Principal's Report - Richard Ford

We have already passed the halfway mark of the term and it doesn't seem to be slowing down any.

I would like to commend the students and staff on how well they handled the sometimes stressful time of NAPLAN. As mentioned in the last newsletter, this is a snapshot of a single day of testing and that your child's teacher has the best idea of what your child's current learning needs are. Results usually come out around the end of Term 3.

I was lucky enough to take the under 10s Panther Trophy team last week. The juniors were undefeated until the semi when they came up against a tackling machine of a side, York PS. The seniors also made the semis with some convincing wins but came up short to a very strong St Michaels side. Thank you to Miss Alipate and all the parents that were able to help transport and support the students on the day.

Unfortunately we have had some bad weather for our PSSA teams and have only played one round. The PSSA competition always allows for a few weeks at the end of the season in case of wet weather. Hopefully we have some more nice Fridays so that the students can get out and represent the school.

We had a number of students represent at the District Cross Country last Thursday and they did a fantastic job. We have a few students who will be competing at the Regional carnival soon. Out of all the schools Crawford placed 4th. This is a great effort seeing that some of the schools we were up against have twice as many kids as our school.

We are looking at changing the way we communicate a little in the school. The P&C and I sat down in my first week and they have donated $300 towards the setup of a School APP. The company is finishing off the design at the moment and the APP should be available shortly. You can set it to have notifications pop straight up on your Iphone, Android or tablet. There is also a calendar and a number of other functions to help you know what is going on at the school. It will be free to download. We are also looking at making the newsletters fortnightly starting next term to get as much information out as possible.

We have a number of things coming up in the next few weeks so please check your children’s bags for notes. Synergy Dance group will be performing next week, the University Science Competition is on, Stage 1 excursion to Nurragingy, Kindy performance by the Gigalees, and the Biggest Morning tea just to name a few.

Can you please remind any high school students that if they are picking up their brothers or sisters that they need to be respectful on the grounds and not interrupt learning. We have had a few incidents with the high school students not listening to teacher instructions.

Please remind your children that if they are riding their bike to school of a few things. Students riding to and from school up to the age of 10 should be in the company of an adult. It is law for all cyclists to wear a helmet. Any student not wearing a helmet will get a letter sent home to be signed. Repeated warnings will result in students not being allowed to ride their bicycles to school. Also students should walk their bike when on school grounds at all times.

Lastly on a negative note. Last Friday a rock was thrown through the front windscreen of one of the teacher’s cars in the car park. From where the car was parked, it looks as if it was thrown from within the school. This is upsetting to think that one of our students or community members may have done this. If you know of any information, or your children know of anything about this incident please contact the office to let us know.

Richard Ford - Principal
Deputy Principal’s Report—Mrs Deanne. Taylor

This is a very important reminder to all parents and students’ that attendance at school is a legal requirement for all students between 6 and 17 years of age. If you have questions or concern you can approach the school office to make an appointment to see Mrs Taylor to discuss them.

In addition to this please be mindful your child is at school each day by 9:00am. Recently we have had an increase of students arriving to school late without justification. As you can appreciate this can impact on their learning and prevent them from gaining important information about events for the day.

Students are reminded everyday they need a hat to play in playground otherwise they will be redirected to the amphitheatre. This is for their safety and protection from the sun. Can I please ask that your child comes to school with a hat every day and please make sure it is clearly labelled.

I am very excited to let you all know on Wednesday 10 June 2015 Mrs Dybac and the Student Voice Committee we will be hosting Crawford Public School’s Biggest Morning Tea to raise funds for Cancer Research. Students will be encouraged to wear bright colourful clothes and bring a gold coin donation for this important fundraiser. All students will receive a muffin, a bottle of water and fruit on the day.

Our parents have been invited to attend their own special morning tea in the school hall for a gold coin donation where we will play trivia, have lucky door prizes and enjoy some yummy food and a cuppa. Please come along and support this great fundraising initiative.

Thankyou
Mrs Taylor

NO SMOKING
The school premises is a Non Smoking Area
Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

STEWART HOUSE SCHOOL
CLOTHING APPEAL 2015

Stewart House is once again holding their annual clothing appeal. Please return any bags of clothing to the school front office by Wednesday 24 June, 2015.

We thank you for your ongoing support.
KINDERGARTEN NEWS

We are officially half way through Term Two! Our lovely Kindergarten teachers are busy writing reports which will be sent home in Week 10 of this term. If at any time you have any questions, don’t hesitate to speak to your child’s classroom teacher.

Students have been busy listening to stories and discussing how different texts make us feel. We have also been focusing on the beginning, middle and end of texts. Knowing the sequence of a story is very important and helps us to comprehend what is happening in the story.

Students in K/1H learning about beginning, middle and end.

Kindergarten has also been busy participating in “Getting into Gym” this term and are learning a lot about how they can move and control their bodies. It is great seeing everyone getting involved and having fun. The Kindergarten teachers are in the process of organising an exciting incursion that will consolidate what the children have been learning this term. More information in regards to this will be sent home soon.

Our end of term PBL surprise is getting closer and closer. It is great to see so many Kindergarten students still in the green zone. Keep up the good work everyone.

Kristy-Lee Haller
Relieving Assistant Principal- Early Stage 1

MASTERING SPELLING

Are you checking your child’s weekly spelling homework? Try talking to your child about how you spell, and what you do when you don’t know how to spell a word. Here’s some advice about how to help your child master spelling.


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 1 News

Stage 1 Nurragingy Excursion
Stage 1 will be heading on an excursion to Nurragingy Reserve on Thursday 11 June to learn about natural and built environments in our local area. Please ensure your child’s permission and medical notes are returned to their class teacher by Friday 5 June.

K-2 Assembly
We have two more classes presenting items at our upcoming assemblies this term. Please note the change in dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7 (Friday 5 June)</th>
<th>1/2T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 9 (Friday 19 June)</td>
<td>1/2V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assemblies start promptly at 10:10am in our school hall. Parents and Caregivers are invited to attend our school assemblies. We look forward to seeing you there.

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

- 1/2A– Tanisha
- 1/2T– Jayla
- 1/2D– James
- 1/2M– Lyrix
- 1/2P– Dante
- 1/2V– Anika

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM—1/2T
This term, 1/2T has been studying a unit called ‘Persuade Me!’ and has been learning about the English concepts of ‘Point of View’ and ‘Argument’. One of our tasks was to persuade the reader to believe that cats make better pets than dogs. The students worked hard all week to plan and publish their work.

Here is some persuasive writing from Ashlee and Rawiri.
For all our Stage 2 families it is now over half way through the term and with the reporting writing in progress our students are involved in various assessments across all Key Learning Areas. It has been pleasing to see the amount of merit awards and PBL certificates going home lately and so we congratulate all those who are trying so hard to strive and succeed across the stage. As the weather has definitely turned cooler I ask all parents or carers to make sure that our students are coming to school warm enough in the mornings.

Over the last few weeks I have become aware of students arriving late to school on a regular basis. Can I remind parents and carers that starting the school day on time is so important to your child's learning. If sections of the morning session are missed then it may place unnecessary pressure on the child to try and catch up on their learning and may lead to learning opportunities not being completed or attempted to the best of their ability.

Thank you to the parents or carers who have donated various art or craft items to your child's teachers to date this term. All donations of such items are appreciated by all.

We welcome Mrs Collier onto 3/4B while Ms Booth is on leave. Mrs Collier was our Stage 2 RFF teacher and has assisted us greatly by stepping in to take over as the classroom teacher. I thank the students of 3/4B for welcoming Mrs Collier into their classroom and made the transition much easier.

If I could remind parents and carers to please contact the school if your child is absent from school it would be greatly appreciated by each classroom teacher and Ms Alipate and Mrs Taylor who look after student attendance matters at school. Please either ring the office or send in a note to your child's teacher regarding this matter. Recently each student across Stage 2 received some envelopes to take home for notes to be returned to the school for such things.

Mr Lowing
Stage 2 Supervisor

On Thursday 21 May, Miss Still and I had the pleasure of attending the District Cross Country Carnival with our school team. The students tried their best to complete the course at Morreau Reserve, Rooty Hill. We had a pleasing number of students finish in the top 20 of their age group, which is an outstanding effort.

The following students have qualified for the Mount Druitt Zone, Cross Country Carnival:

- 8/9 Year Old Girls: Maddison and Ekala
- 10 Year Old Girls: Bree-Anna
- 12/13 Year Old Boys: Kuya
- 12/13 Year Old Girls: Chelsee

We wish these students all the best of luck at the Carnival on Wednesday 10 June.

Ms Alipate

Wow, look at the size of this hill!!!!!!
We are almost finished the second term for the year and I have spent a large amount of time in our Stage 3 classrooms over the past few weeks with NAPLAN and in my role as Learning and Support Teacher.

Students have been working hard during their English Unit learning about Cultural Identity and have been having many interesting and engaging discussions during their Writing lessons on persuasive texts. It has been interesting hearing their opinions on whether spiders or snakes are more dangerous and their thoughts on the age-old debate about whether brothers are better than sisters and vice versa. Some of their arguments on both of these topics were very convincing.

Thank you to all who have returned their note and some money for camp, if you wish for your child to be involved in this excursion please return their note and money as soon as possible as we have only catered for 90 positions. I will be sending another set of notes out this week for students who are still wishing to attend. If you would like to learn more about YMCA Yarramundi, have a look at their webpage. [http://camping.ymcansw.org.au/camp-yarramundi](http://camping.ymcansw.org.au/camp-yarramundi)

The homework diaries went out in most Stage 3 classes a few weeks ago. I hope our students are using this resource as effectively as they can be to ensure they are developing sound time management and organisational skills in preparation for High School. I would also like to encourage students in Stage 3 to regularly use their Home Reading Folders that were given to them at the beginning of the year. There are books available in their classrooms for them to read and enjoy at home. If any student cannot locate their folders, please let me know so I can assist in assuring it can be replaced as it is important that our students are reading as regularly as possible.

**Just a friendly reminder that attendance to school is compulsory.** Students are to be at school on time, everyday, unless ill. In the event of illness, it is important that your child returns a note to school the next day they are in attendance, explaining reason for their absence. Notes will be going home this week to enquire about any unexplained absences, please ensure these are completed and returned as soon as possible. Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.

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  
Assistant Principal - Stage 3

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**DEBATING**

On Thursday 7 May, 2015 I had the pleasure of accompanying the debating team to their first debate of the year, at Plumpton Public School.

These students did an exceptional job preparing for this event and worked well to develop a strong argument stating that fitness is a waste of learning time at school.

Unfortunately they were defeated in this debate by 1 point, however, their effort and preparation is to be highly commended. Well Done David, Aliya, Jawad and Melody.

Ms Alipate
SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

This term is flying by and we have all been working really hard in class learning many new exciting things and working towards achieving our personal learning goals.

With only four weeks left of term here are some friendly reminders on what is coming up.

Library
3/6G and K/2V have their library lesson each week on Friday. 3/6B has changed their library days now to Thursday. Students are reminded to bring in their library bags to borrow and to return any books they have at home on that day. If your child misses their library day they can borrow books before school from 8:30am from the library.

Excursion
Students in Year 1 from K/2V will be attending an excursion to Nurragingy in Week 8, Thursday 11 June. This will be a great opportunity for our students to explore concepts being taught in class and to make new friends within their stage.

Assembly
3/6G and 3/6B have been working really hard on our assembly item. We have been looking very closely at the song and the story behind ‘From little things big things grow’ by Paul Kelly. We are excited to show you our mini production that we have been practising and filming for over the last few weeks. Our assembly item will be held in Week 9 Thursday 18 June. Please join us in the hall from 2pm, we would love to see you there.

Reports
All teachers across the school have been working overtime this term to prepare the students reports for you. These reports will be a good indication of how your child is going in their class. You will be receiving your child’s report in Week 10 where you will be able to see how students are achieving their goals in the Individual Education Plans. If you have any concerns with these reports please make an appointment with your child’s classroom teacher.

Miscellaneous
As the weather becomes cooler it is important that children bring warmer clothes to wear. Just a friendly reminder to label all jumpers and belongings so there is no confusion of ownership in class. If your child needs to have a day off due to sickness please remember to notify your child’s teacher by writing a note or call the school to let them know.

Could we also please ask that children’s bags are checked regularly, important notes and information are always being sent home and correspondence is sometimes required.

Thankyou!
Miss Galea - Classroom teacher 3/6G

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

Our school contributions for 2015 are now due.

$20.00 per student or
$35 per family

Teachers are collecting money in the class-rooms or the contributions can be given directly to the office.
FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Recently we have had several students take part in the Mt Druitt PSSA Cross Country and from what I heard those students represented our school extremely well. We do have some students who will represent the Mt Druitt PSSA at the upcoming Sydney West PSSA Cross Country. Well done to those students! Permission notes for this event should be sent home shortly once the team managers for this event have organised this. I must say thank you to all the staff involved and make special mention to Ms Alipate for organising our school team prior to last week’s Zone Cross Country.

Our rugby league teams have been competing at several events and currently have a few more in the coming weeks. More updates and results will be provided once they are completed. Well done to all those students who have represented our school and thank you to the staff involved in this opportunity.

This week we also have a student who is trying out for selection in the Sydney West rugby union team. I wish Kamoe all the best with that!

It has been terrific to have had at least one round of PSSA in our local competition this term. It is important for all players across the three sports that we are involved in to always conduct themselves with the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship. If the bus fee each week could be paid either earlier in the week to Mr Lowing or brought away to the silver seats behind the morning assembly on a Friday morning this would be very much appreciated by the coaches. Those students who have paid for games that have been washed out have their payment placed onto the next round of matches. Please bring your $8.00 each week and have your sporting equipment ready each Friday.

Last week I was involved in the NSW PSSA Australian Football carnival at BISP as the Sydney West PSSA coach. Leading up to that event in which we came 5th and had one player selected for the NSW PSSA Australian football team I conducted a raffle that raised funds to assist the parents and players from that team. The winner of that raffle was from out Riverstone way. For all those who bought tickets in that raffle I thank you for your support.

Parents and carers if you have a child who plays golf I would greatly appreciate if you contact me via the school office.

Mr Lowing
School Sports Coordinator

Food Allergy Week 17-23 May

Did you know that 1 in 10 babies born in Australia will develop a food allergy? The Food Allergy Week website has lots of great information, ideas and resources to help you be more allergy aware.

Find out more:  http://www.foodallergyaware.com.au

Is your child making friends at school?

Kids who get on at school tend to be more engaged in learning. Here are some ideas on how to help your child with social skills: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning
Public Show Day
SUNDAY 31ST MAY, 2015 - 8AM TO 3PM
VENUE: MUSEUM OF FIRE, PENRITH, NSW

FREE AMUSEMENT RIDES AND DISPLAYS
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ADMISSION: Adults $15 (includes up to three children under 16 free with paying Adult)
Concession $10 (excludes free child entry)

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Stressful School Mornings?
How to get kids ready for school without a fight
From raisingchildren.net.au

How things go at home in the morning can set the tone for the day ahead. Children who arrive at school feeling calm, relaxed, fed and ready can make the most of the first few hours of the day. Children don’t understand time in the same way as grown-ups. This can make school mornings a stressful time of day for families. Time pressures and competing demands can turn mornings into a combat zone. Getting along in the morning at home will also help you. Research shows that fighting with children in the morning makes it harder for you to work well. It even increases the risk of you having an accident at work. Here are some ideas to take some of the pressure out of school mornings even if things don’t always go smoothly!

The night before

✓ Prepare lunches and set the breakfast table ready for the morning rush.
✓ Get your child to have a bath the night before. This means you won’t have to worry about this in the morning.
✓ You could also try to prepare clothes, sign school notes, and get schoolbags ready the night before.
✓ Try to find out the night before (or even earlier) if there is something special going on at school.
✓ You might know something is going to come up that could cause conflict (such as buying lunch or choosing which clothes to wear). Talk about it the night before when everybody has time and is less likely to be stressed.
✓ Make sure your child gets enough sleep to be fresh for the next school day. A consistent bedtime can help with this.

In the morning

✓ Getting up an extra 15–30 minutes earlier might help things run more smoothly. Also try to allow plenty of time to get from home to school. Rushing can really increase stress levels.
✓ Good moods can be infectious. Tackle the morning as positively and as optimistically as you can.
✓ Mornings are easier if your children can do things for themselves. Once your children are old enough, getting dressed on their own, making their own breakfast, and tidying up after themselves can all make things easier. If your children are young, remind them what they are meant to be doing and when. Simple ‘to do’ checklists, even with pictures, can help as a reminder.
✓ Some children get up more easily if they have an alarm clock.
✓ Try to cut down on distractions. Television is one of the culprits that can distract children from getting ready. Consider leaving it off, unless it’s a special treat for being ready on time.
✓ Focus on the positives. A rule of thumb here is six positives for every negative. Look for good behaviour and try to ensure that positive comments outweigh instructions and reprimands.
PANTHER TROPHY 2015

Last Tuesday 19 May, our Junior and Senior Rugby League Teams competed in the Panther Trophy Gala Day. Our students played exceptionally well and demonstrated a high level of sportsmanship. They were very well behaved and were an asset to our school. Both teams were undefeated in their pool and were unfortunately defeated in their semi-finals.

I would like to thank Mr Reen for his offer to run the water for the senior team, as it was a little difficult for me to do this at this point in time. His assistance was greatly appreciated by the Senior Rugby League Team and myself.

Well Done to all of our students!

Ms Alipate

SCHOOL CONTACT CARDS
REMINDER

Blue School Contact Cards have been sent home 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.

PBL AWARDS

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

K/1H Ethan, Jeanmari, Jye and Margaret (White)
3/4B Matthew and Mariama (Maroon), John (Bronze)
3/4L Joe, Avele, Pranav and Jiya (Bronze)
3/4N Amna (Bronze), Jiya (Silver)
5/6A Jarred (White), Lakesia (Maroon), Leevan (Silver)
5/6C Blake (Green), Charles (Maroon), Anna (Bronze), Jose (Gold)
5/6S Fantashia (Bronze)
5/6T William (Green), Roy (Bronze)
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

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A fabulous day out for the dog enthusiast and the entire family!

‘Dogs on Show’

DOGS NSW OPEN DAY
With Farmer Dave as Host
Showcasing a Championship Dog Show
Breed Information Stands, Agility, Obedience, Herding, Retrieving & Junior Handler demonstrations, Dances with Dogs, Jack Russell Terrier Racing, K9 Nose Work®, a colourful Pageant of Breeds, plus more.

Saturday 13 June 2015
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