Relieving Principal’s Report—Mrs D. Taylor

We are quickly approaching the end of the term and we have a couple things left to celebrate and enjoy. Throughout the term we have established a stable beginning from day one. The students have focused on being the best learners they can be, by being open to new ideas and taking greater responsibility for their learning across a variety of areas. We will be holding our PBL party on Wednesday and our Easter PJ party on Thursday.

On Wednesday 1 April we will be hosting our Parent/Teacher Interviews. They will commence at 3:00pm and run till 7:00pm. Parents are required to arrange an interview via their child’s classroom teacher. 5/6S and 3/4S will be held in Term 2 as per the notes sent home recently. We will be hosting a sausage sizzle on the evening.

It was a sea of orange for our Harmony Day celebration this week. The students, community and staff all came together to celebrate Australia’s cultural diversity. This celebration for our school is about the inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone we have at Crawford Public School. A huge thanks must go for the amazing organisation and attention to detail of Mrs Zina Dybac who led the staff and students through today’s events.

The whole school would like to congratulate Aunty Daph Bell on being selected as the recipient of the Director-General’s ‘Meritorious Award’ at this year’s ‘Nanga Mai Awards’. Aunty Daph’s dedication and commitment to improving outcomes in learning for all children is to be commended. Aunty Daph assists staff and community to ensure the richness of the Aboriginal Culture is embedded in our teaching and learning at the highest level. Thank you Aunty Daph for all you have done to support our school and community.

You may be wondering what is happening with the Principal position at Crawford Public School. The process is moving forward and an announcement should be made soon. I am sure as a school we will welcome our new leader with open arms. I have truly appreciated the opportunity to lead our school and support our community throughout Term 1. I will continue my commitment in a different capacity once the new Principal starts.

Mrs Deanne Taylor
Principal (Rel)
As this term draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone in our wider school community for their support while I have had the opportunity to be Deputy Principal of Crawford. The past 10 weeks have been a very rewarding and memorable experience for me. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mrs Taylor for the outstanding job she did at leading our school over the past term. I have enjoyed working with her on this journey.

On Monday I had the privilege of taking our Captains and Prefects to Qantas Credit Union Area in the City for Young Leaders Day. It was an interesting experience and we had the opportunity to listen to our current Premier Mike Baird discuss the three key points he believes creates an effective leader:

1. To believe that you can achieve much more than you think you can.
2. To have courage – Stand up when circumstances are difficult.
3. If you have an opportunity, take it – especially if it is something you are passionate about. But while doing this, he advised our young leaders to ensure they value every single person along the journey.

We also listened to Bindi Irwin spread her father’s message of conservation and doing what you can for something you care so deeply about.

Our school leaders were extremely excited to be in the City and to represent our school. Both Miss Tianah and I had a lovely day with the 10 students we took to Young Leaders Day and we hope they enjoyed the experience.

Ms Alipate
Deputy 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.
Holidays are fast approaching, which means that our first term at school is almost over. Everyone has been very busy learning their sounds and sight words. Well done to those students who are consistently handing in their homework each week. The teachers are astounded at the achievements of all students whether it be in the classroom or out in the playground.

We have had a very exciting few weeks. We hope you enjoyed our African Dance on Harmony Day, we certainly enjoyed learning it. The Easter Hat parade is fast approaching and we are busily designing and making our hats. We hope that all families can join us for the parade on Thursday 2 April from 9:30am.

Just a friendly reminder that Parent-Teacher interviews will be conducted next week on Wednesday 1 April. Thank you to all parents who have already returned their appointment paperwork. If you haven’t done so yet, we suggest you get it in as soon as possible to ensure time with your child’s teacher.

Have a happy and safe Easter holidays.
We look forward to Term 2.

Kristy-Lee Haller
Relieving Assistant Principal- Early Stage 1

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**EASTER READING**

Have your kids signed on for the Premiers Reading Challenge? Get a head start with Easter reading time. Booklists are here: What’s your child reading right now?

Find out more: [https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html](https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html)

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**APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Have you got April school holidays organised yet? It’s not too late to book for a Sport and Recreation Kids’ Camp. Watch the video to see how much fun these kids are having.

STAGE 1 NEWS

Spelling with Sound Waves
In response to student, staff and community feedback, we are implementing a whole school phonemic approach to teaching spelling this year. We are using the Sound Waves charts to assist students with this program. Each morning in Stage 1, the students are engaged in explicit lessons focused on selected phonemes for the week. Since the beginning of this term, students have already shown increased confidence and knowledge of letter-sound relationships. This understanding is assisting them to develop their skills in reading, spelling and writing.

Attendance
‘In line by 9’ is an initiative at Crawford Public School that aims to promote attendance and improve student learning. By ensuring that your child arrives at school by 9:00am, you are assisting in setting them up for a successful day of learning. When children arrive late, this can impact on their ability to settle into classroom routines and learning activities. Please assist us by ensuring that your child is ‘In line by 9’ every school day. If your child is absent on a school day due to illness or other reasons, an explanation is required. Please provide a note to your child’s classroom teacher or contact the school office as soon as possible.

Green Zone
Students who have remained in the Green Zone throughout this term will be invited to participate in a K-2 PBL Reward Activity between 12:30-1:15pm next Tuesday 31 March.

Parent Volunteers
I sincerely thank all the parents who have assisted with our reading program throughout the term. Your assistance with this has been greatly appreciated by the Stage 1 staff and students. We are still looking for more volunteers to assist with this program next term. 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 – Desmond  
1/2M – Josh  
1/2T – Ashlee  
1/2P – Talmage  
1/2D – Jaysen  
1/2M – Josh  
1/2P – Talmage  
1/2V – Shaniece

All of the students who have received Star Student awards throughout the term will be invited to a Stage 1 reward afternoon next Monday.

K-2 Assembly
1/2D organised the K-2 Assembly last week. We all loved their energetic dinosaur dance! Congratulations to Salina from 1/2D who was awarded the Assistant Principal Award.

Keep up the great work Stage 1!

Vanessa May  
Rel. Assistant Principal
STAGE 2 NEWS

Well the end of the first term is nearly upon us and the wonderful Easter holidays and chocolate eating experiences are just weeks away. The Stage 2 teaching and support staff wish all our families a safe and relaxing break. From the teaching desk it has been a hectic term with much content covered in such a short period of time. We all hope that the students continue to read and practise some mathematical facts over the holidays to assist their learning for Term 2. Next term shall be a busy one for our Year 3 students with the NAPLAN testing being conducted. If any parent or caregiver has questions or concerns about this, please contact Mr Lowing at the school.

This term we have seen some changes to the teaching staff across the school and our stage. Further information shall be provided to our school community in regards to this over the coming weeks.

Next term we hope to have many of our students involved in PSSA sports for the winter competition. More information about PSSA and sport shall be sent out this week in a separate letter to families.

This week we celebrated Harmony Day and our classes have practised their dances with much intensity. I must thank the staff members who have taken time to teach the students the dances and know that the students have enjoyed experiencing something different from a variety of cultures. Thank you to Mrs Dybac and her assistants for also providing this fantastic community event for our school community.

In the last week of term we will also have the Easter Hat Parade. Thank you to those parents who have sent in resources for Easter hats. We hope to see many Easter hats being paraded on the day amongst our Stage 2 students. It is a terrific idea to bring your child’s hat in a cardboard box on the day so that accidents do not occur before the parade. These then can be stored in the teacher’s storeroom for safety.

If your child is going to be away before the term finishes or is sick during this time please either provide a note or contact the office so that we know where your child has been for attendance information.

If you wish to contact your child’s classroom teacher please leave a message via the school office and the teacher shall contact you as soon as possible.

It has been terrific to see so many students being supported at home with the home reading program over the last few weeks. It is important to realise that reading is a skill that can change your child’s future and open doors for them in the future.

Lastly parent-teacher interviews shall be held for most of our Stage 2 classes in the last week of school. Please return the note sent out several weeks ago about this if you wish to find out how your child’s progress to date. Please note that 3-4L will conduct their interviews on Tuesday 31-3-15. 3-4S shall be conducting their parent-teacher interviews early next term as Mrs Sedgmen is not available at this time as she is on leave.

Once again the Stage 2 team would like to wish everyone a safe and exciting school holiday and look forward to your return in Term 2.

Mr Lowing
Assistant Principal—Stage 2
CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 6! We have received all our High School Enrolment forms on time and they have been entered into the system, thanks to the wonderful Mrs Stirton who goes above and beyond to organise these important documents. I am extremely grateful to our parents and caregivers, students and staff for ensuring we have completed by and before the dates due. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Next Monday and Tuesday, Years 5 and 6 will complete their Peer Support Training for next term. We are completing Peer Support early in the year for two reasons: firstly, because it is important for our younger students to develop positive and supportive relationships with their older peers to support them throughout the year and secondly, we can address the focus of our Peer Support lessons sooner. Speaking Up is an anti-bullying module that we believe may have some positive effects on our school population. We are hopeful that by taking this proactive approach, our students will understand the importance of valuing each other and treating one another respectfully.

This week the note for camp YMCA Yarramundi went home. I would like to remind families that spaces are limited, so if you would like your child to attend this camp, please return your note and deposit as soon as possible. For those students who went last year, please note that Yarramundi is continually changing and we are looking at a different program, while keeping some of the students favourite activities like the Giant Swing, Kayaking and Rock Climbing. If you would like to learn more about YMCA Yarramundi, have a look at their webpage. http://camping.ymcansw.org.au/camp-yarramundi

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable school holiday break, I look forward to seeing everyone return for another term of learning and fun. 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
SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

Time is flying and we are already in Week 9 of Term 1! It has been a very eventful term and we’ve been very busy learning our sounds, sight words and counting (just to name a few). To help us remember our sounds and our sight words we have been practising how to write and use them in our sentence and writing work, and creating and constructing letters and sounds using fun materials such as tiling, pipe cleaners, play dough and much more.

We’ve also been very busy learning our numbers and how to count. Some of us can even count past 100! Amazing work!

Over the last couple of weeks we have also been focusing on 2D shapes, 3D objects and Time. Students had a great time consolidating their learning of 3D objects in designing and constructing their own 3D objects using Lego blocks. Students made some abstract and yet very interesting 3D models of aerospace technology, boats and random structures.

We have also been very lucky to work with Aunty Daph who has been visiting us, since the beginning of the Term to teach us about the Aboriginal culture through texts, art and dance. Students have had many opportunities to have fun and most importantly learn about the Aboriginal culture. Thanks Aunty Daph for providing fun learning opportunities, and for all your hard work!

Take care, and I hope to see you all very soon at upcoming school events!

Miss Vaoga
Classroom Teacher – K-2V

Reminders

This Friday K-2V will be hosting The K-2 Assembly at 10:00am. K-2V, 3-6B and 3-6G will be performing on the day, and the students would love to see their family there.

If you haven’t already done so, could we please kindly ask that for assembly, you provide the following for your child:

* Cow boy hat
* Jeans
* Checked shirt

If your child is speaking on the day, they would have been given a script to take home to practise.

Could you please practise the script with them each day leading up to Assembly? It would help to alleviate anxiety on the day.

Thank you :)
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS
PENRITH OBSERVATORY

Wednesday 8 April
10 am – 12 noon
School Holiday Hand-on Science Program
ROCKET WORKSHOP
Lots of fun for kids of all ages. Make and launch your own paper rocket and watch water rockets being launched. The program will also include a short presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and SAFE and detailed viewing of the sun through our telescopes (weather permitting). Cost $15

Saturday 11 April
7pm – 9pm
School Holiday Astronomy Night
GALAXIES AND BEYOND
The night will include a colourful and informative multimedia presentation, a 3D movie, a tour of the dome area and 0.6 m telescope and an opportunity to view celestial objects through the university’s telescopes.

Thursday 16 April
10 am – 12 noon
School Holiday Hands-on Science Program
STAR STUFF WORKSHOP
The program will include hands-on science activities, a short presentation, a 3D astronomy movie, water rocket launches and SAFE and detailed viewing of the sun through our telescopes (weather permitting). Cost $15

Saturday 18 April
7pm – 9pm
School Holiday Astronomy Night
GALAXIES AND BEYOND
The night will include a colourful and informative multimedia presentation, a 3D movie, a tour of the dome area and 0.6 m telescope and an opportunity to view celestial objects through the university’s telescopes.

Our programs will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: Astronomy Nights -$18 adult, $12 child/concession and $50 family
Workshops - $15 per person
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
www.facebook.com/UWSObservatory

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
Our school contributions for 2015 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.

SCHOOL CONTACT CARDS
School Contact Cards will be sent home shortly for students in Years 1-6. Please ensure you complete a card for each child in your family and return to the school front office as soon as possible.

It is very important that the school has your correct address and telephone numbers in case of an emergency.

HEAD LICE
Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits. http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/nitbusters.aspx

BULLYING KNOWS NO BOUNDS
When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she’d done differently. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using. http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/when-cyberbullying-hits_home
Children rarely drink enough during break times at school and often forget to drink unless reminded. Dehydration can cause poor concentration, headaches and irritability. Be sure to pack a water bottle for your child to drink from during Crunch&Sip.

Fresh fruit and vegetables are the best option for Crunch&Sip. Small portions of dried fruit (e.g. 4 dried apricots, 1.5 tablespoons of sultanas) are permitted, but only occasionally, e.g. once a week. Fruit products such as fruit leathers, roll-ups and sticky muesli bars are not permitted, as they are often high in sugar.

Kids can be fussy about eating fruit and vegetables. They might have to be offered a food up to 10 times before they accept and eat it! Each time your child interacts with a new fruit or vegetable (seeing, touching, holding, kissing) is a step towards them eating it.

Fruit and vegetables are virtually the only sources of vitamin C. The only other foods that provide this essential vitamin are breast milk and some offal meats. Vitamin C helps your body to fight off disease amongst many other things.

Snow peas or sugar snap peas are a crunchy, sweet Crunch&Sip snack. Choose bright, crisp, plump pods. Smaller pods are generally sweeter and more tender. They are a great way for kids to get all the valuable nutrients found in green coloured vegetables.

Kids love the crunchy outer and juicy inner of cucumber. Most kids take cucumber cut into sticks or slices for Crunch&Sip. However whole baby cucumbers, or a whole or half Lebanese cucumber, or section of a Telegraph cucumber can be great to munch away at during Crunch&Sip and requires less preparation.

Cherry or grape tomatoes are an easy, popular vegetable to take for Crunch&Sip. They are fun and easy to grow too. Let them ripen on the plant or at room temperature. Refrigerating before they are ripe will reduce the flavor and ability to ripen to their full potential.

Red and yellow capsicums are sweeter than the green variety. A medley of different coloured capsicum slices makes a fun traffic light themed Crunch&Sip snack. Baby capsicums are also great to pack whole for your child.

Juicy, juicy mangos! What’s better than eating mango cheeks with your hands and letting the juice drip down your chin?! However, it might be better to pack chunks of mango in a container with a spoon for Crunch&Sip ;-)

Pineapple may have a tough, unappealing exterior, but that ripe, sweet, juicy flesh is a perfect Crunch&Sip snack for kids. Chop into chunks and pack in a container with a fork to minimise mess for Crunch&Sip.

Allow hard peaches or nectarines to ripen at room temperature, then store in the refrigerator once ripe. Pack a paper napkin or sheet of paper towel for your child if their Crunch&Sip peach is particularly ripe and juicy. Or cut into segments that will easily separate from the stone and put in a container.

Strawberries are a great source of vitamin C, which is an important nutrient to help fight disease. Be sure to pack them in a container or the lunchbox so that they don’t get squashed.
28th Annual Penrith Working Truckshow
Sunday 29th March 2015 - 8am-5pm
Australia’s Best Value Family Day

Fun and Excitement!

The Best In Country Music

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
- Concert sound & full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Adults $30 up to 3 Children FREE with paying adult
(Children under 10, Student ID required if over 13 years)

Sydney Classic & Antique Truckshow on 31st May, 2015 (See website for more details)

www.pwts.com.au
South Marayong Out of School Hours
64 McClean Street Blacktown 2148
Email: southmarayongoosh@gmail.com
Mobil 0451 114 611

Week 1…………………………..

Tuesday 7th April
We’re off to the Movies
Home in 3D
Includes Popcorn and drink
Excursion $25.00

Wednesday 8th April
The Amazing Magic Show
All children receive a show bag
Incursion $15.00

Thursday 9th April
Monster Madness
Create your own Monster
or come dress as monster.
Make a Puppets, Mask

Friday 10th April
Ice Skating
Norwest Ice Arena
Excursion cost $25.00

Week 2…………………………..

Monday 13th April
Putt Putt Golf
On the Green at Dural
2 games plus lunch
Excursion $25.00

Tuesday 14th April
Sweet Treat
Cooking class
Sweet treat for the Medieval Fair

Wednesday 15th April
Knights and Maidens
Join us for all the fun of a
Medieval Fair
Cost $5.00

Thursday 16th April
Art Express
Back by popular demand
Lots of craft to choose from
So let your creative side shine
Craft cost $5.00

Friday 17th April
Gladiator
Fun Games to suit all ages
Incursion cost $15.00

SMOOSH Daily Fee is $40.00 before CCB or CCR
Breakfast and Afternoon tea are included in the daily cost.
PBL AWARDS

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

1/2T  Ritia (White)
3/4B  Brock, Andrea (White), Breanna (Maroon), Tilarah (Bronze), Spencer (Silver)
3/4L  Mark (Maroon), Jiya (Bronze)
3/4G  Margaret (Green), Damon (Maroon)
5/6C  Bella (Maroon), Aka (White), Jazmyn (Bronze)
5/6T  Levi (Maroon), Aliya (Silver), David (Gold)