



KEMBLAWARRA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Shellharbour Road Port Kembla 2505 4274 2024

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 8 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Well done everyone for another tremendous week of great work. Each week we will continue to praise our families who are doing a fabulous job in juggling home learning and working from home. Your efforts supporting your children with attending the ZOOM meetings and Google Classroom activities is noticed and appreciated by our teachers. If you haven't had a chance to access these platforms, please speak to your child's class teacher for assistance. Attendance will continue to be marked through accessing the daily ZOOM lesson unless other adjustments have been approved through a discussion with the school.

Our teachers are looking to provide feedback and prepare for Term 4 programs. We encourage our students to submit their work samples and pictures where possible through Class DoJo or Google Classroom depending on their year group and device circumstances. Home learning is a challenging time for all of us. If you need adjustments or additional support, please contact us and we will be able to make modifications around our school expectations where possible.

In the background our executive team have been working hard on our literacy and numeracy programs to ensure we are tracking our students as best as possible and preparing for week 4, Term 4, the staggered return of some of our infants. We look forward to running better refined programs and introducing new routines to ensure we are offering the best learning for our students. Some of the programs you will be hearing more about include, Morning Routine, Spelling Mastery and Movetoimia. These improvements are in line with our School Improvement Plan and future school directions to be the best we can be.

We will provide more information about the staggered approach after the holiday break. We know for the first 3 weeks we will continue with a skeleton staff at school and learning from home programs. However, once we have had a chance to recharge over the holiday break we will offer some suggestions around preparing for the school routine and getting back in the groove of things ready for that staggered start in week 4.

Please continue to be safe and careful, the Illawarra region from Wollongong right down to the Shoalhaven area, has had a significant amount of increased COVID-19 transmission over the last 2 days. It is important to be as vigilant as ever around reducing movement, getting tested with the most minor of symptoms and staying at home where possible.

Keep up the good work KPS community, we are doing great!

STAY CONNECTED

Downloading the Skool Loop app - a step by step guide

Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school -

- Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
- Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
- Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side.
- Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
- Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
- Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.



Throughout this term 5/6 R have been focusing on 'informative texts'. We have been learning to write to inform, whilst incorporating technology in our online learning environment.

All students in 5/6 R have written some fantastic pieces this term, highlighted by Tilly Martiska's piece on Port Kembla below.

Port Kembla

By Tilly Martiska



History



Port Kembla break wall south arm during construction (1936)

Break Wall

The Break Wall is used to prevent waves from going into the other side, so the water is calm and boats can dock there. The Port Kembla Harbour Act was passed in December 1898, allowing two breakwaters to be constructed. This was a huge effort because for every foot of breakwater 100 tonnes of rock was required. If you visit the break wall today you can see one of the machines and carts they used to lift the giant blocks for the break wall.



The Port Kembla Triangles (pictured above) were used in the war as a defence strategy.

Breakwater Battery

Port Kembla triangles are part of Port Kembla breakwater battery and were a coastal defence point at port Kembla during World War II. They were constructed in 1939 to provide protection for Port Kembla from enemy ships and submarines.



Where a gun used to be at Hill 60 Tunnels, Port Kembla

Hill 60

Hill 60 is a heritage listed Aboriginal site. It is part of Port Kembla Breakwater Battery and was used during World War II. There are many tunnels that run underground from hill 60 to other parts of Port Kembla that were really important during the war. To build these tunnels though the local aboriginals who lived on Hill 60 had to move to other local land.

Beaches



Port Kembla main beach and pool on a busy day

Main Beach – The main beach is very popular. There is a Salt Water pool and the beach is patrolled by lifeguards who have a surf life savers club on the hill.

Interesting fact : Some of the sand from the beach was exported to Hawaii because their sand is black and they wanted some of our lovely yellow sand.

M.M Beach – M.M beach is named after the company Metal Manufactures who are located across the road and have a big sign that says MM. It is one of the few beaches in the Wollongong local council area where you can let your dog run around with no leash. If your lucky you might see a whale, seal or dolphin there.

Fisherman's Beach – Fisherman or Fishos beach in Port Kembla is a low lying beach located at the base of Hill 60. It is a good beach for fishing and has lots of little rock pools.

Coomaditchie

Coomaditchie

Coomaditchie is Aboriginal owned land in Port Kembla. The mob who live at Coomaditchie were also living at Hill 60 until the war broke out and the army needed Hill 60 for strategic purposes so they had to move. Many of the locals moved to the sand dunes and around Coomaditchie lagoon. The local mob have many areas around Port Kembla that are sacred to them and they know lots of stories from the Dreamtime about the local area that have been passed down from their ancestors.

Conclusion

Port Kembla is a beautiful place to visit, it has many nice beaches and lots of history that you can walk around and see from the war, to the local aboriginal history to the steel works and industrial history.