



Term 4

Week 3

29th October 2026

KPS NEWS

Principal's Message

It has been another busy few weeks at Kalgoorlie Primary School.

Our Year 6 Camp was a great success. Thank you to Mr Harring-Harris, Miss Coenan, Miss Watson, Mr Rundle, Miss Cosh and Mrs McGinty for giving up their time to support our students. By all reports, our students were outstanding and represented the school exceptionally well. Thank you also to our families for their support, including the many creative fundraising efforts that helped make the camp possible.

Swimming lessons have now concluded. Thank you to the staff who assisted throughout the program. Feedback on the shorter swimming block has been very positive, and student absences following swimming have decreased. We look forward to exploring the same model again in 2027, particularly if we are allocated a winter swimming block.

Next Friday, our 2027 Student Elections will be held. It has been fantastic to see so many students nominate for leadership positions. While not every student will be successful, many have shown great courage by stepping forward and putting themselves out there. Their willingness to have a go is a reflection of the resilience we see so often in our students. Thank you to Mr Harring-Harris and our Year 5 teachers for preparing students so well. We look forward to seeing all candidates put their best foot forward.

Excitement is also building for our upcoming Colour Fun Run on Friday 13 November. To allow more families and community members to get involved, the event will begin at 1:45pm. If you have not yet registered, now is the time. Every student who signs up will receive a coloured headband and glasses to wear on the day. Register here: <https://myprofilepage.com.au/> Thank you to our P&C for their hard work in organising what promises to be a fantastic event. We are also seeking local business sponsors. If you would like more information or a copy of our sponsorship letter, please contact the P&C at kalgoorlieprimarypandc@outlook.com.

Finally, please save the date for our End of Year Concert on Wednesday 16 December. This year's Disney-themed performances will run for approximately one hour. We ask families to remain for the entire concert to support all of our performers. Thank you to Mrs Vicenti for once again leading the production.

This Friday is World Teachers' Day. I encourage everyone to take a moment to recognise the amazing staff we have at Kalgoorlie Primary School. Our teachers and support staff work incredibly hard to provide the best possible opportunities for students, often going above and beyond behind the scenes. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team, and I thank them for everything they do for our students and community.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Somerville Trick or Treating on Saturday. As a Principal, I couldn't be happier that it's on a Saturday; as a parent, not so much!

Ash



Independence & Respect

Curriculum

The Power of Productive Struggle: Growing Through Challenge

At KPS, we want every child to experience success, develop confidence and become an independent learner. An important part of achieving this is helping students understand that learning is not always easy, and that is exactly how it should be. When children are encouraged to work through challenges, make mistakes, ask questions and try different strategies, they develop skills that extend far beyond the classroom. This is what we call productive struggle.

What is productive struggle?

Productive struggle occurs when students encounter a challenge that requires them to think deeply, persevere and draw on what they already know to develop new understanding. It is the moment when a student is unsure of the answer, when a maths problem requires a different approach, when a piece of writing just will not come together, or when a new skill takes several attempts to master.

Rather than immediately stepping in to provide the answer, teachers guide students to think critically, explore possibilities and learn from their mistakes. This does not mean leaving children to struggle alone. Instead, it means providing the right level of support, encouragement and guidance so that they can eventually overcome the challenge themselves.

When students experience productive struggle, they begin to understand that mistakes are not failures. They are opportunities to learn. They develop resilience, confidence, problem-solving skills and the belief that their abilities can grow through effort and practice.

The Zone of Proximal Development: Finding the Sweet Spot

The concept of productive struggle is closely connected to the work of psychologist Lev Vygotsky and his theory of the Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD).

The ZPD describes the space between what a child can do independently and what they can achieve with appropriate support from a teacher, parent or more capable peer.

Imagine three zones of learning:

- What I can do independently: Tasks a child can already complete confidently using their existing knowledge and skills.
- What I can do with support: Tasks that are challenging but achievable with encouragement, prompts, modelling or guidance. This is the sweet spot for productive struggle and learning.
- What is currently beyond my reach: Tasks that are too difficult, even with support, and may need to be broken into smaller steps or revisited later.

Our goal as educators is to create learning experiences that sit within this middle zone. When work is too easy, children may not develop new skills. When it is too difficult, they can become frustrated or disengaged. However, when a task is appropriately challenging and support is available, children have the opportunity to stretch their thinking and achieve something they may not have thought possible.

Over time, with practice and guidance, what was once difficult becomes something they can do independently. Their learning zone grows, opening the door to new challenges and further growth.

Productive struggle beyond the classroom

While productive struggle is an important part of academic learning, some of the most powerful opportunities for growth happen outside the classroom.

Consider the experience of going on school camp. For some students, camp is an exciting adventure. For others, it can be a significant challenge. Sleeping away from home, managing belongings, trying unfamiliar foods, navigating social situations, working as part of a team or participating in an activity that feels daunting can all push children beyond their comfort zones. These experiences provide rich opportunities for learning.

A student who initially feels anxious about an unfamiliar activity may discover the courage to give it a go. A child who struggles to organise their belongings may learn to take greater responsibility for their possessions. Students who need to resolve a disagreement with their peers may develop communication, empathy and negotiation skills. When a group faces a difficult team challenge, they learn that listening to others, sharing ideas and persisting together can lead to success.

Just as in the classroom, adults play a vital role. Teachers and camp staff provide reassurance, establish safe boundaries, offer practical strategies and encourage students to take manageable steps towards independence. We do not remove every challenge, but we ensure students have the support they need to navigate it.

The moment a child successfully completes something they once believed was too hard can be transformative. They begin to see themselves differently: I can do hard things. I can ask for help. I can keep trying. I can do more than I thought.

What's on....

30th October
Summer Lightning
Carnival
World Teachers'
Day

6th November
T1 Assembly

13th November
P&C Colour Run

20th November
T2 & T3
Assembly

27th November
Kindy Orientation

4th December
Kindy Celebration of
Learning



How can families support productive struggle?

Parents and carers play an important role in helping children develop a positive relationship with challenge. At home, we can encourage productive struggle by:

- Resisting the urge to fix everything immediately. Give children time to think, experiment and attempt a solution before stepping in.
- Asking guiding questions. Try asking, "What have you tried so far?", "What else could you do?" or "What might help you get started?"
- Celebrating effort and strategies. Recognise persistence, creative thinking and the willingness to try again, rather than focusing only on getting the right answer.
- Normalising mistakes. Share examples of times when you found something difficult and explain what helped you overcome it.
- Offering support without taking over. Break a challenge into smaller steps, model a strategy or work alongside your child before gradually stepping back.
- Encouraging age-appropriate independence. Allow children to practise everyday skills such as packing their bags, managing their belongings, making simple decisions and solving minor disagreements with guidance when needed.

It is also important to recognise the difference between productive struggle and unproductive frustration. If a child becomes overwhelmed, anxious or stuck without making progress, they may need a clearer explanation, a smaller step, a different approach or a break. Supporting children to recognise when to persevere and when to ask for help is itself an important life skill.

Growing confident, capable learners

Ultimately, productive struggle is about more than completing a difficult task. It is about developing the mindset and skills to approach unfamiliar situations with curiosity, courage and confidence.

Whether a child is working through a challenging maths problem, learning to read a complex text, navigating friendships or tackling an activity on camp, the message remains the same: you do not have to know how to do everything straight away. You need the opportunity, support and confidence to keep learning.

When we create environments where children feel safe to take risks, make mistakes and try again, we help them discover what they are capable of achieving. By finding the right balance between challenge and support, we give every child the opportunity to move beyond what they can do today and towards what they can achieve tomorrow.

Sometimes, the most valuable learning happens not when a child gets something right the first time, but when they discover that they have the ability to keep going when it gets difficult.



Goldfields Voices

On Thursday 15th October our very own KPS choir took the stage at the Goldfields Arts Centre for the very first Goldfields Voices, with Perth Symphony Orchestra musicians. Joined by more than 150 students from East Kalgoorlie Primary, South Kalgoorlie Primary, O'Connor Primary and Goldfields Baptist College this performance was supported by Northern Star Resources and the City of Kalgoorlie Boulder and presented as part of the KALEIDOSCOPE festival.

This impressive performance was a fantastic opportunity for the students who worked hard throughout Term 3 rehearsing and preparing. Thank you to Mrs Henderson for her hard work, perseverance and flexibility in coordinating our school's involvement. Our students are lucky to have such a dedicated music teacher.



Year 6 Camp

Last week our Year 6 students enjoyed an unforgettable week in Perth for camp.

From ziplining, caving and high ropes courses to escape rooms, bowling, mini golf, prison tours, Bounce, beach games, night adventures, campfires and s'mores, our schedule was absolutely packed. Throw in plenty of food, non-stop running around and very little downtime and you've got one incredible camp!

But beyond all the excitement, this week was about so much more. Students challenged themselves, strengthened friendships, stepped outside their comfort zones and made memories that will stay with them for years to come.

We couldn't be prouder of the way our Year 6s stepped up, embraced every opportunity and represented KPS throughout Perth. They really did make the most of every moment!

A massive thank you to our wonderful staff, Mr Harring-Harris, Ms Watson, Miss Coenen, Ms Cosh, Mrs McGinty and Mr Rundle, for giving so much of their time and energy to make this experience possible.



Independence & Respect

P&C News

We are super excited the colour run is only a few weeks away.

If you haven't already signed up, now is the time.

Each child who has signed up will receive a coloured headband and glasses to wear on the day.

myprofilepage.com.au

We are also looking for businesses to sponsor this event. If you would like more info or to look at a sponsor letter, please email

kalgoorlieprimarypandc@outlook.com



Thanks once again for supporting the P & C



KPS Superstars

Celebrating the success of our former students!



We are incredibly proud to congratulate Joshua Crisp, who was awarded Dux ATAR as well as the Maths and Science Awards, and Stefani Porte, who received Runner-Up Dux ATAR, at the Eastern Goldfields College Year 12 graduation last Wednesday night.



What an outstanding achievement and a testament to their hard work, dedication and commitment to their education. It is wonderful to see our former KPS students flourishing and achieving such remarkable milestones.

Congratulations, Joshua and Stefani! We are so proud of you both and wish you every success as you embark on the next exciting chapter of your journey.



YEAR 6 FAMILY INFORMATION EVENING
Preparing for KBCHS in 2027

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2026
4:30 PM
Meet in the KBCHS Staff Room

You are warmly invited to join us for an evening designed to help families feel informed, welcomed and ready for the transition from primary school to KBCHS.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Tour of our school
- Meet key people
- Important transition information for starting at KBCHS
- Learn about transition, support and expectations
- Plenty of time for questions

RESPECT • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED
Working together with families to help every student make a positive start to secondary school.

YEAR 6 FAMILIES – WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO KBCHS!

Supporting Your Child

Department of Education
FREE PARENT SEMINAR
**-HIGH SCHOOL READY-
DOING WELL IN HIGH SCHOOL**



For Parents of Year 6 Students

FIND OUT ANSWERS FOR:

- ✓ How do I encourage my teen to make the most of high school?
- ✓ How do I support my teen to develop self-discipline?
- ✓ How do I help my teen to be a good problem solver?
- ✓ What should I do if my teen is missing school?

WHEN & WHERE
Monday, 23rd November 2026 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Goldfields Education Regional Office
Or online via Teams

HOW TO REGISTER
Scan the QR Code
or email
alisha.davis@education.wa.edu.au



*No child-minding will be available, and it is recommended that children not be brought to seminars.

Department of Education
FREE PARENT SEMINAR
**-FEAR-LESS-
MANAGING CHILDHOOD ANXIETY**



FIND OUT ANSWERS FOR:

- ✓ What skills can I teach my child to manage their anxiety?
- ✓ How does anxiety work?
- ✓ How can I help my child face their fears?
- ✓ How to manage my child's avoidance behaviours?

WHEN & WHERE
Monday, 22nd June 2026 9:30 am - 11:30 am **OR**
Monday, 9 November 2026 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Goldfields Education Regional Office
Or online via Teams

HOW TO REGISTER
Scan the QR Code
or email
alisha.davis@education.wa.edu.au



*No child-minding will be available, and it is recommended that children not be brought to seminars.

Department of Education
FREE PARENT SEMINAR
**-BEING SCHOOL READY-
STARTING SCHOOL SUCCESSFULLY**



For Parents of Children Starting School in 2027

FIND OUT ANSWERS FOR:

- ✓ How do I prepare my child for school in 2027?
- ✓ What skills should I be teaching my child for school?
- ✓ What steps should I take on the first day of school in 2027?
- ✓ Is there anything I should do to look after myself during this big milestone?

WHEN & WHERE
Monday, 7th December 2026 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Goldfields Education Regional Office
Or online via Teams

HOW TO REGISTER
Scan the QR Code
or email
alisha.davis@education.wa.edu.au



*No child-minding will be available, and it is recommended that children not be brought to seminars.

Community Notices

one Central Health

AUTISM ASSESSMENT CONCERNS?

Are you still deciding whether an assessment for Autism is the "right" next step for your child?



FREE INTAKE SESSIONS AVAILABLE

Call us to book your complimentary 30-min Autism intake appointment today, and talk through your concerns with a clinician from our Autism Assessment team.

We discuss your child's behaviour and communication, answer your questions, and provide clear clinical guidance on whether an Autism assessment is required or not.

LOCATIONS

Balcatta Unit 24/257 Balcatta Rd, Balcatta WA 6021	South Lake Unit 9/752 North Lake Rd, South Lake WA 6184
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one Central Health

(08) 9544-1318

www.onecentralhealth.com.au

admin@onecentralhealth.com.au

Playing sport helps kids stay happy, healthy and connected. KidSport helps eligible families access community sport.



Apply online www.cits.wa.gov.au/kidsport



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

Diphtheria vaccination clinics

Diphtheria has been detected in the Goldfields.

The best way to protect yourself and others is to **get vaccinated**.

Everyone living in the Goldfields can access the dTpa vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis/whooping cough) for free if your last dTpa vaccine was more than five years ago.

Kalgoorlie PCYC
Address: 198 Egan St, Kalgoorlie
Date and time: Wednesday 28 October, 11am – 3pm
Free sausage sizzle on-site!

Boulder Child Health Clinic
Address: 80 Burt St, Boulder
Date and time: Wednesday 4 November, 9am – 3pm
Free Sausage Sizzle on-site!

WACHS Clinic
Address: 56 Piccadilly St, Piccadilly (Kalgoorlie)
Dates: 26 October – 6 November (Monday to Friday only)
Time: 9am – 4pm daily

Protect yourself and your community

COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • QUALITY • INTEGRITY • EQUITY • CURIOSITY

Parenting Connection WA



Tiny Tots First Aid

For parents & caregivers of babies and toddlers



Protect your toddler or infant with this concise short course that teaches you the skills to perform CPR and how to respond to febrile convulsions, anaphylaxis, asthma, bleeds and a range of other childhood related illnesses and injuries.

- These FREE workshops are capped at 10 parents.
- Newborns in strollers are welcome to join with the parent.
- No creche available.
- Morning tea provided. BYO lunch.



Friday 18 December 2026 | 9am – 1pm
St John Ambulance - 562 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie
To book: <https://parentingconnectionwa.com.au/event/tta17-2/>
Enquiries: 9068 1857 | M: 0447 643 252
GoldfieldsEsseancePCWA@anglicarewa.org.au



Uniforms

<https://kalgoorlieps.wa.edu.au/shop/>

All orders are placed online and will be sent to your child's classroom, 24 hours after ordering.



[instagram.com/kps_kalgoorlie](https://www.instagram.com/kps_kalgoorlie)

Contact Us



24 Dugan Street, Kalgoorlie, WA 6430



Kalgoorlie.PS@education.wa.edu.au



(08) 9068 2100



Kalgoorlie.PS@education.wa.edu.au



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Independence & Respect

Term Planner

 Kalgoorlie Primary School Term 4 Planner 2026					
Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	October 12 Students Return Swimming	13	14	15	16
2	19 Swimming	20	21 Year 6 Camp	22	23
3	26	27	28	29	30 Summer Lightning Carnival World Teachers Day
4	November 2	3	4	5	6 T1 Assembly Student Leader Elections
5	9	10	11	12	13 P&C Colour Fun Run
6	16 Student Free Day	17	18	19	20 T2 & T3 Assembly
7	23	24	25	26	27 Kindy Orientation
8	30	December 1	2	3	4 Kindy Celebration of Learning
9	7	8 STEMtacular	9	10	11 Year 6 Celebration Day
10	14 Year 6 Graduation	15	16 Book Awards End of Year Concert	17 Reports Home	18 Student Free Day