

NEWSLETTER



THE RIVERS
SECONDARY COLLEGE
KADINA HIGH CAMPUS

The heart of secondary education for Lismore

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ISSUE 1 | TERM 1 | WEEK 11 | 2024

Student Representative Council (SRC) Assembly

On Thursday, Kadina High School held our 2024 SRC induction ceremony. This was a special occasion where we acknowledge our current school leaders and welcome our new SRC members. Congratulations to our 2024 student leaders!





Principal Message

We have had a successful start to 2024, I am excited to see what our students can achieve for this year. This newsletter serves as a way to update you on upcoming events, and showcase the great things happening at Kadina High Campus everyday.

Our extracurricular activities have enabled our students to demonstrate remarkable talent and passion in sports, arts, music, and other areas. Their accomplishments serve as a testament to their determination and willingness to get involved.

Some of the activities from this term include:-

- Our year 7 students have settled in well to their new school environment and routines. They attended their school camp in March and all who attended had a great time. Mr Lewis-Hall their Year Advisor is pleased with how year 7 has made the transition to high school.
- Despite the rainy weather we had a good turn out at the school swimming carnival in February. All students participated in at least 1 event throughout the day to contribute to their house points. The staff verse students race saw the staff come out as winners this year. I am sure this will make for a very competitive race in 2025.
- Our Cross Country Carnival was canceled due to poor weather Mr Condon will still be putting a team together for the zone Cross Country Carnival.
- We celebrated our student achievements at our term 1 “Kadina Creates” assembly in week 9. It is great to see so many students who receive awards for their efforts this term. Thank you to all our parents, carers and guests who attend to celebrate our students with us.
- Our Attendance award for the term 1 draw went to Daisy in year 7. Daisy took home the first laptop of the year.
- International Women's day and Harmony Day
- A range of competitive sporting activities where students have excelled.
- Anzac Day Assembly
- Our music students played at the Bluesfest Local Area High School Showcase festival on Easter Monday. This is the 14th year that Kadina High Students have played at Bluesfest.

I am extremely proud of our Kadina High Campus Community and look forward to all the achievements and opportunities our students will have access to throughout 2024.

Regards,

Tracy McGrath
Principal



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Congratulations Mrs McGrath

We are delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mrs Tracy McGrath on her successful appointment through the merit selection process to the role of Principal at TRSC-Kadina High Campus.

Mrs McGrath journey to this pivotal position has been marked by dedication and excellence. Having undertaken the role in a relieving capacity since term 4 last year and having previously fulfilled the role of Principal on relief occasions, she brings a wealth of experience and insight to her new role. Her tenure as Deputy Principal at Kadina High Campus has equipped her with a profound understanding of our college and campus ethos and a steadfast commitment to public education and educational leadership.

Mrs McGrath's connections within our local community and her intimate understanding of the diverse needs and learning styles of our students will undoubtedly steer Kadina towards creating excellence, equity and engagement. Her vision for fostering a nurturing learning environment make her an invaluable asset to our college community.

We are confident that under Mrs. McGrath's guidance, Kadina High Campus will thrive and continue the academic success that we saw in last years HSC results and the strong programs of wellbeing that support students into a bright future.

TRSC



Term 1 Breakfast Celebration

A big thank you to the parents, carers and guests who joined us this morning on the last day of term for our end of term Breakfast Celebration. It was a huge success and wonderful to see so many people enjoying a chat over a hot cuppa. We look forward to continue showcasing in Term 2 what Kadina creates.



CALENDAR

12 April

Last day of Term 1

29 April

**School Development Day
(pupil free day)**

30 April

First day of Term 2

2 May

Year 10 Vaccinations

Please remember to check our Sentral parent portal calendar for up-to-date information and important events.



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We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Elders past and present of the Wijabal Wiyabal people and other peoples of Bundjalung Nation. We acknowledge that they are the first peoples of this land on which our school stands.

Attendance Matters Prize Winner

Daisy Pilbeam is the lucky winner of our term 1 laptop giveaway. Daisy is a year 7 student with brilliant attendance and is a deserving winner. We hope you enjoy your new laptop, Daisy!

Congratulations to all students who have worked hard to improve their attendance this term. Another laptop will be given away in Term 2, so keep aiming for 90%+



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**Students with greater than
90% attendance will be
placed into a draw each
term to win a laptop!**

ANZAC Assembly

Kadina acknowledged and celebrated Anzac Day at our school assembly today. Special thanks to our guest speaker Major Alex Rubin who is the Operational Commander of the 41st Battalion that operates out of the Lismore Barracks.

Students of The Rivers Secondary College will be marching April 25th at 8.30am from the Browns Creek Carpark. More information can be found on the college Facebook page and campus calendars.



College ANZAC Day March 25 April

At 5am the traditional Dawn Service will be held at the Lismore Cenotaph, following the March from the "Old Post Office Corner" on the corner of Magellan and Molesworth Streets. As a longstanding tradition, Lismore High Campus choir will perform for the the Dawn Service. The College Principal along with campus captains, will attend the North Lismore Memorial service at 8am, the place where soldiers boarded a train taking them to the battle fields of Europe in 1914.

We invite students from The Rivers Secondary College Lismore High Campus, The Rivers Secondary College Kadina High Campus and The Rivers Secondary College Richmond River High Campus to join The Rivers Secondary College in the main March mustering from 8.30am and departing Browns Creek Carpark at 9am, proceeding along Molesworth Street to the Lismore Memorial Baths, followed by the ANZAC Day commemorative service at the Lismore Cenotaph. Students are requested to wear full school uniform and bring a hat and water

TRSC



ON APRIL 25

We remember Anzac Day.

We remember heroes and what
they gave for our tomorrow.

~ Dawn Service: Lismore Cenotaph at 5.00am
~ North Lismore Memorial Service at 8.00am
~ Main March at 9.00am



www.therivers.schools.nsw.gov.au

Footy with Ochy - Tuesday's & Thursday's during lunch



Wednesday Sport at Kadina

During Term 1, Kadina delivered a successful weekly sport program featuring a range of activities catering to our students diverse movement interests and abilities. Our students engaged in various sports including Fitness training, Futsal, Soccer, Volleyball, Walking Basketball and Table Tennis. Additionally, our Year 7 students successfully completed the Swim and Survive program enhancing their water confidence and safety skills. As we move into Term 2, students will have the opportunity to select a new weekly sport and we also look forward to our upcoming representative Cross Country and Athletics events.



Bluesfest Local Area High School Showcase

A massive congratulations to the KHC students for their amazing performances at this year's Bluesfest Local Area High School Showcase!

Please check out our Facebook page for more photos.



Swimming Carnival



It was great to see so many students brave the wet conditions and come to the swimming carnival earlier in the term. Participation levels were high especially in the house scrambles.

House Champions

- 1st - Bradman
- 2nd - Newcombe
- 3rd - Cuthbert
- 4th - Fraser

Mr J Condon



College Sport

TRSC Opens boys and girls Volleyball

TRSC Opens boys and girls Volleyball teams travelled to Evans River school this term for the Northern Rivers Zone Volleyball Gala Day. It was a fantastic day with all games played in good spirit. Highly competitive teams across our zone saw our boys team lose their game against Alstonville (21-15, 21-16) and the girls team were defeated against Casino (21-16, 23-21). Despite the losses, several of our Rivers students demonstrated outstanding skills earning them selection in the Northern Rivers Zone Volleyball team; Abbie (KHC), Shante (KHC), Harrison (LHC) and Jayda (KHC) as a reserve. Well done to all of our Rivers Volleyball representatives!



TRSC Opens Northern Rivers Zone Football

Congratulations to Max, Charlie, Sean, Hadley and Elias who made the Opens Northern Rivers Zone Football (Soccer) team. They progressed to the North Coast Trials and Gala day in Coffs Harbour on Monday 4th March.



Student Success Stories

Asante Kweka

Congratulations to Asante in Year 10, on her inclusion in The Far North Coast Senior Dance Ensemble! Asante will now get the chance to showcase her talents in a contemporary dance performance at the Far North Coast Dance Festival in June. This exciting opportunity will also allow her to audition for a performance at the State Dance Festival. Outstanding Asante!



Kira Turner

Congratulations to KHC student Kira Turner on her feature in the Small Business magazine. Well done, Kirra!



Ratu Isireli

Congratulations to Ratu Isireli for his selection in the North Coast Opens Basketball team. Ratu Isireli will now go on to compete with the North Coast team at the NSW CHS Opens Basketball selection trials held at Coffs Harbour in May. Great work, Ratu!



English Assembly

Special thanks to our English faculty for hosting our week 7 whole school assembly this term. It was wonderful to see so many students awarded for their exceptional industry and effort in English.



Year 5 & 6 into Year 7 Information Evening

Thank you for attending our Year 5/6 into Year 7 Information Evening. It was wonderful to see so many new faces around the school. We look forward to welcoming you all into the Kadina community in 2025 and beyond, so we can continue to show you what Kadina creates.



Year 6 into 7 Transition - Parent Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey to help us improve future primary to secondary transition, and provide feedback on how we can improve the service we are currently providing for your child.



Year 7 Meet the Teachers

A big thank you to the parents, carers and guests who braved the bad weather to join us for our Year 7 Meet the Teachers afternoon tea this term. We really appreciate your attendance and the teachers enjoyed meeting you all!



HAPPY PI DAY! International Day of Mathematics

This term at Kadina High Campus we celebrated Pi day. Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter “ π ”) is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Congratulations to the winners of the Pi day competition who received a \$20 voucher each:

Year 8: Ebony, Chloe, Michaela

Year 10: Jayda , Akira, Lara

Year 10: Tommy, Liam, Issac



Excursions

Sydney Art Exhibition

Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts students from across TRSC set off to Sydney in March to explore the Art World. It was a packed itinerary where we visited the Museum of Contemporary Art to explore the 2024 Sydney Biennale, as well as, create a collaborative stop motion artwork. We explored The Art Gallery of NSW, New North Building and the art of Louise Bourgeois, as well as, Art Express in the original building. Students and teachers were also very lucky to participate in an expressive drawing workshop at The National Art School. Students also gained a life learning experience while in Sydney and learnt to navigate around a city. For some students this was their first visit to Sydney. This excursion was extremely inspiring and set the students up for their HSC in Visual Arts. It was an exhausting few days, with no free moments spare, but a once in a lifetime experience for these students.

Thankyou TRSC Executive team, parents and staff for supporting this rewarding experience. A big shout out goes to Ms Hook and Mr Clarke who helped make this excursion happen. AND an even bigger mention, goes out to the students - you were AMAZING! Thankyou.

Kye Lane
KHC Visual Arts Teacher





Camp Drew, Lake Ainsworth

Year 7 students enjoyed an overnight camp at Lake Ainsworth-Lennox Head early this term. Students spent an afternoon hanging out at the beach and swimming and Kayaking in lake Ainsworth, before going back to the camp to participate in a variety of team building and trust activities. The camp is designed to encourage a cohesive year group and smooth transition into high school. On day two of the camp students spent a number of hours at the Ballina pool and waterslides before heading back to Kadina.



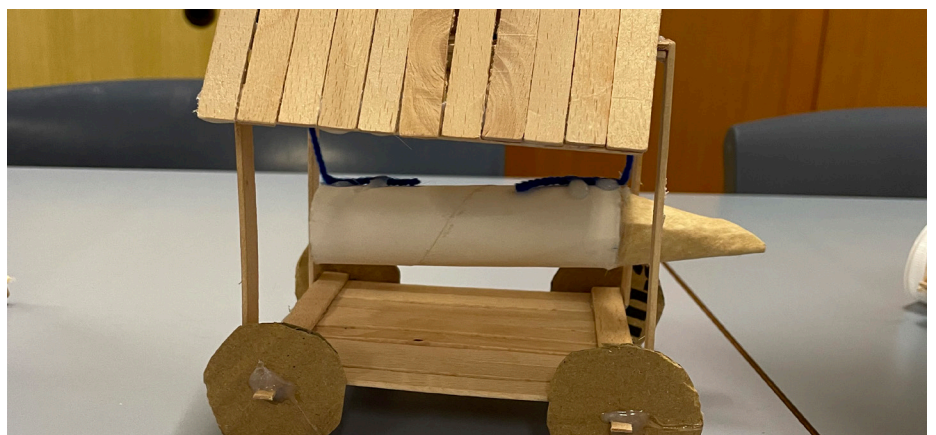
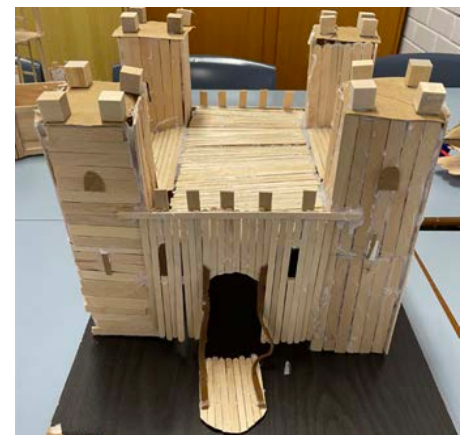
Year 11 Visual Arts

Year 11 Visual Arts have just completed their first Body of Work, based around 'Still Life' drawing. Students learnt new skills and experimented with a range of drawing materials. Please take some time to explore their work, their results speak for themselves. These will also be on display through the windows in the Senior Artwork Room at the beginning of Term 2. Please come and have a look.



Year 8 History

Year 8 students have been studying Medieval Europe in History this term. The Assessment task involved students creating a historically accurate model of a Medieval castle or siege engine.



Support Hub

That's a wrap on Term 1! We've had a great term in the support hub, from starting some new programs like Paddock To Plate, Odds On and Enterprise Ed, where students have had the opportunity to take care of our new chooks, and make some pizza using herbs that we've grown in our garden and having our staff car wash drive. We've had some great trips in Community Access that have taken us to Tosha Falls, Fishing in Ballina and the Rotary Park rainforest walk. As part of our fitness program the students have enjoyed going to the Southern Cross University pool every monday to swim. We've had lots of fun this term, and we can't wait to see you all in Term 2!



Proud and Deadly Awards

This term we celebrated our 2023 Proud and Deadly Awards, where we acknowledge the hard work of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Students were nominated by their classroom teachers and relieving AEO, and were presented with academic, attendance, and special awards. Congratulations to all the award winners!





YOUNG WOMEN IN STEM

STEMming the Divide

This year's first event in the RASE "STEMming the Divide" initiative was the Young Women in STEM workshop. During this two-day seminar held at Southern Cross University, Lismore Campus, 44 students in years 8 to 10 from the three campuses worked on real-life problems with industry mentors. The girls worked with representatives from Lismore City Council, Rous County Council, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development Australia.



Vicki Currie; LCC, Alex Dowling; RCC, Suzy Rogiers; DPI, Parya Samadi; LCC & Felismina Jom; RDA

Pitch perfect

The workshop culminated with each group pitching their ideas to the mentors. The standard of their work and solutions was very high. The mentors thought so highly of some of these ideas and the enthusiasm of the groups, they are planning to work with these students to further develop the solutions.

This RASE workshop was funded by Google with the support of Australian Schools Plus. The industry mentors were coordinated by our local Regional Industry Education Partnerships Officer



Lilian; KHC, Isabelle; RRHC and Sienna; LHC working together.

Solutions

The mentors **identified** problems they were currently working on in their roles. The girls chose one of these to work on with their group and followed the STEM Design Thinking Process to bring their ideas to life.

This involved researching the topic, **brainstorming** ideas, and creating a **plan**. The problems ranged from water wastage, reducing barriers for farmers to adopt sustainable practices, combatting oil waste in sewage systems, improving access to candidates for employers in the Northern Rivers and promoting the use of reusable menstrual products.



Congratulations to these young women for developing amazing solutions!



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.