

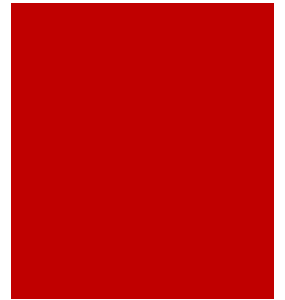
INFORMATION BOOKLET

Kearsley Public School

Individuals Achieving Goals Together



Our school is a positive environment that values learning for all and fosters a culture of high expectations and collaboration. The school vision is underpinned by our core values of Respect, Responsibility and Learning.



Congratulations on an excellent choice of school, we welcome you to our proud learning community. Kearsley Public School established in 1912, is on the lands of the Wonnarua, Darkinjung and Awabakal people. The school fosters a culture of high expectations and respect. KPS is a place that ensures social equity and success through explicit and responsive instruction based on the Science of Learning, so that every student reaches their maximum potential.

There is a strong focus on our values of respect, responsibility and learning and Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is an integrated part of the school. Learning and wellbeing is underpinned by a Response to Intervention model aimed at early identification and support of students' academic and behaviour needs. The school provides students with high levels of access to technology and a range of cultural, creative, sporting and leadership opportunities. The teaching staff is a mix of experienced and early career teachers who value teamwork and are committed to implementing evidence informed practices that are responsive to student needs.

The leadership team provide all staff with high impact professional learning to build capacity and improve student outcomes. Kearsley Public School works closely with the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) which consists of two high schools and thirteen primary schools to ensure each, and every student benefits by collectively utilising combined programs and resources.

We look forward to partnering with your family during these early and important years of schooling and we know you will love being part of our wonderful learning community.

Anthea Robinson
Principal

School Address	130 Caledonia St Kearsley 2325
School Phone	02 49901705
School Email	kearsley-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School Website	www.kearsley-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Office Hours: 8:30am – 3:30pm Administration Manager: Mrs Lesa Weekes

School Times

School Supervision begins	8:35am – 9:05am
Class Instruction	9:05am -11:05am
Supervised Eating Time	11:05am - 11:15am
Play	11:15am – 12:00pm
Class Instruction	12:00pm – 2:00 pm
Recess	2:00pm – 2:20pm
Class Instruction	2:20pm – 3:05pm
School Concludes	3:05pm

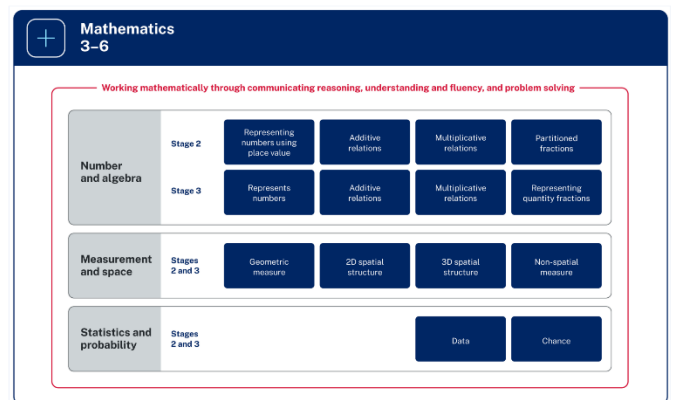
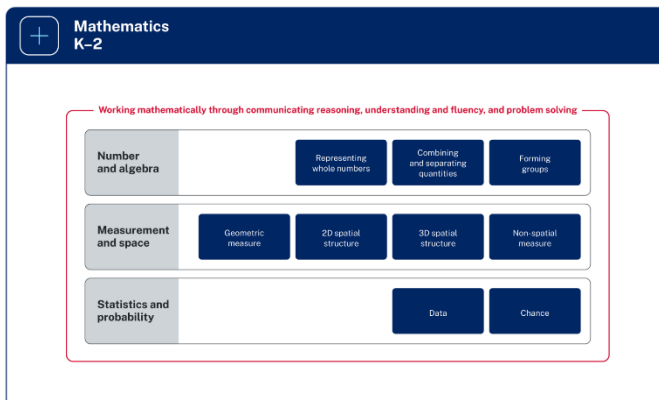
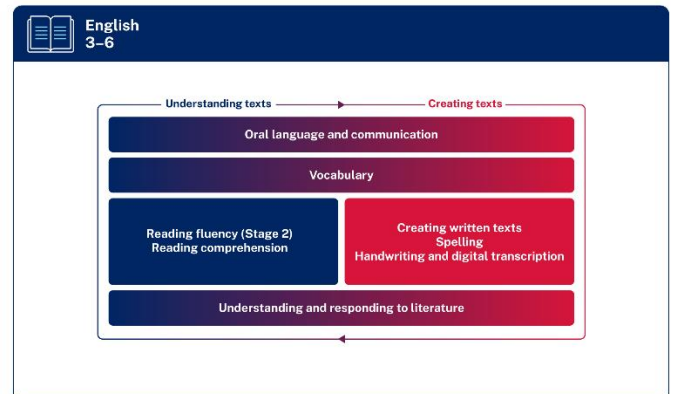
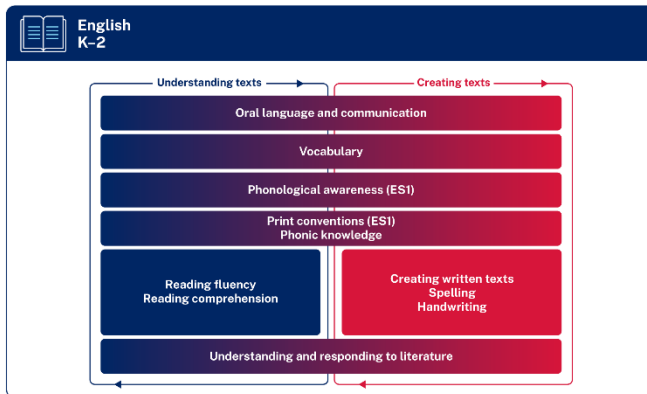
- *Students should arrive after 8:35am in time for the bell at 9:05am*



TEACHING AND LEARNING

We use the evidence informed approach of explicit instruction in English and Mathematics lessons. Explicit instruction is a very efficient strategy for helping students learn because it suits how the brain processes, stores, and retrieves information. It includes retrieving and reviewing, breaking down new learning into smaller steps, modelling, guiding, practising and giving multiple opportunities to take new learning to mastery.

There are six Key Learning Areas (KLA's) in primary school.



HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Students learn about history, geography, civics and citizenship.

They will investigate their personal community identity and gain an understanding of their nation and its place in the world.

Students will learn to participate effectively in maintaining and improving the quality of their society and environment.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

This subject develops student skills in thinking, problem solving and investigating.

Students will develop knowledge and skills in scientific investigation, design and applied technology.

CREATIVE ARTS

Students will experience visual arts, music, drama and dance. They will have opportunities to explore their own creativity in each of these areas.

Students will learn and perform drama and dance and will express themselves through visual arts and music.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will develop skills, knowledge and the attitudes they require to lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives.

They will learn how their bodies change and grow over time.

Students learn the importance of a healthy lifestyle that encompasses good food and regular exercise.

The syllabuses for the Key Learning Areas work students through stages and students work towards achieving Syllabus Outcomes appropriate to their ability and age/stage of development.

Most children will achieve the outcomes for the Stages as follows:

Early Stage 1 - Kindergarten

Stage 1 - Years 1 & 2

Stage 2 - Years 3 & 4

Stage 3 - Years 5 & 6

Assessments are ongoing and are at individual, class, grade, school and state levels. These assessments inform teaching and/or measure growth and achievement.

Written reports are provided at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Parent/teacher interviews are encouraged, scheduled at set times and available by appointment at any time.

Technology

Our computer network and technology are constantly being upgraded. Each student has a device and we follow a Digital Scope and Sequence to ensure safe and effective technology integration across all learning. Each classroom has an interactive smart board to support learning. Cessnock Academy of STEM Excellence (CASE) is an initiative of the Cessnock High School Learning Community. As a result, we have a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) teacher once a fortnight and skills students learn are integrated across their learning. We are also part of the Film By the Vines Festival as part of the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools.

Learning Support

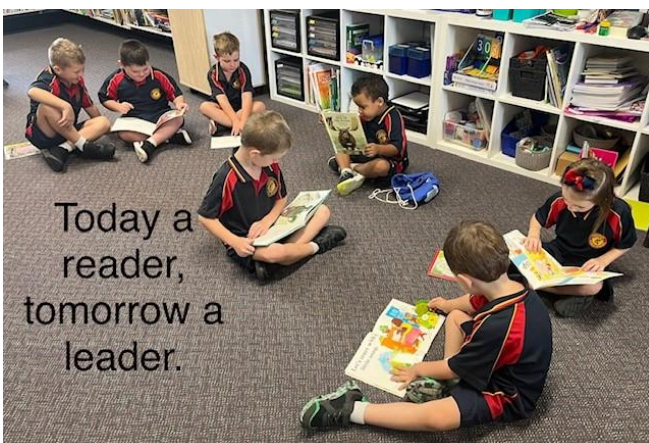
Specialist staff provide learning support to students at Kearsley PS:

- Learning and Support Teacher (LAST)
- Intervention Teacher
- School Learning Support Officer (SLSO)
- Speech Pathologist



Library

We prioritise reading at Kearsley Public School. The school invests heavily in the library to ensure all students have explicit library lessons and access to quality books. Classes will be allocated a borrowing day at the start of every year. The library is open second lunch break for students as well.



WELLBEING

Our focus is on positive connections to create a safe, strong, and relational school culture and learning environment.

As a Positive Behaviour for Learning school (PBL) we focus on ensuring our entire school community demonstrates respect, responsibility and learning.

OUR VALUES AND EXPECTATIONS

At Kearsley Public School:

We are respectful

- ◆ Use your manners
- ◆ Care for others

We are responsible

- ◆ Be proud
- ◆ Be punctual
- ◆ Play safely

We are learners

- ◆ Ready to learn
- ◆ Do your best

Students learn about each of these values and expectations in class.

School signage and classroom posters support their learning.

Students also learn socio-emotional skills to increase self-awareness, academic achievement, and positive behaviors both in and out of the classroom.

BEHAVIOURS THAT CAUSE HARM

We strive to support students to be truly accountable for their behaviour and to repair any harm caused to others as a result of their actions.

We use a continuum of strategies based on levels of harm to support students to help fix their mistakes and step up to appropriate consequences.

Please refer to our Wellbeing Procedures for further information.



CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSES

We appreciate the positive behaviours that students display that strengthen the safe and harmonious environment at Kearsley Public School.

We recognise and celebrate students' ongoing dedication through:

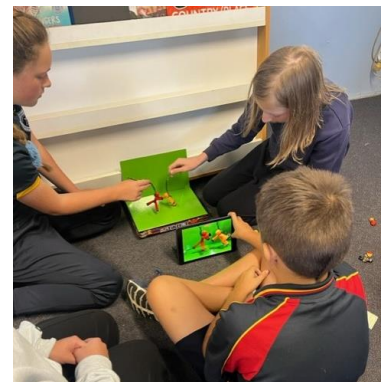
Kingsleys – these are free and frequent acknowledgement tickets. They also go into a draw for a prize at assembly.

Assembly Awards – We have PBL awards, Kooka Awards, Assistant Principal and Principal Awards.

Milkshake Monday – a student from each class and one from the playground who have been outstanding superstars for the week, have a milkshake/hot choc with the principal.

PBL Acknowledgement activities where students celebrate as a class or as a school.

Attendance awards above 95%.



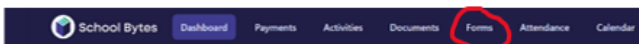
COMMUNICATION

All families are asked to sign up for School Bytes to enable them to manage the areas outlined below.



Use this link to register on the website or download the app from the App Store or Google Play. Look for School Bytes.

GENERAL FORMS



Click on the 'Forms' tab to access some handy forms to complete online.

School forms

Forms are listed by category.

Attendance Application To Apply For Holiday Leave Greater Than 5 Days Kearsley Public School	General Change of Address, Phone Numbers, Email & Emergency Contacts Kearsley Public School
Staff Parent Helpers/Volunteers Form Kearsley Public School	

ATTENDANCE

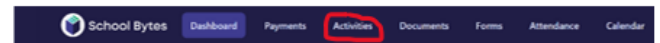


See your child's attendance and explain or plan absences.



There is also a calendar and school noticeboard.

FOR PERMISSION NOTES



If you get an email notifying you of an online form, log into School Bytes and click on the 'Activities' tab.

FOR PAYMENTS



Pay online for excursions and school events.

ENSURE YOU USE THE SAME EMAIL ADDRESS THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN THE SCHOOL SO YOU CAN LINK TO YOUR CHILD/REN.

Please follow us on [Facebook](#) @Kearsley Public School for regular updates, photos and reminders.

Newsletters are published fortnightly on a Thursday. They are distributed to the **oldest** child in each family. Newsletters contain important information about what is happening at school.

Information can also be found about our school on our school website page <https://kearsley-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

LEADERSHIP

Our school has two School Captains and two Vice-Captains as our school leaders. We also have a House Captain and Vice-Captain leading each sporting house.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is a group of students in the school, elected by and from their fellow students for a semester each year. They organise fundraising activities, make suggestions and run activities.

Each year our Kuluwayn Team elects a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Events Co-ordinator who are voted in by the team. This process is supported by the President of the AECG. (Aboriginal Education Consultative Group)

COMMUNITY AND EVENTS

Parents and families are an integral part of Kearsley Public School.

Helpful ways to engage in your child's education and partner with the school include:

- Communicating regularly with teachers and staff
- Discussing with your child what they are learning at school
- Reading the fortnightly Newsletter and School Bytes messages
- Respectfully sharing compliments, feedback or suggestions directly with the school
- Ensuring your child attends school every day they are well
- Setting up good routines for your children, such as:
 - getting ready for school and being on time
 - wearing proper school uniform
 - going to bed at a reasonable time
 - daily reading
 - bringing home notes

The school actively encourages parent involvement in school activities.

- ◆ Assisting with classroom activities
- ◆ Acting as a volunteer at sports days or excursions
- ◆ Sharing your talents and interests
- ◆ Assisting the P&C
- ◆ Assisting in the canteen

Any assistance you may be able to provide is always appreciated. Volunteers may be required to complete a WWCC check. Please contact the Office for more information. All volunteers must sign in and out at the Office.



PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

The P & C meets at 3:30pm, on the first Thursday of each month to organise fundraising activities, run the canteen and discuss education and school happenings. Membership is open to all parents and interested citizens at a cost of \$2.00. Should you wish to be part of this energetic and vibrant committee, please come along.

SPECIAL DAYS

Each year our school celebrates a range of special events. We hold an Easter Hat Parade, Book Parade, a Mother's Day Morning Tea, Education Week events, open classrooms, Father's Day/Blokes Breakfast as well as Grandparents Day. Our P&C hold Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls where our students can purchase gifts for a small cost.

ASSEMBLIES

These are held on even weeks on a Friday at 2:30 in our school hall. Classes take turns to present/perform and awards are given.

**Aboriginal Education
Consultative Group (AECG)**

The primary role of the NSW AECG Inc. is to promote active participation by Aboriginal people in the consultative and decision-making process of education and training related matters.

The AECG meets monthly.

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality at school are legal requirements and so important for learning and wellbeing.

If a child is absent from school an absence needs to be explained. Preferably this will be done via School Bytes. Absences can also be explained by ringing the office.

All students should be in attendance by 9.05am. Students who are late and arrive after this time, must report to the school office for a late note. A record of lateness is kept. Early leave is only granted in exceptional circumstances. Early leave must go through the office.

Appointments should, wherever possible, be made out of school hours.

Planned absences from school for a period of more than 5 days require approval from the principal. The appropriate form is the Extended Leave Form on School Bytes or please ask for a copy at the school office.

All attendance is monitored daily and poor attendance will be followed up with parents and possibly with the Home School Liaison Officer – in accordance with Department policy.

Bikes, Buses, Scooters

Bike racks are provided for bikes or scooters.

Students walk their bikes/scooters into school grounds. By law, students who ride their bicycles and scooters must wear a helmet.

Travel passes are available for the bus for all K - 2 children if required. However, once a child progresses to Year 3 they are only available if a child lives more than 1.6 kilometres from the school. Applications are completed online – you can pick up a brochure from the office.

Book Club

The school participates in the Scholastic Book Club Scheme. Students are able to purchase quality books at a very reasonable price through the school.



Canteen

Open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 8.30am to 12.00pm.

Lunch orders must be made before 9.05am and ideally in a Lunch Bag purchased for \$10.

Children may purchase snacks at lunchtime.

Our menu is available on School Bytes and we follow the NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy.

Counsellor

The school counsellor attends the school one day each fortnight and supports teaching, learning and welfare programs through educational testing, counselling, referrals and advice. The counsellor works with students, parents or carers and teachers in a variety of ways.

Equipment

All items should (wherever possible) be clearly marked with the child's name.

Years 5 - 6

Small pencil case with blue/red ball point pens, HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, textas, scissors, glue stick, eraser, sharpener, homework book, and ideally a Canteen Lunch Bag.

Years 3 - 4

Small pencil case with HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, textas, scissors, glue stick, eraser, sharpener, homework book, library bag, and ideally a Canteen Lunch Bag.

Years 1 - 2

Small pencil case with HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, glue stick, eraser, sharpener, homework book, library bag and ideally a Canteen Lunch Bag.

Kindergarten

Wireless/Bluetooth headphones valued approximately \$20 and ideally a Canteen Lunch Bag.

Optional- Wireless/Bluetooth headphones valued approximately \$20 for all students.



Excursions

Throughout the year excursions are undertaken in conjunction with class studies. They complement the learning taking place in the classroom. They may also be for sporting activities.

Prices are kept to a minimum with the school and/or P&C often contributing. Financial assistance forms are available at the office – all requests are kept strictly confidential.

Relevant information and costing is given well in advance. Part payments are available for more expensive excursions.

Food

Each child is encouraged to bring a piece of fruit or vegetables to eat for fruit break.

We have lunch first in the day and then recess in the afternoon.

We ask that no glass bottles, cans, 'lollies,' soft drink or chewing gum comes to school please.

To help keep children safe we ask them not to share food.

Homework/Home Reading

Home reading is our main Focus for Homework.

Reading with your child at home will help them in all learning areas at school.

Often teachers will ask you to listen to your child read at home which is a good way to support your child's reading.

Students can borrow books from our school library or class home reading library.

Grounds

Kearsley PS is a **Non-Smoking Area.**

The school grounds should not be entered outside of school hours unless prior arrangement with the principal.

High School

Our feeder High School is Cessnock High School. Planned transition opportunities support a strong start to Year 7.



Health

Please contact the office if your child has a specific health or medication need, so we can support and explain the department process.

Contagious Diseases - Children must stay away from school for the following conditions.

Chicken pox - At least five days after first spots appear or at least until blisters have all crusted.

Conjunctivitis - While there's a discharge from the eye.

Gastroenteritis/Vomiting - At least 24 hours after diarrhoea or vomiting stops.

German Measles - Four days after rash appears.

Hepatitis A - Two weeks after first symptoms or one week after onset of jaundice.

Impetigo (School Sores) - Until treatment starts, sores should be covered by a watertight dressing.

Measles - Five days after rash appears.

Mumps - Nine days after swelling occurs.

Head Lice - Until the head is treated with anti Lice treatment

Hand, Foot & Mouth - Until all blisters have dried. May return to school if sores are covered.

Whooping Cough - 3 weeks from the onset of the whoop.

All the above rules are made by the NSW Health Department.

Kuluwayn

Aboriginal students have the opportunity to become a part of the Kuluwayn Education team.

They meet once a fortnight to learn together and make decisions relating to Aboriginal education at Kearsley PS.

Personal Possessions

Items NOT to be brought to school include: iPods, hand-held games, large toys, valuable toys, knives or weapons of any kind, water pistols, water bombs, chewing gum, and make up

Labels - All clothing, school bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles and all removable items should be clearly labelled with child's name and class. Clearly marked items are easily able to be returned. SO PLEASE CLEARLY MARK ALL ITEMS.

Jewellery - Should not be worn at school, except for studs if a child has pierced ears. The school cannot be responsible for the loss of expensive jewellery. Dangling earrings should not be worn, as accidents can occur.

Mobile phones - Students are not encouraged to bring phones as they may always use the school phone to contact parents if needed.

School Fees

Voluntary school contributions are \$30 for families with 1 student, \$50 for families with 2 students, \$60 for families with 3 or more students.

These fees are not compulsory but are much appreciated as they are put towards purchasing much needed supplies and equipment used daily by the students at our school.

Scripture

Scripture lessons are split into infants and primary. Students attend each fortnight for a half hour lesson on a Friday. A form is to be completed to enable your child to participate.

Sport

We often have specialist teachers come for sport lessons throughout the year. The school competes in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country carnivals. Gala and Knock Out sporting competitions.

School Sport is held on Fridays for K-6.



A variety of sporting teams are selected to represent the school throughout the year.

These sports are based on student interest, skill, coach availability and planned opportunities.



Sporting Houses

There are four House Teams. On enrolment each child is placed in a House Team, with families being in the same house.

Caledonia - **Green**
Allandale - **Orange**
Pokolbin - **Blue**
Tomalpin - **White**

SunSAFE

KPS has a Sun Safe Policy which means that broad-brimmed hats must be worn in the playground and during outside activities. If a student does not wear a hat, he or she will be required to stay in designated shade areas.

School hats can be purchased at the school office.

Visitors

All parents and visitors must come to the office first when they arrive at school to sign in before heading to the classrooms or into the playground. This is to ensure the safety and protection of our students.

This also ensures that in case of emergency we are aware of those people within the school grounds.

UNIFORMS

Our School is proud of its uniform and all students are encouraged to wear it at all times. Please notify the school if your child is out of uniform or if you require support with uniforms. Hats are worn all year round.

A clothing pool is available at the office.

Uniform components are available from:

- The School Office (through the P&C)
- Lowes Cessnock
- John Flanagan Menswear

Summer Uniform:

To be worn Monday - Friday

GIRLS & BOYS

- Navy, Red and Gold polo with school logo
- Navy shorts or culottes
- **Black shoes**
- White socks



Winter Uniform:

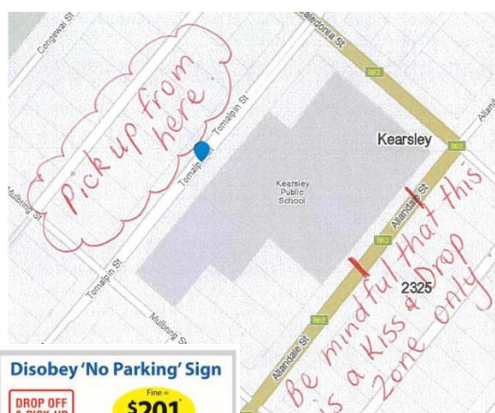
To be worn Monday - Friday

GIRLS & BOYS

- Navy, Red and Gold polo with school logo
- Navy tracksuit pants and lightweight or winter jacket with school logo
- **Black shoes**
- White socks

There is no specific sports uniform. On Friday sports shows may be worn.

DROP OFFS AND PICK UPS



Ideally, the best place to pick up of an afternoon is from Tomalpin Street (bus gate) which is the safest, as Allandale Street is very busy.

Allandale St (library gate) is great for a quick drop off and pick up, as there is a Kiss and Drop zone and often a staff member is there in the morning, but if you like to get out of your car and also chat to other families, then Tomalpin St is the safest.

The crossing on Caledonia Street (front gate) is manned each morning and afternoon.

School Song

We are the students of Kearsley School
We work then play and try our hardest.
We want to learn every single day,
And responsibility is our quest.
Red and gold are the colours we love.
We proudly wear them for all to see.
We show respect at Kearsley School
In everything we say and do.



School Creed

This is our school
We remember our motto:
"Learn for Life"

We try to listen,
Share,
And do our best work.

We always show respect
To all adults
and to each other.

All these things and more,
We can
"Learn for Life."



