Relieving Principal’s Report—Mrs D. Taylor

Our school has grown in enrolment numbers throughout the commencement of Term 1. This has been supported by the considerable dedication of the staff, the commitment of the parents and the efforts of our wonderful group of students to make Crawford Public School what it can be and with the intention to strive for the best future for all.

As a school, we strive each day to fulfil the school vision with a strong focus on developing quality teaching and learning outcomes. Our school technology platform is constantly developing and staff are in the process of building on their teaching and learning programs to embed technology into lessons for the acquisition of 21st Century Learning skills.

In Week 10 we will be asking the community to provide input into the school plan and to continue to build on the great results from the end of 2014 and throughout this term. Remember this is your school and it is important you have a say in the direction we travel, especially over the next 3 years. A note outlining session dates and times will be coming home shortly. We will try to run one session during the day and one in the evening.

I would to thank all our families for their support of students being in uniform. The students are looking amazing and they are so proud to wear their uniform. I have spoken to the uniform shop and the new sports shirts are slowly being introduced as the current stocks are slowly reducing. The new sport shirts are available at the moment in Sizes 6 and 10 only. The school white polo shirt will remain the same. Any questions feel free to come and see me.

Our Triple P parenting program has just completed its third week. It has been nice to hear the positive feedback from the organisers. If you would like further information, please contact the school office on 96217233.

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the District Swimming Carnival. It is an achievement to make this level. Well done to all.

As you are all aware, we have the permanent Principal position being advertised. I would like to extend the best of luck to all applicants. This process will be completed by the end of term with the intention to have the position commencing at the beginning of Term 2.

Our new whole school spelling program is going well and I am seeing high levels of engagement from all students and some amazing conversations occurring about sounds and word connections.

If you would like to discuss how the school is operating or you have any questions, please feel free to have a conversation with me by making an appointment at the school office.

Mrs Deanne Taylor
Principal (Rel)

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.
STAGE 3 NEWS

Our students have been working hard already this term and I have seen some outstanding examples of work. It is great to see so many students in Years 5 and 6 engaging in their learning and making the most of the opportunities available to them in their classrooms.

Last week, a note went home about the Year 6 Shirts. If you would like to order one of these, please return your child’s order and payment of $30.00 to their classroom teacher by Thursday 19 March, 2015. No late orders will be accepted.

Next week a note will be going home for our Stage 3 Camp to YMCA Yarramundi. This camp is an excellent experience for our students as they learn to take risks and build resilience as well as increasing their ability to reach their potential and see their ability to achieve things they never thought possible. Students who had attended this camp last year have already expressed interest in returning due to the enjoyable and memorable time they had. There will be limited places for this camp, so please return the note and deposit as soon as possible to secure your child’s place.

On Monday 9 March, 2015, I will be hosting 2 parent sessions for Year 7, 2016 High School Enrolment forms. The first session is at 12:30-1:30pm and the second at 3:30-4:30pm. This is a time for parents to ask questions and to seek assistance in completing the enrolment forms for Year 6 students starting High School next year. All other forms will be sent home with students and need to be returned to their classroom teacher by Friday 20 March, 2015.

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.

Leigh Alipate
Stage 3 Supervisor

Relieving Deputy Principal’s Report—L. Alipate

Attendance

It is very important that your child attends school every day and that they commence the day in our morning lines by 9:00am. Recently we have had many children arriving late for various reasons, some to order their lunch at the canteen. We strongly encourage all students to order their lunch before the bell and ensure that they are in their lines for morning announcements.

It is noted that students who arrive to school with adequate time to settle and prepare are more likely to actively engage in learning and are attentive and responsive to teacher instruction. Parents are reminded that if your child is late, you must attend our school office first before taking your child to class. Children who are late need to be signed in immediately due to legal and safety reasons. No parent is to attend a classroom without speaking to someone in our school office first.

Uniform

It is wonderful to see so many of our students start this school year in their uniform. Every morning, our school looks amazing in lines with a sea of green, white and maroon. Thank you to all of our families for ensuring that their child has started the school year in response to our uniform requirements of last year.

Please remind your child that it is not only a part of our school uniform but more importantly sun safety that they wear a hat out in our playground each and every break time. We do encourage our students to purchase a school hat from our office for $5.00 as expensive hats may become damaged or go missing from time to time.

I would also like to remind our families the importance of communicating any relevant information to the school. If your phone number or circumstance changes, please call our office to inform us of these details so we can support your child the best way we can.
What a wonderful couple of weeks Kindergarten has had. Students are settling into our daily routines and are displaying the school-wide expectations of being a Safe, Respectful Learner while in the classroom and outside in the playground.

Students in Kindergarten have started participating in the school-wide sounds program called ‘Soundwaves’, which will help students develop a strong foundation for reading and spelling. We are also very excited that our X.O. laptops will be up and running in the next couple of days. Students will learn to use their X.O. laptops as exceptional learning tools across both Literacy and Numeracy.

Homework went home last Monday and it was wonderful to see so many homework books returned on the Friday. Keep up the good work everyone! Homework is an important tool that encourages students to be confident and independent learners. It is sent home on Monday afternoons and should be returned to the classroom teacher on Friday morning. If you have any concerns about your child’s homework or home reader, please don’t hesitate to speak to the classroom teacher.

Just a few reminders –
- School photos are on the Monday 16 March. Remember to send the photo money with your child on this day. Late orders incur a fee.
- School contributions of $20 per child, $35 for a family is due to the office as soon as possible
- Thank you for providing a paint shirt, soap and tissues. Please continue to send these if you haven’t already.
- Please ensure you check your child’s bag each afternoon for notes and return permission notes promptly.
- Each morning we eat ‘Crunch & Sip’, please send a bottle of water and a piece of fruit for your child to eat at this time.
- Please label all of your child’s jumpers, hats, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc. with their name and class.

Tips from the Teachers

To improve your child’s counting, ask students to count objects around the house. An example of this could be counting the pegs on the clothes line or counting how many socks was in the washing on any given day.

Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure your child is settling into Kindergarten, the teachers are happy with their progress so far.

Miss Kristy-Lee Haller
Relieving Assistant Principal - Kindergarten

When kids are bullied

We send our kids off to school each day to learn. In between lessons they go outside to play – but the learning doesn't stop. The playground can help prepare them for some of the social challenges they will face throughout their lifetime.


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.
STAGE 1 NEWS

Stage 1 have had a busy few weeks learning about ‘Celebrations’ as part of our H.S.I.E unit of work for this term. In Week 9, the students will be involved in planning a class celebration. We are kindly asking that students bring in items to assist with this. Your child’s classroom teacher will indicate what items are needed closer to the date of the planned celebration.

Green Zone
I am very pleased to say that so far all of the Stage 1 students have been doing an amazing job of being Safe, Respectful Learners within our school. At the end of the term, students who have stayed in the Green Zone will be invited to a PBL reward activity. More information about this will be sent home before the end of term.

Parent Volunteers
Our Stage 1 reading program commenced last week. Thank you to Ms Tupou, Ms Bruyn, Ms Love and Ms Brasher for kindly offering their assistance and support with this program. The teachers and the students greatly appreciate your valuable time and effort.

We are still looking for more volunteers. If you are able to assist one or more mornings throughout the week between 9:00-9:30am, please see Mrs May (1/2V) for more information.

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

1/2A–Sayed  1/2T-Majok  1/2D-James
1/2M-Ayush  1/2P-Bisma  1/2V-Serena

K-2 Assembly
1/2A organised the first K-2 Assembly of 2015 last week. They did a wonderful job! Congratulations to Angel from 1/2A who was awarded the first Assistant Principal Award for this year.

1/2D will be performing their class item at the next K-2 Assembly on Friday 13 March. The assembly will start at 10:10am in the school hall. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Keep up the great work Stage 1!

Vanessa May
Rel. Assistant Principal
STAGE 2 NEWS

A big thank you must go out to those parents and carers who have been bringing in extra tissues, hand soap and even some egg cartons or old meat trays for art activities. Your support of the students in Stage 2 has not gone unnoticed. If other parents or carers would like to donate a few items we would welcome them as this kind of sharing makes our school community a positive place.

In regards to the home reading program that began two weeks ago, please support your child by just spending a few minutes each night just listening and asking a few questions about the book. This simple time spent with your child is more than just improving the reading of your child but also lifelong relationship building and memories that will last a life time.

The green folders have a small section to fill in and books are returned each fortnight in the plastic sleeve. Any homework sheet, spelling word list or other activity provided by your child's teacher can be glued into an A4 style homework book. Homework this term is being sent home each week by all the class teachers in Stage 2.

Teachers in our stage have begun to notice that notes sent home from the school may be still hiding in your child's bag well after they were handed out. All notes issued can also be collected from the school office.

Over the last few weeks many of the teachers in Stage 2 have attempted to phone some parents only to have a voicemail saying that this number is disconnected or switched off. I ask parents to please update your contact numbers straight away and have your mobiles or voicemail system available when someone from the school tries to make contact with you. This is essential in case of an emergency, your child is ill or there is some information that you may need to know.

I also thank those parents or carers who have supported your child at our school with the $20 voluntary contribution. Several weeks ago a small orange note went home out-lining that this contribution assists in providing other educational experiences, resources and programs for your child. This $20 for an individual child or $35 for all your children at our school can achieve so much. If you are not aware of this voluntary contribution that occurs across DEC school please come to the school office and make some enquires.

Your child's birthday is always a special time for them and I thank those parents and carers who have helped celebrate your child's birthday with their classmates. Parents and carers have been providing cup cakes and this is a wonderful idea as it means no cutting and everyone gets an equal share. We, in Stage 2, usually hand these cup cakes out during eating time at lunch and if there are bags of lollies these are handed out just before the students go home.

If any parent is wanting to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher, please contact the school office first. I thank all those parents who have been doing this since the beginning of the school term.

Finally to all parents and carers of children in Stage 2, we ask that if your child has been away sick or is sick before it is time to go to school, please contact the school to let your child's teacher know. A small note or a medical certificate if medical assistance has been sought is also a way of communicating your child's absence from school. This helps in the process of marking rolls and conducting attendance reviews when they occur.

Enjoy the rest of the week everyone and continue to build partnerships with our school and your family.

Mr Lowing
Stage 2 Assistant Principal

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Our school contributions for 2015 are now due.

$20.00 per student or
$35.00 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.
SUPPORT UNIT NEWS
What a fantastic start to the year! During the past 5 weeks, the students have met their new teachers, settled well into their routines, and have made new friends. We have been working very hard on learning new skills in literacy, numeracy and our other Key Learning Areas.
During this term all three classes have been working very closely with our Aboriginal Education Officer, Daphne Bell. Aunty Daph has been a significant member of our school since 1988 and is highly valued by all. Aunty Daph has been visiting each of our classes once a week where we have been learning about Aboriginal history and culture. We have been doing a book study with Aunty Daph ‘The Wheels on the Ute’ which is an Aussie spin on the classic ‘The Wheels on the Bus’. We are currently busy making our 3D models of our Aussie Utes which will be finished and displayed shortly. We can’t wait to show you!
We have also been meeting with Aunty Daph each Friday learning a traditional Aboriginal dance. We are very excited to announce that we will be performing our dance on Tuesday 24 March in Week 9 during the whole schools celebrations for Harmony Day. A note will be going out shortly to provide more information.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few reminders:

- School photos will be on Monday 16 March Week 8. We ask that all monies be handed in on the day of photo day. All money handed in earlier will be sent home.
- As mentioned, we will be performing our Traditional Aboriginal dance during our Harmony Day celebrations. We would love to see you there, celebrations will occur on Tuesday 24 March Week 9 from 10:45 am. More information soon to come.
- Assembly item: K-6V are running the Week 9 Infants assembly, 3-6G and 3-6B will be joining them in their item. Please come on down and see us perform our song/dance of ‘The Wheels on the Ute’. We have been practicing and can’t wait to show you. We will send out more information shortly.
- Year 6 shirts: A note went home last week about the Year 6 shirts. Please return order forms as soon as possible.
- Please don’t forget to be checking your child’s bag and communication books. Important messages and personalised notes and reminders are communicated regularly and correspondence is always appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you at all our celebrations shortly.

Miss Galea - Classroom teacher 3-6G

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS
PENRITH OBSERVATORY

ASTRONOMY NIGHTS IN MARCH
Saturday 14 March - 8pm – 10 pm
COMETS AND THE ICY OUTER SOLAR SYSTEM
Recent exciting space missions to icy bodies in our solar system have brought us more information about these remote and mysterious objects. We will discuss some of the findings for our distant dwarf planet neighbours and our comet cousins as well as what this means in the context of life on earth and in the solar system.

Saturday 28 March - 8pm – 10 pm
DADS & KIDS NIGHT
Kids and dads also include grandfathers, kids and grandkids. So it is for everyone. Age is no barrier to spending an evening with the family and the stars.

These nights will also include a 3D astronomy movie, a tour of the dome area and 0.6m telescope and an opportunity to view celestial objects through the university’s telescopes. Our programs will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: $18 adult, $12 child/concession and $50 family
Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Contact: Tel: (02)4736 0135
Email: penrithobservatory@uws.edu.au
www.uws.edu.au/observatory,
www.twitter.com/uwsobservatory

HARMONY DAY
Crawford Public School will be holding its annual Harmony Day on Tuesday 24 March from 11:00am. More details will be sent home in the coming weeks.
Congratulations to the following students who received their PBL badges during our last couple of assemblies for being a safe, respectful learner.

3/4G  Armaan (White), Damon and Isabella (Maroon)
3/4L  Morrie (White), Avele (Maroon)
5/6C  Fredmon, Lakeisha, and Luke (Bronze)
5/6S  Riley (Bronze)
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

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Over the last two weeks several students have been nominated to attend different Mt Druitt PSSA trials in a range of sports. This opportunity is always a fantastic experience and if your child is selected in a zone squad or team it is important that all notes are read, signed and returned to the school for the Principal and the school sports coordinator to sign and make a copy of. The original note is returned and needs to be handed into the DEC staff who are coaching or managing the team. Well done to those students who have been recently selected in some zone teams for girls and boys football.

Over the last few weeks I have also received some information about in-school sporting programs that related to cricket, gymnastics and Australian Football (AFL). These programs usually require a fee each week (between $3-$5) each week to be a part of. They tend to run for six weeks and are DEC approved. I will be sending a note home in the next few weeks regarding these programs and see if parents and carers would like there child to participate in such programs that focus on skill development, game sense and general fitness and just having fun.

Thankyou to those parents or carers who have made sure that your child has a hat at school. This is a requirement when involved in physical activity and your assistance in making your child's outside sporting experience even greater is appreciated by both your child and your child's teacher.

In Sport!
Mr Lowing