WELCOME BACK TO KARABAR DEC - IT’S 2015

Meet our Student Coordinators

Left to right—Back row
Janelle Redfern, Michael Waldon, Jeff Nicholson, Tim Rooney, Christine Knight, Kerrie McKinlay

Left to right—Front Row
Mark Hilder, Mark Hume, Christiana Elliott, Ashlee Kellner, Kathryn O’Malley

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Welcome to Karabar Distance Education Centre for 2015.

I am the new Principal of the Centre after being appointed at the end of 2014 to the role of Principal Karabar High School and Distance Education Centre. During the years 2002-2008 I worked at the school in both the roles of Head Teacher PD/H/PE and Head Teacher – Administration so I am lucky enough to have a good understanding of the incredible dedication displayed by both the students and the supervisors of DEC students.

As we move into week 5 of term (half way through the first term already) you should have well and truly received that first package of work and be heading in to the learning materials provided. I encourage you to make regular and consistent contact with your teachers who have many options at their disposal to assist you in understanding that material in front of you. Don’t forget that your teachers are experts in their field.

As we approach the first mini school of 2015 I encourage you to become involved in these important events. The mini school environment allows you to expand your understanding of topics covered whilst also providing you the opportunity to meet other students in circumstance similar to your own. This term mini school is centred on the theme of enlighten and is scheduled to take place during the Canberra enlighten festival. I am also aware that there is a night trip to see the festival which should be a great experience for all involved. I am very much looking forward to catching up with the students who are attending and encourage you all to make the next mini school a priority.

On Monday 23 February Honourable Minister Adrian Piccoli made an announcement that we are going to have a brand new state of the art facility constructed for Distance Education. We look forward to the news as it further unfolds.

Andrew Turvey
Welcome back to all our old students, and welcome to Distance Education to all our new full-time and Single Subject students. We have had quite a smooth start to 2015 and teachers have been busy contacting their students to help them get started on their courses.

We welcome to Karabar Distance Education a new principal, Andrew Turvey. Andrew is new to the principal’s job, but no stranger to Karabar, as he spent six years here before seeking promotion through schools in the Riverina. We also have new staff members – Frances Cullen in Science and Briony Alchin and Carly Eades in English.

New Student Co-ordinators in 2015 are Merren Salvestrin, who will take over from Kerrie McKinlay in Year 12, In Year 11, Christine Knight and Jeff Nicholson are new to the job too. Tim Rooney – Year 10, (along with Kat O’Malley and Mark Hume) will help us manage the big Year 10 cohort of students, Ashlee Kellner in Year 9 will assist Michael Waldon, and Mark Hilder starts with Year 7. I appreciate all these teachers volunteering to take on this very valuable role. All our student co-ordinators are available for help and advice when students are struggling, or need. Our school counsellors are also available to DE students who may be struggling with personal issues.

Many teachers have already been out on the road visiting senior students, especially Year 12s, who have Half-Yearly exams coming up at the end of this term. Year 12 are already halfway through the HSC year and we would hope that they are settling into a steady study program for this upcoming exam, and for those important exams ahead this year. If any students need advice on how to best organise themselves to make the most of their final year at school, Year Co-ordinators are always available to assist.

At the end of 2014, we had a very well-attended afternoon tea for DE award winners and their parents before Presentation Night. We were delighted to have so many Distance Education students travel some very long distances to be with us. Congratulations to the award winners, and also to our successful HSC students from 2014, many of whom got outstanding results.

Finally, we are excited about our first mini-school next week – to coincide with the big Enlighten festival in Canberra. The theme for this year’s mini schools is the International Year of Light and Light Technologies, and lots of really interesting and exciting activities are planned around this theme. We hope that lots of our students will take the opportunity to join us this year at mini-schools and the camp in term 4.

Have a good year!
Chris Lauder
GOODBYE MAXINE

Moodle Queen retires after 39 years of teaching

Maxine Rodgers, our Moodle administrator, retired at the end of 2014 after 39 years of teaching.

Many students and supervisors will have spoken to Maxine over the past few years, seeking assistance with Moodle.

Maxine’s cool, calm manner always helped smooth out the tricky issues of passwords, access and Moodle work.

The staff and students of Karabar Distance Education Centre wish Maxine the very best for her well deserved retirement.

WELCOME KATE

Heir to the Moodle crown

Kate Goodyer is very familiar with Moodle having worked with Karabar DEC staff on the development of e-learning resources.

For any Moodle issues please phone +61 2 62105200 and ask for Kate.

In his opening remarks he stated;

"In bringing together the students of Karabar [Distance Education Centre] with the artists/scientists of The Wired Lab we see an experiment in developing the skills that will drive 21st century economies and communities.

The ability to build your own circuitry or code your own software will become just as important in the near future as growing your own veggies or fixing your bicycle to ensure independence, self sufficiency and ability to participate freely in your communities and society."
Katelyn is a Year 11 studying at Karabar Distance Education Centre as she travels around Australia competing as a champion water skier.

On New Year’s Eve 2014, Katelyn flew out to Peru, to represent Australia in the Junior World Championships. “Competing at a Worlds Titles is a dream come true for me as this is what I had been building towards.” Katelyn achieved 6th place overall in the U18’s, only just missing out on a podium place in a very close competition.

On the 1st of February Katelyn competed in the Myuna Bay Malibu Round at Myuna Bay in Lake Macquarie where she achieved two new personal bests! The following weekend she competed again at Myuna Bay, but this time she represented Australia in the Aussie Kiwi Challenge. Katelyn completed all three events in both of the tournaments; these include Slalom, Trick and Jump. She tricked 6200, slalomed 2@12, and jumped 38.6 metres. With these higher scores, Katelyn is now 3rd on the world ranking list which will be released in May 2015.

Katelyn is now training hard for one of the biggest spectating tournaments that Tournament Water Skiing has ever seen, called the Moomba Masters, her favourite competition of the year. This event is held right in the heart of Melbourne on the Yarra River. Internationals from all over the world come and compete at this very prestigious tournament.

“I absolutely love the atmosphere that the crowd builds and I love that is an Aussie crowd”.

There is not much rest for Katelyn as soon after she will be competing in another two huge tournaments, New South Wales State Titles and Australian National Titles.

Katelyn has been nominated in a squad of eight skiers to represent Australia in the next Junior Worlds Championships and also the Under 21 World Championships which will be held in Spain later this year.

Congratulations Katelyn on your incredible achievements so far and we wish you the very best of luck in your upcoming tournaments

Kimberley Grant - PDHPE
I've put together a new website.

It's a "One Stop Shop" for everything you need with Career Planning and help.

Ms Jenny Brunskill
Careers Adviser

THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT
Services for young people

Reach Out is Australia’s leading online youth mental health service, where you can get the help you need, where and when you need it. Every year ReachOut.com helps hundreds of thousands of people under 25 tackle everything from finding motivation to getting through really tough times. It’s the perfect place to start if you don’t know where to look.

au.reachout.com

Headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation. We help young people who are going through a tough time.

Looking for someone to talk to? If you're 12-25, you can get health advice, support and information from headspace. With more than 60 centres around Australia, headspace can help you with:

General health
Mental health and counselling
Education, employment and other services
Alcohol and other drug services

headspace.org.au
Rosie Respect is a space where young women can connect with the best web resources out there, helping them to navigate life’s tricky situations. Rosie has a range of tips, links and videos all centered around a theme of respect – for body & mind, in relationships, work & study and for the world we live in. Rosie believes girls have the courage and resilience to change our world for the better.

Website - rosierespect.org.au

Lifeline is a national charity providing all Australians experiencing a personal crisis with access to 24 hour crisis support and suicide prevention services.

Somewhere in Australia there is a new call to Lifeline every minute. People call Lifeline’s 24 hour crisis line 13 11 14 about:

Suicidal thoughts or attempts
Personal crisis
Anxiety
Depression
Loneliness
Abuse and trauma
Stresses from work, family or society
Self-help information for friends and family

Website - lifeline.org.au
Phone - 13 11 14 (24hrs)
PRIVATE VEHICLE CONVEYANCE

Subsidy for eligible parents

When school is a long way from home

Find out if you’re eligible for the PVC subsidy at transport.nsw.gov.au/pvc

If you’re not close to public transport and need to drive a student to a bus stop or school, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy can provide twice-a-year payments to help you cover the expenses.

Can’t get online?
Ask about the PVC subsidy at the school or call 1800 010 123 for more information.

To apply online and see full terms and conditions visit transport.nsw.gov.au/pvc

Now you can apply online for the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy
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