Principal’s Report - Greg O’Neill

Crawford Public School has entered that hectic and busy end of school year with excursions, special school events and celebrations adding to the already crowded calendar.

A few significant events occur over the next two weeks with our Year 6 Farewell and Graduation and our Presentation Day assemblies. The organisation for these events will be published so that parents can also include these days and times in their busy schedule.

As advised in the Week 6 newsletter, I will be leaving Crawford Public School at the end of this term. I have been advised by Jo Marshall, (Director, Eastern Creek Network), that the Principal position will be filled through Merit Selection. This will occur in Term 1, 2015.

Classing and staffing for 2015 is being finalised. Please notify the school office if your child is not returning to Crawford Public School in 2015 as this impacts on our staffing levels and class organisation.

- Matt Walsh will continue in a relieving Assistant Principal position at Kingswood Park for 2015. I have supported this extension.
- Nicole Waugh will continue as relieving Assistant Principal at Emerton Public School for 2015. I have supported this extension.

School Planning 2015-2017
We have conducted meetings and feedback sessions in relation to the collaborative development of the 2015-2017 School Plan. Our 2015-2017 School Plan is on track as per DEC requirements.

Again I take this opportunity to thank students, staff and parents for their support and friendship over the past 7½ years. Crawford Public School is a great school in a great community.

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Greg O’Neill
Principal

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
WEDNESDAY
17 DECEMBER, 2014

STUDENTS IN YEARS 1-6
RETURN TO SCHOOL ON
WEDNESDAY 28 JANUARY, 2015

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS COMMENCE ON
WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY, 2015
Deputy Principal’s Report - Mrs D. Taylor

As we come to the end of 2014, I would like to express the highest level of pride in the achievements of our students and staff throughout the year. From distinctions in English, Mathematics and Science in the University testing, state level representation for a variety of sports, art show winners, academic success at a class and stage levels and improvements in learning overall. The learning at Crawford Public School this year has occurred not just in the classrooms but across the whole school, in the community and beyond. The students have been encouraged to show their initiative to solve problems, engage in the learning and exploring new ways of thinking.

The first year of the student voice committee has been a successful process where the students have looked at concerns in the school and work through solutions. This has included the student leaders in having a more visible role in the classrooms, around our school and also in the playground. The leaders have been able to voice their ideas with the principal and executive including ways the school can invest funds to improve the look of the school through gardening projects, PBL fun days and the overall school needs.

It has been so nice to have so many opportunities to have a variety of events which have welcomed parents, caregivers and community into the school to celebrate learning and also those special calendar events including Mother’s Day, Father’s Day and Grandparent’s Day. We still have a couple of events still to come the for the year with the Year 6 Graduation Day and Farewell on 9 December, the Christmas concert on the 10 December and Presentation Day on 15 December 2014.

As we prepare for holidays, can I please encourage all parents and caregivers to return any notes for outstanding absences to their child’s classroom teachers. For students to remember that every day we are at school we need to be the best we can be and strive at all times to be Safe Respectful Learners.

Mrs Deanne Taylor
Deputy Principal

PBL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received their PBL badges during assemblies for being a safe, respectful learner.

KG Latisha, Desmond, Bisma and Ayush (White)
KH Dhenuka, Mia, Melissa, Xyler, Ethan, Jayden, Aubree and Surkhab (White)
KM Hayden, Mia, Ngahiriwa and Khyden (White)
1A Bohdan and Bethanie (Green)
1D Bailey, Lual, Jameson, Emily, Manaia and Aarshav (Green)
1M Ashlee (White), Leek, Josh, Connor, Rebel and Jazze (Green)
2A Mia, Maddison, Rhonda and Joshua (Maroon)
2B Melanie (Maroon)
2E Ryan and Duc (Maroon) Saira and Emma (Green), Katie (White)
K-6N Alexa, Cody, and Krish (White) and James (Green)
K-6J Noah (Green)
3/4P Keith (Green) and Georgia (Bronze)
5/6B Jordan (Maroon)
5/6R Setarah (Green), Peter (Maroon), Chelsea, Tenesha, Connor, James, Hana (Bronze), Steven, Naomi and Daniel (Silver)
Wow, what a wonderful year! The kindergarten teachers and I would like to congratulate our Kinder students on their spectacular achievements made in their first year of schooling. It has been a pleasure to spend each day with these special little people and we will definitely miss them when they move into Year 1! It has also been an honour to work alongside the families of our students, building invaluable partnerships between school and home for the benefit of our students.

We would like to thank our huge audience that came to watch our Kindergarten led assembly and ‘Seussssical’ rendition of ‘Green Eggs and Ham’. The students did a wonderful job and Mrs Taylor thought we were so good that she has asked that we perform at the Primary assembly.

Here we are on stage…

Over the remaining weeks of school your children will be bringing home artwork and workbooks completed throughout this year. If you have any library books or home readers at home please send them back to school.

Thank you again to our students and their families, we have loved working with you and wish our Kinders all the best for Year 1 and their bright futures!

Mrs Elyse Meadows
Relieving Assistant Principal Early Stage 1
STAGE 1 NEWS

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of another year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and families on behalf of the Stage 1 team for an amazing year filled with so many great memories to look back on.

Through our Star Student reward initiative, we have been able to highlight many of the great things that your children do well in our school. Next week, we will be holding our last PBL reward session for the Stage 1 students who received awards this term.

Swim Scheme for children in Years 2 and 3 started this week. This learn to swim program assists students to develop water confidence and provides them with basic skills in water safety and survival. A big thank you goes to Miss Buttigieg who has organised this very important program for our students to attend.

Last Friday, 134 students from Stage 1 walked down to Nurragingy Reserve to participate in a range of activities related to the content studied in our H.S.I.E, P.D/H/P.E, Science and Technology and Creative Arts units this term. At all times, the students showed respectful and sensible behaviour. All the staff were very proud of them and everyone had a great day out. Check out some of the photos below:

I wish all of our students and families a restful and wonderful break. I look forward to seeing you all again for another fun-filled year in 2015!

Vanessa Stone
Rel. Assistant Principal
This is to be the last report from Stage 2 in 2014 and as we head towards the last three weeks of school. During these last three weeks there are many activities that are on before the holidays begin. Some of these are the swim school program, Christmas concert and presentation day celebrations. The teachers are in the final stages of the report writing process so it is important that students continue to participate in and complete learning activities that are necessary for their development. It is also important that all parents and caregivers remind their children to continue being safe, respectful learners during these last weeks of school. For those students and their families who are leaving our school community from Stage 2 we thank you for your support of our school and wish you and all your family all the best.

Recently 81 of the Stage 2 and some support class students went for an excursion to Blackheath. On the way the students stopped off at Echo Point to view the 'Three Sisters' and the Jamison Valley. At the Blue Mountains Education Centre located at Blackheath, the students learnt about how the Aboriginal people used and protected the land before it was a national park. The students participated in a bush walk and learnt about the different plants and animals that call the national park area their home. We looked across the Grose Valley and even saw a small waterfall that plunged over the escarpement. This experience for the students who participated was fantastic and a great way to bring together not only this term's HSIE unit about 'State and National Parks' but also Term 3's unit that focused on communities. From the discussions held on the bus trip back to school and the photos taken by those students with cameras, it certainly was a success. I would like to thank all those staff who attended and also the staff who looked after those students who remained at school.

I ask that parents and caregivers please provide their child with a water bottle to bring into the classroom as the temperature is rising and many students are asking to leave the classroom to get a drink. This sometimes does cause interruptions in the learning process. It is easier to have a water bottle in the classroom. I thank those parents and caregivers who are already providing their child with a water bottle.

The wearing of hats is extremely important as well. Please provide your child with a hat in order to offer protection from the sun’s rays and also give your child a chance to play on the grassed areas and run off their stored energy.

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who are providing notes or contacting the school about your child's absences from school. It is a legal requirement to do so and it does save an explanation to either the classroom teacher, executive teacher or the Home School Liaison Officer via a phone call home.

If you are planning to go on holidays before the end of the school term could you please contact the front office and let the school know of your plans. This saves the school worrying about the location of your child if they are away.

Once again thank you for your support on these and other matters regarding your child's education.

On behalf of the staff on Stage 2 and all those support staff who have had contact with your child, I wish all of you a safe and relaxing holiday over the festive season.

Mr Lowing
Stage 2 Supervisor
STAGE 3 NEWS

Wow! I cannot believe we have come to the end of the year already. We have had a very busy semester with Camp, High School Transition, Peddlers Day and our up coming Year 6 celebrations. There are still so many exciting things to come.

I have recently enjoyed reading over the reports that teachers have written for your child this semester. I have read many positive things regarding students trying their best to improve in so many areas and these students are to be congratulated for working hard to reach their goals and to improve their academic and social challenges. I would like to thank the Stage 3 teachers for their hard work in putting these documents together.

I would like to take this time to thank the entire Stage 3 Team, both staff and students for a very memorable end to the year. I have enjoyed leading this group and sharing many experiences with each of them. I would like to wish everyone a very happy, safe and enjoyable holiday break and I look forward to seeing Year 5 return next year as the leaders of our school.

To Year 6, I wish you all the best in High School. Remember that you are capable of more than you can ever imagine. As long as you believe in yourself, nothing can stop you. I look forward to hearing all about your new and exciting experiences at High School.

If you have any questions regarding any up and coming events or anything relating to Stage 3, please contact me at the school at your earliest convenience.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
Ms Leigh Alipate
Stage 3 Supervisor

2015 BUS PASSES

‘Transport for NSW’ requires a new application form for free travel from students who currently receive a bus pass and who are going from Year 2 to Year 3.

Children will be eligible based on the map supplied by Transport for NSW. Forms may be collected at the school front office.

If you have not already done so, please return the completed and signed applications to the front office as soon as possible so your child’s pass can be ready for 2015.

SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN

Book your children into one of our fun-filled camp next school holidays. Your children will be kept busy and active while learning new skills and making new friends. You'll have peace of mind knowing your children are safe and well looked after.

For details, visit Sport and Recreation website www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps/

PLEASURES OF FREE PLAY

Allowing free time for children to play on their own, making up games and activities, can help kids to be comfortable in their own company, teach them how to cope with boredom and, importantly, foster their imagination.

What a fantastic fun filled year for students in the Support Unit! We cannot believe that the year has come to an end so quickly.

It has come to that time of the year again when we say goodbye to 2014 and welcome in the new year of 2015. Students in the Support Unit have been involved in fun, quality learning experiences in and outside the classroom throughout the year. They have made so many wonderful academic improvements and we couldn’t be more proud of them!

Last week students in K-6N participated in the K-2 Athletics Carnival. They all had a fantastic day and displayed great sportsmanship.

3-6M, K-6J and K-6N have also been working hard at creating artworks based on famous Australian artists. Their interpretations of the artworks look fantastic! As part of this unit of work we also have our excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW. Wednesday 26 November was Science day and students had the opportunity to create clouds in jars, use their taste buds to guess different types of foods and create waves using oil and water. All students were highly engaged and enjoyed participating in these experiments.

Students have also been very busy practising their performance for the ‘Crawford Christmas Concert’ which will be held on Wednesday 10 December. We will be performing ‘Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer’. It would be fantastic to see you there supporting our students!

IT’S A BOY!!!! We would like to congratulate Mrs Jain who gave birth a very happy, healthy and gorgeous little boy! We are all so happy for her and cannot wait to see them both soon.

As we say goodbye to 2014 don’t forget to have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

Miss Matthews and the Support Unit teachers.
KINDERCARE LEARNING CENTRE
BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL CARE SERVICE

Kindercare Learning Centre located in Doonside is a privately owned centre offering a variety of services including Long Day, Before & After School Care and Vacation Care for ages 0-12 years.

Full Government subsidy and eligibility offered.

Our centre is open 7am to 6pm all year round.

Our Before School Care operates from 7.00am – 8.45am.

Our After School Care operates from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

For further enquiries, please contact Jackie De Abreu on (02) 9622 8214 or visit our website www.kindercare.com.au