Relieving Principal’s Report—Mrs D. Taylor

Welcome back again to each and every one of our staff, students and the community. I am pleased with how settled everyone has returned to school and the way in which everyone is interacting.

I am very excited to be leading the school as the Relieving Principal for this term. I have a true commitment to improving the outcomes of all students and I want to see growth in the community overall.

During this term the school plan for 2015-2017 will be established and signed off by the Director. Prior to this, we will invite the community to have further input and to be consulted about what is happening in the school and the direction for the future.

I know you are all very keen to know what the long term plan is for the permanent Principal position. This position is undertaken at our District Office and will be advertised at their earliest convenience. This process is conducted through merit selection, which is an interview process. The school has not been advised of the date for this at yet.

Our 2015 school structure has stabilised and as of Friday 13 February our school is organised on a 22 class structure.

Kindergarten
Ms Haller (Rel AP), Miss Allen, Mrs Chandra and Miss Furlong

Stage 1 (Years 1&2)
Mrs May (Rel AP), Mrs Dunn, Ms McGeown, Mr Atfield, Miss Buttigieg and Ms Parkinson

Stage 2 (Years 3&4)
Mr Lowing (AP), Mrs Sedgmen, Miss Booth, Mrs Gardiner and Mrs Natt

Stage 3 (Years 5&6)
Ms Alipate (Rel DP), Mrs Halawi, Mrs Thomas, Ms Arnall and Ms Still.

Support Classes (IO and IM)
Mrs Bowden, Miss Galea and Miss Vaoga.

EALD – Mrs Dybac
RFF – Mrs Collier and Miss Banoub
Learning and Support – Mrs Williams
Library – Mrs Benfield
School Counsellor- Mrs Falzon

Administration - Mrs Ellul (SAM), Mrs Stirton and Mrs Hammond

Student Learning and Support Officers
Mrs Bastian, Mrs Betteridge, Mrs Smeal, Mrs Tompsett, Mrs Chappuis, Mrs Braley, Miss Bowden, Mr McGeown and Mrs Bisby

General Assistance
Mr Lawson

Multicultural Community Liaison Officer
Mrs Felita

Please feel free to make an appointment to see me if you would like to discuss any areas of concern or to share information.

I am pleased to be leading Crawford Public School at this very exciting time.

Mrs Deanne Taylor
Principal (Rel)
What a wonderful start to 2015! Our Kindergarten students have had an exceptional first week at Crawford Public School. Classroom teachers watched on as nervousness to attend "big school" was quickly forgotten, and replaced with excitement and laughter. With enrolments for Kindergarten on the rise, we were able to form an extra Kindergarten class. Students who have formed this class have settled in exceptionally well and are enjoying their new classmates company.

It's safe to say that our Kindergarten students look wonderful in their new uniforms. To keep your uniform this way, remember to write the name and class of your child on all articles of clothing that can be removed. For example, hats, jackets and jumpers.

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

Our Kindergarten teachers are:
KA- Miss Allen
KC- Mrs Chandra
KF- Mrs Furlong
K/1H- Miss Haller

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

We look forward to getting to know all the Kindergarten students and their families.

Miss Kristy-Lee Haller
Relieving Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1
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.

STAGE 1 NEWS

Welcome to the 2015 school year. Your children have done a wonderful job of settling into their new classrooms and routines. Our Stage One students will be taught by a dedicated team of teachers who are focused on delivering quality teaching and learning programs to your children.

Our Stage 1 teachers are:

1/2A- Mr Atfield  
1/2T- Ms Buttigieg  
1/2D- Ms Dunn  
R.F.F- Ms Banoub  
1/2M- Ms McGeown  
1/2P- Ms Parkinson  
1/2V- Mrs May

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.

Parent Volunteers

A note was sent home requesting parent volunteers for assistance with reading in the mornings between 9:00 and 9:30am. If you are interested, please see your child’s teacher for a note.

Star Students

The following students received Star Student awards for being Safe, Respectful Learners last week:

1/2A– Angel  
1/2T- Latisha  
1/2D- Gary

1/2M– Yuvraj  
1/2P- Heath  
1/2V- Peter

Looking forward to working with your children throughout 2015.

Vanessa May
Rel. Assistant Principal

Jargon buster

Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s?

This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.

A huge welcome back to all our Stage 2 families for 2015. We trust that the holiday break and festive season was a terrific one for all. Our classes are finally becoming settled as we come to the end of Week 3 of the first term. For those families who are new to our Crawford Public School community, thank you for choosing our school and we wish you a wonderful welcome. A detailed note regarding Stage 2 went home this week. If your child has not given it to you, please feel free to obtain one from the school office.

At the beginning of each year, it is important to establish classroom expectations and we hope that all parents and caregivers can understand that having a classroom of up to 30 students can take some time for individuals to settle in. If at any stage your child is experiencing frustration, anxiety or any other concern, please contact the school office and an appointment can be arranged with your child’s teacher.

As stated in the note sent home, it is vital that your child comes to school each day happy, willing to learn and being prepared for the day. Having all the equipment needed to produce quality work is an important aspect for your child’s success at school. This year we are explaining to the students’ to come prepared, come to school with a positive attitude, a willingness to learn and let others learn. Each day can be very successful if our teaching staff can concentrate on delivering their lessons in a calm and respectful environment. As school teachers, we have a very small time allocation each week to prepare students’ across different Key Learning Areas. Your support is very much needed and valued if we work together in catering to the needs of your child.

Another aspect of my position at Crawford Public School this year is in the area of building our network between our community and the school. Please feel free to discuss any ideas that you may have that can further develop the relationship between home, community and the school. We all have a say in developing our school in a positive way. I am always available via the school office to discuss this issue.

Once again, welcome back to our school for 2015.

Mr Lowing
Stage 2 Supervisor

SUMMER PSSA NEWS

It is sad to report to our community that our school will not be involved in Summer PSSA sport on Fridays this year. We did not get enough interest from the students to be involved in this fantastic competition that includes such sports as Softball, T-Ball, Cricket, OZ tag or Australian Football (AFL). Hopefully the Winter PSSA competition is more successful in having our students’ being involved in outdoor sports and fitness activities.

Mr Lowing
School Sports Coordinator
School PSSA Coordinator
Sydney West PSSA Australian Football Convener

PBL AWARDS

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

1/2P  Sahil (Green)
1/2T  Zakariya (Green)
3/4L  Joe (Bronze)
3/4S  Ashlee (Maroon) and Cai (Silver)
5/6A  Edward (White)
Welcome back everyone to the 2015 school year to what should be a busy and rewarding year it will be for our Stage 3 students and teachers. It has been lovely hearing about exciting and relaxing things our students got up to during the break and it has been even more enjoyable to see everyone back at school ready for a year of learning.

I would like to personally welcome all of our new families to Stage 3, it is a privilege to have you all a part of our school.

Thank you to of all our students who have brought the resources needed to ensure they are able to complete their work each day. It is very important that our Stage 3 students have all of the required equipment each day to minimise any disruption to our teaching and learning. If you are able to assist us in ensuring that your child has the required items throughout the year, that would be greatly appreciated.

If you are unsure of the items your child requires, this list is below:

Required equipment for Years 5 and 6:
- Blue, red and black pens
- HB lead pencils
- A plastic or wooden ruler (no metal)
- An eraser
- A sharpener
- A glue stick – No runny glue please as it takes too long to dry.
- A homework book (A4)
- Coloured pens, pencils and textas are optional. Textas will not be used in your child’s books.
- A USB (4 to 8GB approx.)
- Headphone (earplug type)
- A4 Homework Book

Please ensure all these items are labelled and in a pencil case to minimise loss.

ITEMS WHICH ARE NOT ALLOWED:
Liquid paper and permanent markers, these will be confiscated and you will be called to collect these from the school.

Please be advised that students are discouraged from bringing IPods, mobile phones and other electronic devices to school. If your child must bring a mobile phone to school to use when travelling to and from school, your child is responsible for these items and they are to stay in their bag, switched off from 8:30am – 3:00pm. If your child chooses to take any of these items out of their bag and use them, they will be collected by an executive and given back to your child at the end of the day. The school accepts NO RESPONSIBILITY for lost or stolen items.

It has been so pleasing to see so many of our students in full school uniform and demonstrating our school expectations of being a safe, respectful learner. I encourage our Stage 3 students to continue to show the rest of the school the high expectations we have of our students both socially and academically. We have so many exciting things planned for this year and we want everyone to be included by ensuring they remain in the GREEN ZONE all year.
Over the next few weeks your child may bring home notes regarding the following events/items:

Year 6 Shirts: These notes will be sent home by the end of next week. The cost of these shirts is approximately $30-$40 and the design will be similar to that of previous years. We would like to place the order as soon as possible so the shirts can be returned sooner so our students can get the most of these memorable pieces of clothing.

High School Enrolment Forms: On 9 March, I will be hosting 2 sessions to assist parents with filling out the High School Enrolment forms. If you are interested in attending one of these sessions and completing your child’s enrolment form, please return the note distributed this week at your earliest convenience. It is very important that these forms are filled in correctly and returned to the school as soon as possible to ensure your child’s placement into High School is secured for 2016.

YMCA Camp Yarramundi: This year we will be returning to YMCA Camp Yarramundi in Week 10, Term 3. The students who attended last year had such a great time they wanted to return. Some of the more popular activities such as the giant swing and kayaking will remain on the agenda, but we will be completing other activities so it is just as enjoyable if not more so for the students wishing to return. Keep an eye out for this note in the next few weeks to secure a place on this camp for your child.

Peer Support: This year we will be completing Peer Support and Peer Support Training a little sooner. We will have a school focus on Bullying in our program and we would like the message to be sent out across our school earlier in the year. Peer Support Training will occur over 2 days at the end of this term and your child will acquire or build on leadership skills to enable them to effectively run their peer groups in Term 2.

Leadership Induction Ceremony: Next Wednesday 18 February, we will be inducting our student leaders into their positions on our SRC. This will commence at approx. 9:20am once rolls have been marked in classrooms. If your child is being inducted into our SRC, you would have received an invitation and we look forward to seeing you there.

There are so many things already in the mix for Stage 3, this is only the start of a very busy and exciting year. I look forward to working with my amazing group of students and teachers throughout this year and I sincerely thank Mrs Thomas, Mrs Halawi, Ms Arnall and Ms Still for their hard work in the past few weeks.

If you have any questions regarding any of this information or other Stage 3 business, please contact me at the office at your earliest convenience.

Ms Leigh Alipate
Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

AVOIDING INJURIES

Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain?


MATHS QUESTIONS

Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall?

Maths Monkey's Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.

Welcome back to a new school year to all of our familiar faces and also all of our new students. Our students are settling in well and are working hard to meet school wide expectations of being ‘Safe, Respectful Learners’.

This year’s classes are:
K-6V Miss Vaoga
K-6G Miss Galea
3-6B Mrs Bowden

We are all very excited about upcoming programs and events, the first being running the Infants assembly in Week 9 this term. More details will be sent home closer to the date. All students will be bringing home a note this week outlining classroom requirements, sports and library days. Please check your child’s bag daily for any notes or communication books teachers may send home.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher!

Mrs Bowden
Relieving Assistant Principal Support Unit

Some students in 3-6B getting to know new friends through team work.

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

How do you help your child while allowing them to develop independence? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns.


TECHNOLOGY TALKS

Find out about all the technologies your child could be using at school, at home and on the go. Scan the A-Z list for overall knowledge, find out how gadgets work, what their good points are and other usages you may need to be aware of.

Find out more:  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology
PCYC SPARTANS WANT YOU
Blacktown Police Citizens Youth Club Rugby League
REGISTER FOR 2015 " Under 6 to A Grade"

- All players are welcome minimum 4 years of age.
- We offer Junior Rugby League to the community and pride ourselves on INCLUSION.
- Registration includes SHORTS, SOCKS, CLUB POLO, BUCKET HAT, TEAM PHOTO’S & PCYC Membership
- Take advantage of PCYC activities (Boxing, Basketball, Judo, Martial Arts, Weights Gym 16 years and over) in the Blacktown Club at a 50% discounted rate as soon as you register. Tell your family and friends that it’s time to become a Spartan and be part of the club offering much more for the family.

Training has started at Allen Robertson Reserve Vardy’s Rd Kings Langley From 5pm Weeknights
Contact 0438470599 for training details for your age group.

Alternately you can call into PCYC Blacktown 3pm to 8.30pm Monday to Friday for assistance with all registrations our friendly staff will assist you to complete your registration.

PCYC Nations of Origin U/16 Aboriginal Boys and Girls 7 a side tackle Tournament.
PCYC host the Africa United Harmony Cup Representative teams along with
PCYC Respect League 7's tackle and League 7's Girls tag in the Pre Season.

COACHES, MANAGERS & TRainers ALSO REQUIRED FOR 2015 ALL ENQUIRIES 0438470599

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BlacktownPycSpartans
Contact mobile 0438470599 email blacktownpcycjrl@pcycnsw.org.au
DOONIE ROO’s
DOONSIDE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

Both boys and girls welcome

SAT: SIDES U/6s to U15s two teams in each age group

SUN: U/16s  17s  19s and A/Grade

Registration days

Feb Sat 14th  at Doonside Shops, Hillend Rd Doonside
Feb Sat 21st  at Kareela Reserve- Knox Rd Doonside
Feb Sat 28th  Kareela Reserve – Knox Rd Doonside

9am – 1pm

Registration cost includes FREE socks and shorts

(conditions apply)

For more information call

Traci Reynolds  0406 270 201  or  Maree Austin 0423 200 108
The office is in need of any outgrown or unwanted white polo shirts and school shorts (especially small sizes 4-10).

If you can assist us by donating any items of school clothing it would be greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photo day is
WEDNESDAY
18 MARCH, 2015.
More information will be sent home soon.
SOCCER REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

St Patrick’s Soccer club is now open for registrations for boys, girls, men and women of ALL ages. 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 or you can attend one of our information or training days:

**When:** Saturday 7 February 2015 from 9.00am to 1.00pm; or Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 February 2015 from 5.30 pm till 7.30 pm

**Where:** Bert Saunders Reserve, Kiata Crescent, Doonside, next to Featherdale Wildlife Park

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

The 2015 season is starting soon so register NOW to secure your spot at St Pats.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The school’s front office will be attended Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 3:15pm only.

NO SMOKING

The school premises is a Non Smoking Area

Thank you for your cooperation.

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS 2015

The Uniform Shop will be open for business every Thursday morning from 8:30am-9:30am in the Crawford Community Cottage.
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

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!