Welcome back to the 2014 school year…..the continued roll-out of system wide changes will continue across all areas of the Department of Education & Communities. As these changes are implemented, I will advise our community of the impact on Crawford Public School.

We have organised the school on a 19 class structure and we are carefully monitoring the return of students and the enrolment of new students. The submission of our actual student enrolment is due this week. It is critical that we get this process right as schools are staffed and funded on the number of students enrolled. This year we have had a further decline in our student enrolment and we may need to re-structure a number of classes. I am available to discuss any concerns or issues you may have in relation to the placement of students and classing arrangements.

My sincere thanks to the following parents who have accepted positions on the P&C for 2014:

President: Jodie Bruyn
Vice President: Melissa Love
Secretary: Heather McDonald
Treasurer: Paul Warren

Greg O’Neill
Principal

GATE TIMES FOR ELECTRONIC PEDESTRIAN GATE

8:30am - 9:15am
2:55pm - 3:30pm

During these times, the electronic gate is unlocked for entry and exit of the school. All that is required is to push or pull the gate open.

Outside of these times the gate will be locked. Entry and Exit of the school will be by pushing the button located on the gate and waiting for a response from the school office.

Unless you require to sign your child out for an early pass from the front office, the gate will remain closed until 2:55pm.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Our school contributions for 2014 are now due.

$20.00 per student or
$35 per family

Teachers are collecting money in the classrooms or the contributions can be given directly to the office.

These funds are collected from all families and form a vital part of our school budget. In order to provide for the quality and variety of opportunities at Crawford we need families to continue to support the Contribution Scheme.

We thank our families for their support.
Deputy Principal’s Report—Mrs D. Taylor

PBL

First and foremost welcome back to all our families, it is nice to see you all ready for an exciting year in 2014. As you are aware, we are a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) School. We are dedicated to teaching students to be Safe, Respectful Learners. This is done in weekly lessons dedicated to understanding the expectations and what is appropriate behaviour in a school setting.

This year we have some exciting things occurring.

Double Critters for lining up and assemblies:

Lining Up: in the morning assembly, this means our students in the winning class will receive two critters for settling, listening to messages, moving off from the assembly. The first class to reach 20 double critter cards will receive a lunch as a whole class provided by the school.

Assemblies: During fortnightly assemblies the mystery judge will choose a class who will receive double critters for entering and leaving the assembly quietly, sitting and being an active participate, showing respect to teachers and other students. This class also will have the opportunity to sit on the chairs at the back of the assembly the following fortnight. The class to reach three will receive a reward chosen by the Student Voice Committee.

Also in 2014 we will commence the first Student Voice PBL Committee; this committee is made up of Captains, Vice Captains, Prefects, House Captains and Vice Captains and our SRC 2-6. During these meetings the committee will discuss how to assist their peers to follow and meet the school’s expectations, develop student leadership activities and community engagement projects. The voice of our students is a powerful one and if given this opportunity, they can build on the great school we have.

UNIFORM

Thank you to all our families for sending their children in their full school uniform, they look amazing. We do ask all students wear a hat in the playground otherwise they will be asked to play in the shade to ensure they are safe from the harmful sun’s rays.

If you are having difficulty locating a BOTTLE GREEN or BLACK hat, our uniform shop is open every Thursday between 8:30am – 9:30am in the Community Cottage and the hats are $8.00 each.

Students should, where possible, wear black shoes or plain joggers, as the bright colours are more for weekends and holidays.

Please label all your students garments to avoid them becoming lost.

MORNINGS AT CRAWFORD

We have a couple of reminders for our parents when dropping students off at the gates on Power Street and Asche Street. When parking in these areas you must adhere to the NSW road traffic laws. Parents are asked and reminded to not park or drop off students in the staff carpark. This area is for staff and suppliers only.

Finally we would like to request that parents support the settling of students in the morning at lines by dropping your child at the amphitheatre, allow them to walk to lines by themselves and you stand quietly at the top of the stairs and not next to class lines.

Mrs D. Taylor
Deputy Principal

UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING HOURS 2014

The Uniform Shop will be open for business every Thursday morning from 8:30am-9:30am in the Crawford Community Cottage.
Hello to all of our new Kindergarten families! On behalf of the Kindergarten teachers I would like to welcome you all to Crawford. So far we are extremely proud of our students and the effort they are making to meet the expectations held for all students at Crawford Public School.

This week Kindergarten have begun to line up in the amphitheatre at 9:00am for the whole-school morning assembly. It is important that you now bring your child directly to the amphitheatre instead of to the classroom. This ensures they receive their Crawford Critter for being “In line on time by 9” and they are not marked as having a partial absence. From next Monday 17 February, Kindergarten will be finishing school at 3:00pm instead of 2:30pm and can be picked up from their classrooms.

If you need to discuss any issues, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child’s teacher:

Mrs Meadows – KM (Relieving Assistant Principal)
Mrs Bowden – KB
Miss Galea – KG
Miss Haller – K/1H

I look forward to getting to know the Kindergarten students and their families and working alongside you to develop confident students who follow our school-wide expectations of being a safe, respectful learner.

Mrs Elyse Meadows,
Relieving Assistant Principal – Early Stage 1.

Here are some photos of our Kindy students in their first week of school….
STAGE 1 NEWS

Welcome back! The Stage 1 students have done a wonderful job of settling into their new classrooms. A Stage 1 requirements note was sent home at the end of the first week. Please ask your child’s teacher for a copy if you haven’t received one yet.

Stage 1 has a dedicated team of teachers who are focused on delivering quality teaching and learning programs to your children.

Our Stage 1 teachers are:
1A- Miss Allen
1D- Ms Dunn
1M- Ms McGeown
2A- Mr Atfield
2B- Miss Buttigieg
2S- Miss Still
2V- Miss Stone
Stage 1 R.F.F- Miss Banoub

We have created a Stage 1 website for the students to share some of their learning activities and achievements with you. Please regularly visit the website below for updates to your child’s class page: https://sites.google.com/site/cpsstageone/home

XO laptops have started to arrive in the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms. Each child has been given their own laptop to use. The teachers and students have been very keen to use them in some of their learning activities.

The Stage 1 teachers have been amazed with how well the students are demonstrating our school expectations of being a Safe, Respectful Learner.

The following students were awarded a fortnightly ‘Star Student’ award last Friday for consistently displaying these school expectations:
1A- Izabella
1D- Jameson
1M- Tyler-Rae
2A- Timothy
2B- Maddison
2S- Hannah
2V- Jake

We are planning a Stage 1 excursion to Sydney Aquarium later this term. More information about this excursion and a permission note will be given to your child soon.

If you have any concerns throughout the year, we do ask that you please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher or myself. This will allow us to focus on the needs of your child without interrupting classroom routines.

We are looking forward to another exciting year!

Miss Stone (Rel. Assistant Principal - Stage 1)

STAGE 2 NEWS

Welcome back to all our parents and their children to Crawford Public School for 2014. I do hope the holiday break was relaxing and restful for all. Now we are in the third week of Term 1 I hope that all children have settled back into school life and that routines have been made.

We in Stage 2 are working on the Positive Behaviour for Learning unit, that is focusing on “Teaching for Success”. This unit assists our students in knowing and understanding the rules, responsibilities and expectations that we are setting at Crawford Public School this year. In this unit we are also learning about the oceans that cover 71% of our planet. Maybe you could ask your child about some of the creatures that live in our oceans.

Last week several notes went out to the students in Stage 2. If you are missing any of these notes or are not sure about them, please contact the office.

It has been terrific to see so many Stage 2 children come to school with their correct uniform and have their school equipment. Please make sure that your child is always ready to start the day at school.

Mr Lowing
Assistant Principal—Stage 2
Welcome back everyone to the 2014 school year to what should be a busy and rewarding term for all Stage 3 students and teachers. We hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays. It is going to be a very exciting and eventful year for the students in Years 5 & 6 (Stage 3).

It is great to see everyone back, settling so well into school routines. As I walk around the school I am delighted to see many smiling students, parents and staff. A special welcome to all our new students in Stage 3 and families to Crawford Public School. If there is anything we can to do make your child’s transition to Crawford smoother, please contact your child’s teacher, or myself (stage supervisor).

This year has started busily, with many new families joining the school. We welcome back all our staff and welcome the new staff members this year. A very big thank you to all my Stage 3 teachers who spent many hours in the holidays preparing their classrooms and teaching programs for the start of the 2014 school year.

I trust that your family has settled back into school routines and that your children are concentrating hard on doing well in school.

I trust that all students brought home the Stage 3 Requirements note in their first week outlining the resources needed to ensure they are able to complete their work each day. A big thank you to the parents who have responded so quickly to providing the resources that your child needs for the year. This makes teaching so much easier ensuring a productive start of the year. Our students learn more effectively when they have a well-equipped pencil case and are at school on time prepared to begin lessons. Thanks also for the parents who have provided tissues and a pump pack of liquid soap. This makes hygiene an easier issue to tackle.

As I’ve moved around the Stage 3 classrooms this week it has been great to see so many children following our expectations of being Safe, Respectful Learners. Lots of children already have been rewarded with Crawford Critters for following the rules and they continue to work towards achieving the PBL badges. Keep up the good work Crawford!

Again I encourage you to be part of your child’s school this term. There are many opportunities for this to occur and we are regularly calling for volunteers to join us in classrooms, on committees and in numerous programs we conduct for the students here at our wonderful school. Please get involved, it really does make a big difference to the education of not only your own child but also to other children you may be asked to support.

Children have begun receiving and completing homework and we appreciate your effort in getting children into this routine early. There are many other things that you can be doing to reinforce their learning at home. Many ideas were sent home in the Stage 3 requirements note to help address this. Students develop independence through support, challenge and practice. Independence is something that can be both taught and caught. However, it must actively involve your child. For our older students the independence is about preparing your child for the challenges that they need to meet.

Students in the primary grades should be contributing to family chores or jobs to help. Keeping their room clean, organising their time, preparing to meet homework tasks over a period of time and breaking bigger tasks into smaller achievable tasks. Independence is a journey not a destination. It requires continuous practice and support and should offer a suitable challenge.

I am very lucky to have a team of hardworking and dedicated teachers on Stage 3 this year and I am sure over the course of the year you will have the opportunity to work with your child’s teacher to ensure this year is very successful. All teachers in my ‘Stage 3 Team’ have commented very favourably on their class. This is reinforced, as I visit all Stage Three classes frequently and the settled nature of the classes is already evident. We are looking forward to a rewarding and busy year full of learning!

It is at this time of year that I request any parents who have children with medical conditions speak to me about their child’s needs. Students who have a medical condition may require an Individual Health Care and/or Emergency Response Plan and these are regularly updated. If your child has a Health Care and/or Emergency Response Plan from 2013, you will be contacted regarding any updated information. If your child has a medical condition that may require a Health Care plan, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss your child’s health care needs. It is important that all
contact details, medicines and emergency plans are up to date and accurate. Please ensure that you have current medical plans or doctor’s letters available.

Year 6 commemorative shirts are available again! Notes went home last week. They are $31.00. If you would like to order a shirt(s) please place the money and order form into an envelope and return to your child’s class teacher by the 27 February, 2014. The Year 6 students will be able to wear them to school as part of their uniform for the remainder of the year.

By now all High School “Expression of Interest” forms should have come home. The booklet provides information about government secondary schools. Year 6 parents please complete this to indicate your preference for the school you wish to enrol your child in Year 7 (2015). Please return to school for processing no later than FRIDAY 21 March 2014.

Our integrated HSIE unit for this term is ‘Antarctica’. This unit of work provides opportunities for students to explore issues and decision making involved in human interaction with a significant world environment, Antarctica. The Science unit to be covered is ‘Marvellous Micro-organisms’. Please take time to talk to your child about these topics, as I am sure they will have a lot to tell you.

Today I greatly enjoyed the Leadership Induction Ceremony, in particular the support so many of our leaders received from their family. I hope that all the leaders grow throughout the year in their role, enjoying the challenges and triumphs that their position brings. Special thanks to Mr John Robertson, Member for Blacktown, Leader of the Opposition, for his address at the ceremony.

Ms Mila Evans
Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

STAGE 3 NEWS cont.

SUPPORT UNIT INFORMATION

Welcome back everyone! It was so lovely to see everyone and their eager, smiling faces on our first day back. The children in the support unit have come back to school with fantastic attitudes towards school, they are ready to learn and have been impressing us every single day with the hard work and effort that they are putting in. Keep it up!

This year our classes are:
K/6N  Miss McGrath
K/6J  Mrs Jain
3/6M  Ms Matthews

If you have any concerns or queries throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

As a reminder, can each family in the support unit please send in 2 boxes of tissues with your child, these will be used in the classroom as the year progresses. Thank you to those families who have already done this!

During Term 1, all classes in the school have been learning about the Oceans. In the Support Unit we have learnt lots of new and interesting information and have begun to turn our classrooms into under the sea environments!

We look forward to seeing you throughout the term!

Ms Paige Matthews
Assistant Principal - Support Unit
BLACKTOWN AREA COMMUNITY CENTRES Inc.

WESLEY MISSION

FREE financial literacy workshops at Doonside Cottage

Date: Tuesdays 11, 18 and 25 March, 2014

Time: 10:00am—12:00pm
9:45am for a 10:00am start

Venue: Doonside Cottage
2 Astral Drive, Doonside

Please book your place by calling us on:
9621 2937 or call into the cottage.
## NEAT EATS

Bags may be taken home and lunch orders placed in order box on counter. Recess/iceblock bags, forks and spoons available for sale.

### BREAKFAST
- Fresh yoghurt: **$1.00**
- Plain or raisin toast: **$0.50**
- Low fat mini muffins: **$0.20**
- Low fat muffins: **$0.50**
- Hash brown: **$0.60**
- Pikelet: **$0.60**
- Croissants from: **$1.20**
  - w/ garlic bread (butter): **$1.20**
  - Full garlic bread (butter): **$2.30**
- Cheese & bacon bread: **$2.50**
- M Milo (warm): **$2.00**

### Fruit Break
- Pineapple skewer: **$0.20**
- Sultana shot: **$0.20**
- Orange wedge: **$0.20**
- Melon wedge (from): **$0.20**
- Carrot sticks: **$0.20**
- Fruit kebab: **$0.60**
- Grape bag (seasonal): **$1.00**
- Fresh yoghurt & fruit: **$1.00**

### Munchies
- Snakas: **$0.10**
- Rice cakes: **$0.20**
- Shelly biscuits: **$0.40**
- Fresh Popcorn (from): **$0.50**
- Muesli Bars/whips: **$1.00**
- Pretzels: **$1.00**
- Namsees: **$1.00**
- Jumples: **$1.00**
- Ovalsins: **$1.20**
- Assorted chips: **$1.20**
- Green # amber

### HOME MADE
- Beef Lasagne (220g): **$3.50**
- Chicken Lasagne (220g): **$3.50**
- Spag bol (220g): **$3.00**
- Fried rice (220g): **$3.00**
- Chicken fried rice (220g): **$3.50**
- Chicken rice (220g): **$3.00**
- Mac & cheese (220g): **$3.00**
- Potato bake (220g): **$3.00**

### Tiger Sandwiches
- Veg / jam / cheese spread: **$1.20**
- Cheese: **$2.50**
- Cheese + tomato: **$3.00**
- Egg / curried egg: **$2.00**
- Roast beef: **$2.50**
- Tuna: **$2.00**
- Leg Ham: **$2.50**
- Salad: **$3.00**
- Chicken: **$3.00**
- Chicken, lettuce, mayo: **$3.50**

### Wraps
- Salad: **$3.50**
- Ham, cheese, pineapple: **$4.00**
- Ham & salad: **$4.00**
- Chicken, lettuce, mayo: **$4.00**
- Chicken & salad: **$4.00**
- Egg & salad: **$3.50**
- **Extras**
  - Extra 1 filling: **$0.50**
  - Toasted: **$0.50**
  - Rolls/Wraps: **$0.50**
  - Sauce & light mayo: **$0.30**
  - Light cheese: **$0.50**

### Hot Food
- Lite meat pie: **$3.50**
- Lite party pie: **$1.00**
- Lite sausage roll: **$3.00**
- Lasagne/vegetarian: **$3.50**
- Pizza slab: **$3.00**
- Cheese pizza slab: **$3.00**
- Low fat low salt hot dog: **$2.20**
- Chicken breast nugget: **$0.70**
- Chicken Kebab stick: **$2.50**
- Fantastic noodles: **$3.00**
- Sweet chilli wrap: **$3.50**
- *Fruitina natural ice slushy (sml) $1.00 (lrg) $1.50*  

### Summer/Spring
- Salad box: **$3.00**
- Chicken/ham extra: **$1.00**
- Tuna salad box: **$4.00**
- Egg salad box: **$3.50**
- Fresh Pasta salad: **$2.50**
- Pasta salad: **$2.50**
- Caesar salad box: **$3.00**
- Fresh fruit salad: **$3.00**
- Melon tub: **$2.00**
- Sushi: **$2.50**
- Tuna to go: **$3.00**

### Drinks
- Quench: **$2.20**
- Up & go: **$2.50**
- Water Large: **$2.00**
- Water Small: **$1.20**
- Focus water: **$2.20**
- 100% popper: **$1.20**
- Plain milk: **$1.50**
- Flavoured milk: **$2.00**

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Its Smart to order your recess so you don't waste your play time in line.

All sandwiches one slice white, one slice multigrain bread
Hello and welcome back to all our students and families. A very big welcome to all our Kindy and new students.

We have put together some simple steps to make using the canteen easy for you and your child.

To save the hassle of looking for change for lunch orders or for littlies who tend to lose money, we have a pay in advance card system. You may stipulate what may be bought or how much money may be spent.

Above is an example of what is to be written on lunch bag.

- Please remember to let your child/ren know if they have an iceblock or slushy order, they MUST return the lunch bag to the canteen in order to collect their iceblock or slushy. This will be done after eating time.
- Recess may be ordered and this is to be picked up from the canteen at eating time.
- We have a separate line for recess and ice block orders so the children don’t have to wait in line with children who are buying.
- The new canteen menu is out so please check as there are a couple of price increases
- Meal Deals will be coming soon so watch space – they will also be advertised at the canteen.
- We do encourage recess ordering especially for hot food and ice block ordering especially in summer, this saves the children spending their playtime waiting in line.
- There is now a lunch order drop-off box located under the K-2 window. No need to wait in line, just fill out the brown paper bag, place your money inside and put into the box. If any change is needed, it will be taped to the bag and returned to your child with their lunch.

PLEASE NOTE: There has been some price rises this year:

- Lasagne $3.50
- Nuggets $0.70c each
- Milk $2.00
- Sausage Roll $3.00
- Focus & Quench $2.20
- Up & Go $2.50

Regards
Neat Eats
Canteen Staff

EFTPOS IS NOW AVAILABLE. Minimum purchase $5.00 plus 50cents service fee.
NO CASH OUT.

CRUNCH & SIP

As part of our morning classroom routines at Crawford, we provide students with the chance to have a Crunch and Sip break. This provides our students with the opportunity to eat pieces of fruit or vegetables and to sip on water for a few minutes. This break is important in helping the students to re-energise.

Fresh fruit and vegetable pieces are a quick and easy snack food. Choose an apple, mandarin, orange, pear, banana, plum, pieces of melon, grapes or other fresh seasonal fruit or vegetables for Crunch and Sip. No packaging, full of nutrients and antioxidants, plus they taste delicious. This year, we are asking families to pack Crunch and Sip daily. Look out in each newsletter for some healthy tips and interesting facts about healthy eating!
The XO’S arrived in 2A & 2B last week!!
Students were very excited to try out the laptops. We learned how to open and close the XO’s and some of their basic features.

CRAWFORD COOKBOOK

Thank you to those families who have already sent in their favourite recipes!

We are trying to collect as many recipes as possible so that we can begin to put together our cookbook and share it with the community.

We are looking for lots of different recipes – they can be easy or hard to cook as well as child friendly – anything your family love!

Please send your favourite family recipes into the office before the end of Term 1.

If you have any questions please contact
Ms Matthews.
FAMILY ASTRONOMY NIGHT
Saturday, 22 February (8pm – 10pm)

ROBOT ASTRONOMY ......ON THE ICE

Come along and find out about the advantages and disadvantages of robot observatories, about what new opportunities they bring, and how they restrict us. The talk will also include information on the PLATO series of robot observatories, built by Australia and currently working on the Ice. The night will also include a 3D astronomy movie that will run for 15-20 minutes, a tour of the dome area and stargazing through various computerised telescopes. Our program will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.

Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What's On

Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

HOMEWORK AND STUDY PLANNING
Most children find planning easier to understand when they have a visual representation of their day or week in front of them. Help your child learn to manage their daily tasks and responsibilities with this weekly schedule template.


JARGON BUSTERS
Wanting to start the school year with clarity and wondering about the meaning of some of the school terminology? Here’s a list of common abbreviations or terms to make the world inside the school gates seem a little more familiar.


Come And Try Day

Great sport for all ages boys and girls, come down and have ago.

Creek Rd, St Marys (next to Blair Oval, just down past Ripples Swimming Pools).

NO SMOKING

The school premises is a Non Smoking Area

Thank you for your cooperation.

http://panthers.bmxnsw.com.au

NATIONAL SIGN ON DAY

AT PENRITH BMX CLUB

ON SUNDAY, 23 FEB

VISIT BMXAUSTRALIA.COM.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION

Great sport for all ages boys and girls, come down and have ago.

Creek Rd, St Marys (next to Blair Oval, just down past Ripples Swimming Pools).

http://panthers.bmxnsw.com.au
SOCCER REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

St Patrick’s Soccer club is now open for registrations for boys, girls, men and women of ALL ages. Located at Harvey Park, Marayong, St Patrick’s offers a great environment for everyone to play this great sport.

To play for St Pats you can register online at www.myfootballclub.com.au

For more information about registration please go to our website www.stpatssoccer.com or call Silvana Martignago on 0422 747 235.

The 2014 season is starting soon so register early to secure your spot at St Pats.

SCHOOL’S BACK

Life seems to go from zero to 100 during the first few weeks of school. These parents have pooled their years of experience to bring you some suggestions to make the rest of the year run more smoothly. Good luck!


LEARNING TO READ

Learning to read is hard work and can be frustrating at times for parents and their kids. Watch the video to hear what these public school teachers have to say to help, with quick tips on how to make it easier.

Learning to read: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5Om77mluKU&feature=share