



Fisher Road School

'Together we can'



June 2013

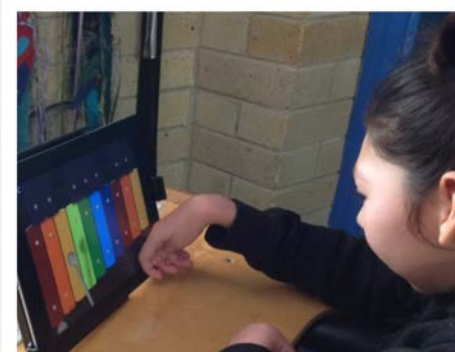
FISHER ROAD SCHOOL HIGHLIGHT

Principal's News

A cold and wet end to term 2 and semester 1. The wet weather has brought out the issue of leaking roofs for the school. A submission has been put to DEC for a new roof which we sincerely hope will be granted sooner rather than later.

We have been honoured by being invited to speak at two conferences this term. Arianne McCombie, Matt Tonkin and I have spoken at a National conference and a conference for Sydney University about our work with iPad technology. Fisher Road is very much ahead of the game with our work. I have previously alerted families to our website <http://fisherroadipadtechnology.com> which has lots of valuable information for families about using iPads and suitable apps for your child. Please take a minute to look at the site. It includes some great information about using the iPad as a communication tool.

Sadly our Music Therapist Joanne McIntyre will be leaving us for a few terms. However, Joanne has introduced us to a fantastic Music Therapist Kate Tabain who will take over in Joanne's absence.



iPad Technology in Music

We have been incorporating iPad technology into Music Therapy. Students enjoy this new form of expressing feelings through sounds and musical notes.

My thanks to everyone for making time to come to our student review meetings. These are important meetings and a great opportunity to hear about your child's work as well as discuss changes for their program. We do endeavor to work within available times for both families and staff and appreciate families making a special time in what we realise are very busy days.

We are excited about the possibility of having our first Pets as Therapy dog starting at the school soon. Ruth Rogers will be taking responsibility for the dog and we hope that we pass the test as a suitable site. More on that next term.

Over the holidays some work will be done around the school upgrading our meeting room and the painting of a demountable. We wish everyone a safe and peaceful holiday break. Term 3 starts on TUESDAY JULY 16TH. The Monday is a School Development Day and the staff will receive training on PECS, making consistent judgment on student performance, Social Skills programs and writing task analysis. A full agenda for the day.

Susan Barisic

Dates to remember.

First day of school term 3 – Tuesday July 16th

Education week –start July 29th

Athletics Carnival- Monday July 29th families invited to attend and cheer on their child.



From the Office

Thank you to all the families and staff who helped raise \$572 from the sale of the Entertainment Books.

All uniform orders have now been completed and sent home. If you are missing any items please phone the office (9981 5222) immediately. All future orders returned due to incorrect ordering will incur a 25% restocking fee.

Helen & Robb

Class JP

Jen & Di

Class JP love our sports lessons on a Tuesday morning. We have been building our skills in a variety of activities including hurdles, throwing, bike riding, tee-ball and kicking balls into a net. All the students take turns to have one on one attention and they practice their waiting skills in-between. Each week we can see improvements in confidence and skill. Well done class JP on such a great effort!



Class RT

Arianne, Robyn, Tanya, Donna, Sue R & Carmel

Class RT love doing jobs around the school. We help look after the environment by recycling vegetable and fruit scraps. James, Lachie and Dylan take turns pushing the trolley and visit each class to collect food scraps. Dylan knocks on the door and requests the banana peels, apple cores etc. that have been saved from each student's lunch and morning tea. We give some of the food scraps to the chooks, some to the worms and put the rest in the compost bins.



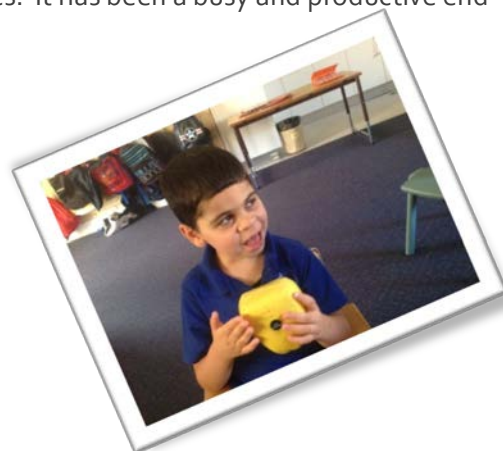


Class AM

Arianne, Robyn, Tanya, Donna, Sue R & Carmel

Class AM have been continuing their sensory based activities each week. Due to some sunny weather, we have been able to meet up with other junior and senior classes to enjoy the paper bark playground. It is great to use the outdoor facilities for a learning environment so our high support students can get some sunshine and fresh air. The class has been able to use the liberty swing too this week, as we have had a wonderful volunteer helper from Riverview College.

Swimming has been continuing twice a week which our high support students love along with music and art therapies. It has been a busy and productive end of term.



Class JM

Julie, Wendy & Rosemary

We have been continuing with our colour sensory sessions this term. The children enjoy using their senses to explore various items of the selected colour. Everyone particularly liked looking, touching and listening to yellow items. Arun found the laughing yellow bean bag quite interesting and didn't want to give it to the next person when his turn finished! Everyone enjoyed feeling the soft feathers of the boa

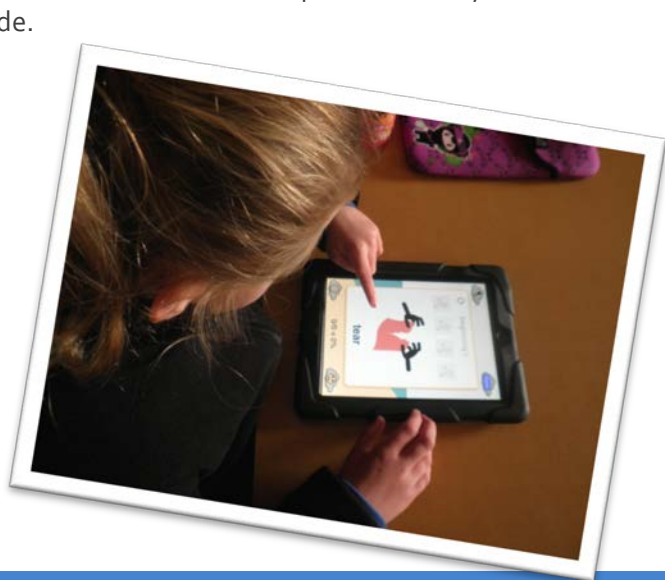
Some of the students have also done really well with their fine motor skills and writing. You can see Gwyneth practicing her writing in the photo.



Class NS

Nick & Rosemary

Technology has led to profound changes in the way in which we do things in all aspects of life, and education is no exception to this trend. The use of iPads at Fisher Road SSP has fundamentally changed many aspects of teaching and learning in very positive ways over the last few years. One of the areas in which I have noticed a big change is in the area of speech therapy. There are now a number of very good speech therapy apps that I use with some of my students on a daily basis. These apps are very motivating, can be adjusted to suit the particular needs of each student and are very easy to understand and use. In the photos below you can see Ella working very hard during speech therapy with Rosemary, my aide.



Class MP

Maria & Monika

It's been great to have someone new in our classroom. This week we're lucky to have Robert Turner, a year 10 student from Balgowlah Boys, help us with our daily classroom activities. Our cooking, swimming, music, sensory therapy, etc. have been keeping us busy this term. Nathaniel, Kane, Ella, Connor, Kiang Kiang and Ana all look forward to these programs.



Class TH

Trish, Sue & Mandy

Unfortunately Max will be leaving us. At the end of this term, as he will be moving to Orange. Although Class TH are sad to see Max go, we all wish him well. We know Max will have no trouble making friends but all his Fisher Road friends will really miss him and his great sense of humour.

MAXI, take care buddy, and keep in touch!

Class CW

Caroline & Jenny

This month we have been working hard to maintain the vegetable garden and grow new plants that will hopefully make our garden beds look lush and green for the warmer months of Spring. We have planted some broccoli, spinach, lettuce and Bok Choy seedlings that we water regularly.

We pull out the weeds and make sure there are no bugs eating the leaves. Also, we bought a selection of seeds such as corn, spinach, tomatoes and peas to grow. We planted the seeds in a small pot and watch them sprout and grow each day. When the seedlings are big enough we will plant them in the garden.



FISHER ROAD STARS

Senior High School students

Emily - Work experience at Brookvale Vinnies.

Zoe - Lawn Bowls.

JP

Ben - For improved swimming confidence.

RT

Dylan - Excellent work in recycling.

MP

Kane - Using words within a context.

JM

Arun - Participation in music therapy.

Andrew - Great work on the computer.

CW

Adam - Interactive Whiteboard Skills.

AM

Angelina - Good foot drumming in music.

NS

Zach - Good addition work

Thomas - Good shopping at Coles
Dee Why

TH

Max - Being a good friend.



the **nA+ional**
plan for **school**
improvement

Take a chance to visit this site and find out about National plans for schools and school funding.

<http://www.betterschools.gov.au/>

Class MT & RR Senior High School

Matt, Ruth, Sue M & John

The students are really getting into the swing of accessing public libraries on Tuesdays- we have visited Forestville, Mona Vale, Warringah Mall, Dee Why and Belrose libraries and the students are really enjoying it. Chloe enjoys teenage girl magazines, Jesse prefers car magazines over surfing ones, and Zoe is a speed reader with the gossip magazines.



Fundraising for Fisher Road.

Our thanks go to Vanita Connery who has linked us to a fantastic website people can access to make up their own photo books. A percentage of the purchase price goes to our school. So, if you or a friend are thinking of having your photos made into a glamorous book, this is the site to go to!

http://www.pix2print.com.au/fundraising/fisher_road_school/fisher_road.htm



Want to save up to **40%** on a customized photo book or calendar? Purchase online today!

You'll be helping raise funds for Fisher Road School which caters for students with intellectual disabilities.

PROGRAMS NOT SCHEDULED AT TIME OF PRINTING**GRIEF AND LOSS****SEASONS FOR GROWTH
Adult Program - 4 weeks**

Everyone experiences loss and change in their lives; through death, separation, divorce, loss of home, job, dreams or lifestyle. **Seasons for Growth** provides a sound framework and a safe learning environment for adults to think about and understand their own loss experiences. Men and women are supported through presentations and a reflective group process which provides skills to assist with the journey through the seasons of grief.

**NEW PARENTS****BRINGING BABY HOME**

Bringing Baby Home is a program is a research-based program that focuses on strengthening both the couple's relationship and the parent-infant relationship during this important time of transition to parenthood. This is for any couples having their first child or who have a child under 12 months of age. Both parents must be available to attend the course on both days.

CHILDREN'S GROUPS**VOLUME! 2013 - for SIBLINGS & YOUNG CARERS**

3-day school holiday peer support program for children who have a sibling or parent with a disability or chronic health issues. Provides young carers with the opportunity to meet others like themselves and deal with emotions and feelings relating to their caring role. At point of printing funding was unclear. Please contact the Family Support Team for more details about this program.

**Brookvale Family Centre**

Unit 9B, 44 Wattle Road
Brookvale, NSW, 2100

PO Box 444, Brookvale Business Centre
Brookvale NSW, 2100

Phone: 02 8968 5100

Fax: 02 9939 4277

E-mail: brookvalefamilycentre@dbb.org.au

Naremburn Family Centre

Phone: 02 8425 8700

Fax: 02 94384700

E-mail: naremburnfamilycentre@dbb.org.au

Waitara Family Centre

Phone: 02 9488 2400

Fax: 02 9488 2400

E-mail: waitarafamilycentre@dbb.org.au

CatholicCare Head Office

Caroline Chisholm Centre, Building 2, Level 7,
423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills, NSW 2120.
PO Box 966, Pennant Hills, NSW 1715.

Phone: 02 9481 2600

Fax: 02 9481 2601

E-mail: catholiccare@dbb.org.au

ABN: 71 616 242 198

www.dbb.org.au

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible



Unless otherwise specified, for bookings
please contact Brookvale Family Centre on
02 8968 5100 or e-mail
brookvalefamilycentre@dbb.org.au

**July – December 2013
Groups & Seminars****Brookvale
Family Centre**

CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

**GOT A KID
WITH A DISABILITY?**

*Looking for everything
you need in one place?
We think we just found it!
mummy blog + parenting
site + kid with disability*



www.joyfuldysfunction.com