation Program comes to school

In 2016 Queensland Health is providing free vaccinations for all Year 7 and Year 8 students, on 7th March, 9th May and 12th September 2016 as part of Queensland Health’s annual School Immunisation Program. This year students are being offered free vaccinations as recommended on the National Immunisation Program to protect against human papillomavirus (HPV), varicella (chickenpox) and diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough). Year 7 and Year 8 students are being offered free vaccinations as Queensland is transitioning the School Immunisation Program from Year 8 to Year 7. The vaccinations will be conducted by a team of specially trained registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner. A consent form for each vaccination offered was given to your child to bring home on Monday February 1st 2016. Please read the information carefully, sign the consent form and return consent form to the school. Parents are encouraged to ensure their children have breakfast on the morning of vaccination.


Outside Of School Hours Care

After School Care

Zoe Cooper 4A
Amara Ennis MUSIC
Mat Plageman HPE
Sonya Richardson 5/6A
Gina Moran 4/5A
Sue Elias 8/9A
Kathryn Mitchell Local Relief Teacher

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Staff Spotlight : Welcome

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Teacher Aides & Cleaners

Casual Pool Induction
Thursday 17th March 9:30am Secondary Campus - Science & Language Centre
We are looking to replenish our casual pool. Anyone interested must contact the office prior and register for the induction.
RSVP 9th March
Ph: 4085 5333

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Welcome Back

Hello everyone, welcome back from holidays! I would like to introduce myself and remind you of the service I provide in the school. My name is Karin Klein and I will be working at KDSC on Mondays and every second Friday as your School Based Youth Health Nurse, Queensland Health. My role is to work with families, school staff, and students to: Address concerns or problems about health and well being
Create a more supportive, healthy school environment
Connect people to other support services inside and outside the school. I work with year 7–12 students Please feel free to come and talk to me or phone about any issues you would like to just pop in for a chat. Thank you Karin Klein

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