Kojonup District High School

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 6 17th November 2026

Email: kojonup.dhs@education.wa.edu.au Office: 9831 3300



UPCOMING EVENTS

Dress as a Farmer Day
Thursday 19th November

Interschool Swimming Carnival
Friday 20th November
Boyup Brook

Swimming Lessons
PP - Year 6
Monday 23rd November - Friday 4th December

Year 6 Camp
Monday 30th November - Wednesday 2nd December

Kindy Graduation
Thursday 10th December
1pm

Year 6 & 10 Graduation
Friday 11th December

From the Principal's Desk

Sharon Poett

Hello Everyone,

It is a little frightening to think that we are already past the halfway mark of the term. There is still so much to accomplish, and the weeks seem to be passing by very quickly!

Next week, our primary students will begin their two-week swimming program. We have been fortunate to have additional support in our classrooms over the past few weeks, with the swimming instructors assisting staff in our junior primary classrooms during the mornings. We sincerely thank them for their valuable help.

This week, we return to Boyup Brook for the postponed Interschool Swimming Carnival. As many will recall, this event was cancelled earlier in the year due to the forecast of extreme weather conditions. We wish all participating students the very best of luck.

Our Year 9 and 10 students attended the Dinninup Show on Tuesday 3rd November and enjoyed a wonderful day of competition and learning. For the first time, students participated in the Young Judging competitions, assessing fleeces, meat breed sheep and beef cattle. Congratulations to Cody Ferguson, who placed third overall in a field of 45 competitors, many of whom were students from the Western Australian College of Agriculture schools with significantly more experience in these events.

Our students also enjoyed considerable success in the agricultural exhibits. We displayed farm wool and eggs, along with decorated eggs created by our Pre-primary and Year 4 students. We won both the Fine Merino Open Class and the Non-Stud

Farmers Fleece categories. Our pen of prime lambs placed second, while our heavy-weight prime lambs achieved first place. Thank you to Melissa Shepherd, Keren Mustham and Bon Lucev for accompanying and supporting our students. It was a fantastic day and a wonderful showcase of our agriculture program.

During our recent School Development Day, staff reviewed our current Business Plan targets and discussed priorities for 2027. One important area of focus was student sun safety. As a result, it was agreed that from 2027, hats will be required during all school terms when students are outdoors. Research demonstrates that harmful UV exposure can occur even on overcast days, and this measure will help protect our students from long-term sun damage and associated health risks.

The School Board met last week to endorse the booklists, contributions and charges for the 2027 school year. We would like to thank Claire Stone and Natalie Oldham, who have completed their terms on the Board, for their commitment and valuable contributions to our school community. As a result, there is currently one staff representative position and one parent representative position available. If you are interested in nominating, please contact the front office for further information and nomination paperwork. Nominations close on Friday 4th December at 4pm.

As we move into the second half of the term, I would like to remind families that regular school attendance remains a priority. Unexplained and non-approved absences are increasing, and students cannot fully engage in learning when they are not at school. Attendance has a direct impact on student achievement, particularly when assessments, instruction and valuable classroom learning experiences are missed.



2027 Booklists have been sent out on Compass and are also available on our website at https://www.kojonupdhs.wa.edu.au/page/231/-Booklists-2027

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2027

Term 2: Friday 4th June
Term 3: Friday 27th August
Term 4: Friday 12th November





HATS ALL YEAR ROUND FROM 2027

Hats will be required for outside play and sport lessons for all of the year, starting 2027

Deputy Principal News - Primary

Lauren Harradine

As we move into the final weeks of the school year, our students remain busy and engaged in their learning programs, while teachers are working diligently to assess student progress and prepare end-of-year reports. It has been wonderful to see students continuing to apply themselves in the classroom and make the most of learning opportunities as we approach the end of a successful year. Alongside this important work, there are also many exciting events and activities coming up over the next few weeks.

We are excited to celebrate National Agriculture Day on Thursday 19th November with a range of fun and engaging activities planned throughout the day. Students are encouraged to come dressed as a farmer and join in the celebrations as we recognise the important role agriculture plays in our community and across Australia.

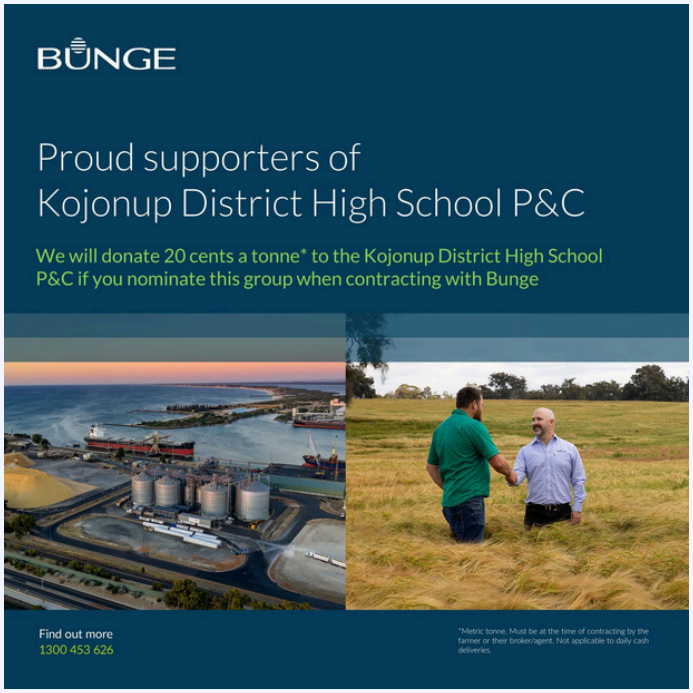
Swimming lessons begin on Monday 23rd November. Students should remember to bring their bathers, towel, goggles, rash shirt (if preferred) and a change of warm clothing each day. Please ensure all items are clearly named. We look forward to students developing their confidence and skills in the water.

The final PBS Shop for the year will be held on Thursday 26th November. Students are encouraged to spend their remaining PBS points before the end of the year. This will be the last opportunity to redeem rewards through the PBS Shop, so make sure points are ready to use. Students are reminded to purchase tickets for the upcoming PBS reward excursions. The Katanning All Ages Playground Trip and Bunbury Shopping Trip are fantastic opportunities to celebrate positive behaviour and participation throughout the year. The Katanning All Ages Playground Trip is available to students from Pre-Primary to Year 10, while the Bunbury Shopping Trip is available to eligible from Year 6-10 students. Tickets are available through the PBS Shop and should be purchased as soon as possible.

We wish our Year 6 students all the very best as they head off to camp at Point Walter from Monday 30th November to Wednesday 2nd December. Camp provides a wonderful opportunity for students to build independence, teamwork and resilience while creating lasting memories with their peers. A special thank you to Mrs Beta Eatt and Mrs Bec Bignell for giving their time to support students throughout the camp experience.

As we approach the end of the school year, regular attendance remains just as important as ever. Valuable learning continues right through to the final day of term, with assessments, end-of-year activities, transition opportunities and important preparation for 2027 taking place. Every day at school supports student learning, achievement and connection with their peers. We encourage families to continue prioritising attendance and ensuring students arrive at school on time each day.

Thank you to our students, staff and families for their ongoing support throughout the year. We look forward to celebrating the many successes of our students and finishing the year strongly together.





Deputy Principal News - Secondary

Ryan Blechynden

What a whirlwind few weeks it has been in the high school!

Dinninup Show

Year 9 and 10 students, accompanied by Mel Shepherd, Bon Lucev and Keren Muthsam, attended the Dinninup Show in Week 4 and brilliantly showcased the school farm's sheep and produce, as well as their own judging skills. It was fantastic to hear how well our students acquitted themselves throughout the day, with many taking home ribbons for their judging. It is great to see students applying what they learn on the school farm at community events like the show.

Interschool Carnivals

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the Interschool Athletics Carnival in Boyup Brook in Week 4. The school achieved an outstanding result, finishing first overall, yet that was not the highlight of the day for me. Instead, it was seeing our students demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship and school pride. I hardly expected students to be able to talk the next day after all the cheering and encouragement that came from our bay! It was also wonderful that this was noticed by the broader community, with many staff and parents from the other participating schools telling me how impressed they were with the way our students approached the day. Students head off to Interschool Swimming this week, and I wish everyone the best of luck.

Year 7 Orientation Day

Last Friday, our Year 6 students, joined by students from St Bernard's, got a taste of high school at the Year 7 Transition Day. Students took part in science experiments and English sessions, toured the School Farm and went into the kitchen to make some delicious sandwiches and quiches. Parents then joined us in the library for an information session at the end of the day. The future Year 7s were full of enthusiasm, and the secondary staff and I cannot wait to get to know them better next year.

Student Leadership Nominations Now Open

Nominations are now open for our 2027 School and Faction Captain positions:

· Current Year 9 students can nominate for Secondary School Captain and Secondary Faction Captain
· Current Year 8 students can nominate for Secondary Faction Captain
· Current Year 5 students can nominate for Primary School Captain and Primary Faction Captain

School and Faction Captain positions are fantastic opportunities to develop leadership and communication skills, and I cannot wait to work with our 2027 school leaders.

Nominations close Wednesday 25th November. Nomination forms are available from the front office, your child's teacher or me. Speeches and voting will take place on Thursday 3rd December.



Year 7 Orientation





Interschool Athletics Carnival



Congratulations to all the students who represented KDHS at the Interschool Athletics Carnival in Boyup Brook last Thursday. Kojonup was 1st Overall and 1st in the Primary Section. This year, Boyup Brook DHS and Bridgetown HS joined to create more competition.

Once again, a huge thank you to Mr Sinclair and Mrs Thomson, Mrs Rebecca Bignell and Mr Ryan Blechynden and the parent volunteers who help make the day such a success.

We look forward to the rescheduled Interschool Swimmming Carnival this Friday in Boyup Brook.















OVERALL

1st - Kojonup DHS - 681 pts
2nd - Boyup Brook DHS - 630 pts
3rd - Wagin DHS - 460 pts
4th - Boddington DHS - 421 pts
5th - Bridgetown HS - 409 pts

PRIMARY

1st - Kojonup DHS - 237.5 pts
2nd - Boddington DHS - 229.5 pts
3rd - Boyup Brook DHS - 179 pts
4th - Wagin DHS - 155 pts

SECONDARY

1st - Bridgetown HS - 409 pts
2nd - Kojonup DHS - 369 pts
3rd - Boyup Brook DHS - 231.5 pts
4th - Boddington DHS - 179 pts
5th - Wagin DHS - 130.5 pts

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

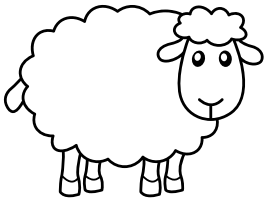
Year 4 Boys Champion (tied) - Kyrie Waitokia
Year 6 Girls Champion - Saylah Spargo
Year 6 Boys Champion (tied) - Tyler Milne
Year 7 Girls Champion - Zoe Milne
Year 8 Boys Champion - Tona Watene
Year 10 Boys Champion - Sam Waldron
Year 4-6 Girls 800m - Saylah Spargo
Year 4-6 Boys 800m - Tyler Milne
Year 7-10 Boys 800m - Sam Waldron

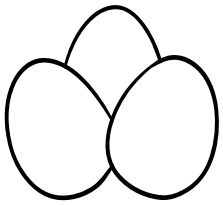
RECORD BREAKERS

Ellie Bilney - Year 4 Girls Vortex Throw - 39.22m
Rasheeda Balloch - Year 5 Girls Vortex Throw - 29.38m
Saylah Spargo - Year 6 Girls Triple Jump - 8.15m
Taj Wells - Year 6 Boys Vortex Throw - 46.25m
Zoe Milne - Year 7 Girls Long Jump - 4.2m
Zoe Milne & Elsie Eyres - Year 7 Girls High Jump - 1.34m
Gracie Venables - Year 8 Girls High Jump - 1.39m
Tona Watene - Year 8 Boys Shot Put - 11.56m
Year 6 Passball - 29.35
Year 6 Leaderball - 1:11.48
Year 8 Girls 4x100m Circular Relay - 1:01.70
Year 8 Boys 4x100m Circular Relay - 57.19

Dinninup Show

Melissa Shepherd
Secondary Agriculture Teacher





On Tuesday 3rd November, Kojonup District High School Year 9 & 10 students attended the Dinninup Show. They enjoyed a successful day of learning, participation in young judges' events and agricultural exhibits from the Southwest and Great Southern.

The show provided students with a great opportunity to experience local agriculture, showcase our Kojonup District High School Farm prime lambs and for students to complete the Young Judging Competitions. These included Fleece Judging, Meat Breed Sheep Judging and Beef Cattle Judging. We exhibited our School Farm wool and eggs in addition to displaying our decorated eggs, proudly made by Pre-Primary and Year 4 students.

Kojonup District High School won and placed in the following events:

Section	**Sub Section**	**Placed**
Section F – Wool	Non-Stud - Farmers Fleece One ewe or wether fleece - fine	Second
	Open Classes - Fine Merino One ram fleece	First
	Non-Stud Farmers Fleece One ewe or wether fleece - medium	First
Prime Lambs	Pen of 3 light weight prime lambs	Second
	Pen of 3 heavy weight prime lambs	First
Eggs	4 beige hen eggs	Second
Young Judging Competition	Meat breed sheep	Cody Ferguson Third Place

Special commendations to Mila Crane and Sasha Maunder who placed in the top eight finalists in the Young Judges Fleece Judging. This was our first time competing as a school at a Royal Agricultural Society of WA Show.
A big thank you to Keren Muthsam in organising the Dinninup Show sheep and to Bon Lucev who supported our students throughout the day. It was an excellent experience, and we look forward to attending again next year.



Cody Ferguson (Year 9) with his third place sash for the Young Judging Competition



Mila Crane (Year 9)



Lyla Bissett, Mila Crane, Cody Ferguson and Sasha Maunder (all Year 9) during the Young Judges Wool Competition

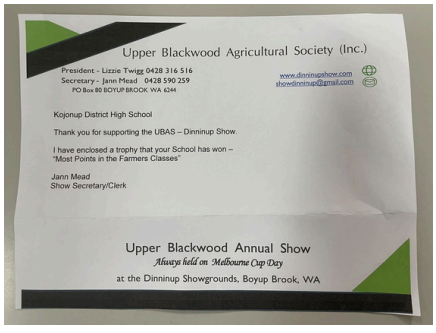


Our prime lamb entries









Design & Technology: A Year in Review

Travis Abbott
Secondary Design & Technology Teacher

What a year it has been in Design and Technology! Our students have demonstrated creativity, dedication, problem-solving skills and an impressive level of craftsmanship across a range of practical subjects. From the kitchen to the workshop, students have been busy developing new skills, bringing their ideas to life and producing some outstanding projects that showcase their hard work and talents.

Our Year 7 students have certainly made their mark! In Home Economics, students have been cooking up a storm, producing some delicious, MasterChef-quality recipes that demonstrate their growing confidence and skills in the kitchen. Their creativity has also extended to the presentation of their food, with the construction of some impressive, high-quality cheese boards that would be right at home at any dinner party.

Year 8 students have had a productive Semester, completing a variety of practical projects. Their pot stands and phone holders have provided opportunities to develop design skills and confidence when working with timber.

Our Year 9 students have been busy creating desk tidies designed to make life a little easier at home. We're sure these practical projects will assist with keeping study spaces organised, encouraging a tidier homework environment and helping students stay on top of their schoolwork. Alongside, students have also been working on their Wood Art projects. These creative pieces are nearing completion, with students putting the finishing touches on their work over the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing the final results!

Year 10's have continued to impress with their woodworking abilities, producing some high-quality coffee tables that showcase their attention to detail and commitment to craftsmanship. These projects have required patience, precision and careful planning, with the finished products reflecting the effort invested throughout the year.

It has been a pleasure watching our students grow, a big congratulations to all our Design and Technology students for their enthusiasm, effort and achievements this year. We look forward to celebrating the completion of the remaining projects and seeing what creative ideas our students bring to life next year!



John Vea, Year 7


Todd McMahon, Year 7


Gypsee Maunder & Zoe Milne, Year 7

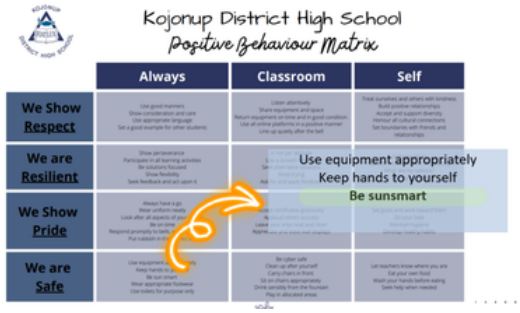

Year 8 students with their pot stands

Katanning Scouts Food Drive

Two of our students, Kaden and Tharan Hehir, are participating in a food drive for the Katanning Scouts which will help those in need. There is a box in the front office. Please donate non-perishable items by Tuesday 8th December.



PBS - We Are Sun Smart



We are sun smart at school

The Australian sun is hot and contains high levels of UV (ultra violet rays) which are very dangerous for your skin. We are at school during the hottest part of the day so it is very important that we protect ourselves from the sun.

Wear a hat



Apply sunscreen



Stay in the shade



Drink water



How the Sun Helps Us

The sun is good for us in the correct amounts, at the right times and if we are being sun smart. The sun provides us with vitamin D. Vitamin D helps us take in calcium for stronger, healthier bones.

The sun shines light to the earth, and part of that light has invisible UV rays. When these rays reach the skin, they cause tanning, burning, and other skin damage.

That is why it is important when the UV rating is high, to make sure we are sun smart.

How Can We Protect Ourselves?

Slip on protective clothing, such as shirts with long sleeves and collars. Cover as much skin as possible.

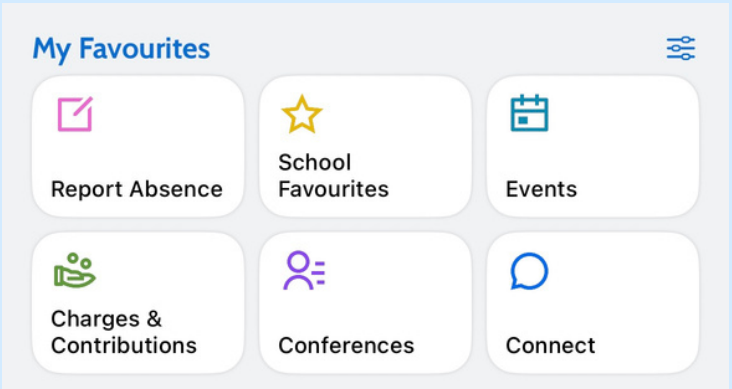
Slop on sunscreen that is SPF30 or higher. Put it on at least 20 minutes before going outside, and re-apply every 2 hours.

Compass

CORNER

COMPASS APP UPDATE

You may have noticed that Compass have updated their app recently and the interface has changed.



There is now a 'My Favourites' section on the homepage where you can add and customise your favourite quick links







Kojonup District High School invites

Parents, Carers & Families

to the

The Story of Kojonup

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Performances and award presentations for students from

Pre-Primary - Year 10

Wednesday 16th December

Starting at 6:30pm

Upper Primary Undercover Area





COMMUNITY INFORMATION











COMMUNITY INFORMATION









We're excited to invite female students from across the South West to get involved in our South West Women & Girls Gala Day on Sunday 29th November! 🏏💚💛

It's a fantastic opportunity for girls of all ages and abilities to give cricket a go, make new friends and, most importantly, have some fun! 🎉

Never played cricket before? No worries! 🙌 There are plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved, learn new skills and enjoy the day, whether they're picking up a bat for the first time or already love the game!

🏏 What's on offer?

- 🌟 Girls Only Cricket Blast (Ages 5–12): Fun games, exciting activities and a chance to learn the basics of cricket in a welcoming environment.
- 🔥 Girls Only Smash Series (Ages 11–17): An opportunity to get involved in social cricket, develop skills and enjoy playing alongside other girls.
- 🎁 Plenty of prizes on offer for attendees

👭 We want to bring together women and girls from right across the South West to celebrate and grow female participation in cricket, with even more exciting opportunities and programs planned for 2027!