



'Together we can'

Fisher Road School Newsletter

2015 . Term 1 . Week 5

STUDENT Events

WEEK 5

Fri 27th Feb
Clean Up Aust.
Day

WEEK 8

Mon 9th Mar
Wheel-a-thon

WEEK 9

Mon 23rd Mar
Harmony Day

WEEK 9

Thurs 26th
March
Purple Day for
Epilepsy

PARENT/ CARER Events

WEEK 7

Wed 11th Mar
Parent Info.
Night

WEEK 10

Thur 2nd Apr
Junior Easter
Hat Parade
and
Senior-Grand
Opening of Sen-
ior Café

Our much loved teacher, colleague and friend, Lisa.

I am sure you were saddened to hear about the sudden death of our much loved and valued teacher, Lisa who was an inspirational, admired and significant part of our Fisher Road School community.

On Wednesday 25th February 2015, staff attended her funeral where I was fortunate to speak about Lisa and the impact and difference she made to our school. I have attached the beautiful reflection on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter which highlight the tremendous impact that Lisa had on our school community.

Thank you to those families that were able to support our staff to attend Lisa's funeral, being able to farewell Lisa and support her family during this difficult time has been an important part of our healing process. Families who have sent wishes, kind words, cards to our staff and even catered at lunchtimes has been an incredible gesture of love and support.

I would also like to thank The Beach School who have been a pillar of support during the last fortnight in various ways and also Brookvale Public School and Sir Eric Woodward School who supported our school with staff on this day. We are incredibly grateful in the support we get from our community schools.

Lisa's family requested that donations be made to the Fisher Road School Gift Fund instead of flowers, which shows the generosity and loving nature of Lisa reflected in her parents wishes. Our school are looking into ways of remembering Lisa and the difference she made to our school and we look forward to sharing this with you later in the term.



Lisa Wakabayashi
27/1/1992 ~ 14/02/2015
beloved daughter of Nanaako and Masaaki

2015, here we come !

Welcome back for 2015.

We are excited to get our school year underway as we prepare for all the innovative learning programs that our students will be engaged in here at Fisher Road School.

The year started with a Professional Learning day for all staff. This allowed us to familiarise ourselves with new systems and structures for the school year. Staff then engaged in brainstorming activities looking at Music Therapy and how they would like to see this modified to be an even better program supporting the well-being of our students.

All staff completed a MAYBO refresher course under our two Fisher Road instructors Arianne and Trish. MAYBO builds on the skills and experience school staff have to give them simple strategies and greater confidence to reduce and manage problem behaviours and in doing so, helps educators to meet their duty of care and regulatory requirements whilst promoting positive values and relationships.

Students have quickly settled into their new classrooms and the routines and structures that come with moving into a new school year.

This year we have planned some fantastic activities and school events that you will be able to attend and participate in. We have locked in events for Term 1 which are on the front page. Please write these important dates into your diary so that you can attend and support your child as they engage in easter hat parades, hospitality

events, and special assemblies and wearing colours in support of important days.



I would like to introduce you to Prue Clubb who will be the Speech Pathologist employed at Fisher Road School for 5 hours each week in 2014.

Prue's knowledge, guidance and expertise will be used to support our school to create a Total Communication System. Prue will also be supporting staff to create relevant and individual communication goals for students, leading to creating, modifying or trialling new communication strategies and supports in order to move students towards their communication goal.

Another staff member to join us is Akino. Akino has joined us as our Music Therapist and I am keen to highlight why this wonderful session is something Fisher Road School are proud to offer our students. Keep your eye out for this feature in our next newsletter. Thank you to all the families that have returned 2015 paperwork, this ensures that necessary administration and health care information is readily available and current.

I look forward to seeing every family at the Parent Information Night in Week 7.

Donna Blatchford

Principal

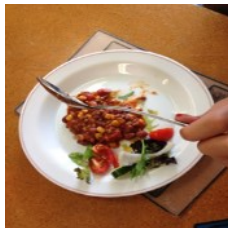
Together, we can.



Class NS

This term in cooking one of the tasty and exciting dishes that we are making is a vegetarian chilli con carne (of course without the meat). This dish is made up of crushed tomatoes, lentils, kidney beans, corn kernels and spices and chilli. It is low in fat and sugar, gluten free, cheap and easy to make, and full of fibre and other healthy nutrients. The majority of the students seemed to really love it as well, which is good considering the sensory issues that some students have regarding certain food tastes and textures. Hopefully we can add more dishes like this to the menu over the semester and expose the students to a greater variety of food textures and tastes.

Nick, Jenny and Donna



Delicious!

Class MP

Our class actively started the term with a new activity – bike riding. Along with using the tread mill, our students have their fair share of exercises during the week. The bike is purpose built to assist the student to focus on pedalling. All students participated in the bike ride but Laragh had taken to it very well.

Maria, Monika and Amy



Farewell to our beautiful teacher, colleague and friend

Lisa Wakabayashi

It is an incredible privilege to be able to speak here today as a representative for the Fisher Road School staff, students, families and school community. In education, particularly special education there is a feeling you get when you first meet a teacher who has an interest in working with students with additional learning needs. You can tell almost immediately if they are the right kind of person, you see although many people have a passion for working in special education, not everyone holds those unique teacher qualities. Lisa did.



After completing her university practicum at Fisher Road School, staff encouraged Lisa to apply for her Department of Education and Communities teaching number so that she could be employed on a casual basis, which led to her securing a temporary teaching engagement.

During her time as a skilled professional, Lisa provided unique instruction to our students to help them achieve their highest potential and strive to progress beyond their limitations. As a special education teacher, she was patient, understanding and dedicated in giving each individual student the tools and guidance needed to help them maximize their learning and achieve their goals. Her ability in working collegially and building relationships with all staff led to her being a highly valued member of our team.

You see with Lisa, we knew immediately that through our school door had walked a highly competent, compassionate, energetic and genuine teacher and we saw the beauty unfold when a career and a passion come together.

Someone we knew would make a difference; she could see the students, the child, the person and she believed in giving them the opportunity to be the best that they could. What Lisa may not have realised was the impact that she would also have on her colleagues. See Lisa, was very humble and her mesmerizing qualities of happiness and enthusiasm filtered through the school in such a way that she was loved by all staff. We saw Lisa as a friend, a sister and she forged loving friendships with those around her who looked out for as part of our newest addition. Sitting beside Lisa in the staffroom always meant a friendly conversation with genuine interest, she was radiantly beautiful, thoughtful, intelligent with a happiness and eagerness to pursue and excel in every opportunity.

In speaking today it was important to ensure that the words represented our Fisher Road School staff, students, families and school community, and, in doing so I gathered some memories directly from the people whose lives were touched, changed and brightened through knowing and loving Lisa.

Lisa will live on in the people she touched with her smile and love for life

Lisa, your brilliant smile radiated your truly beautiful soul.

Lisa, you were a ray of sunshine.

Lisa, a gentle soul who bubbled with the goodness of life

Lisa, an angel amongst us, with an amazing smile that lit up the room

Lisa had a great love of Art which filtered into the many classes that she taught across the school. She wonderfully modified lessons to cater for the individual learning needs of each student and was always prepared with high quality teaching resources. This year Lisa was appointed to job share on our Junior class and excitedly spent time discussing, planning and programming in order to ensure that her classroom was a buzz of excitement with each lesson.

Recently Lisa worked with one of our senior teachers to paint the base coat and colours on the tables that will be used in the new senior café that will open at our school. This teacher beautifully wrote that "It's really lovely to think that the brush strokes she painted on the tables will live on in the café and her warmth and generosity will be felt by all, I know my class were very sad to hear of her passing and miss her very much."

Today I have spoken of the many beautiful qualities that Lisa held. Her passion, patience and understanding in a special education community brightened each school day the stories she told, the memories she made, the sushi she shared, the hands she held, the lives she changed cannot be repeated but the feeling and memory she left will never be forgotten.

Today we farewell an educator who during her little time made a gigantic difference beyond words.

And we say thank you, thank you to the Wakabayashi family and to Lisa's partner Marco for loving and nurturing Lisa so deeply that she was able to share that love with those around her.

A famous saying in education is "Teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning" I think it's fair to say that Lisa taught us all to love learning.

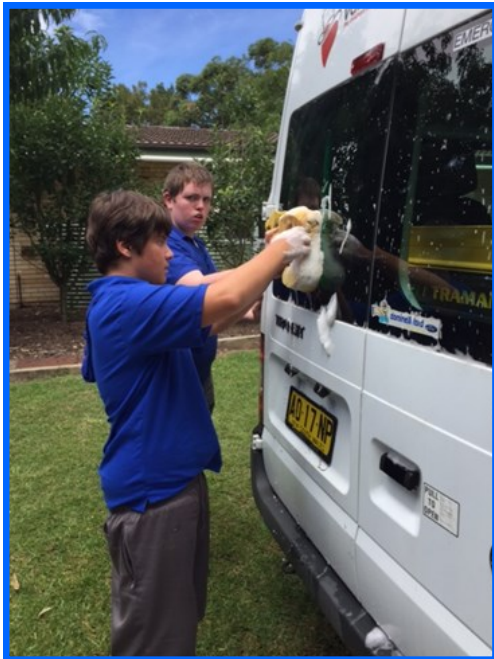
Donna Blatchford



Class AM

Class Am are happy to welcome Jacob to Fisher Road. Jacob has settled in well to the school and routines. Class AM have had a busy start to the school. Lots of exercise and setting up work programs around the school. Washing the school buses has been a highlight and a good way to keep cool!

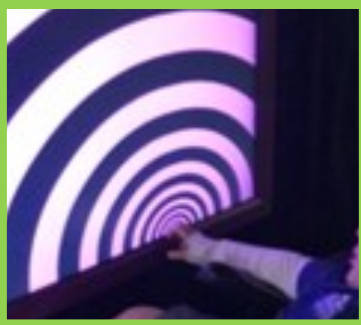
Arianne & John



Class VR

Our students have enjoyed getting to know new class members and staff and settling into their new classroom environment. Music therapy with our new therapist Akino was fun, the students responded well, playing instruments and listening to music as requested. Accessing the computer and iPads “cause and effect” programs has proved popular and we look forward to beginning our swimming program in week 3.

Virginia & Sue W.



Tiella-Dakota reaching out to activate the sensory ‘cause and effect’ program



Dallas feeling the vibration of the tambourine and creating sounds during her Music Therapy session with Class VR.

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.

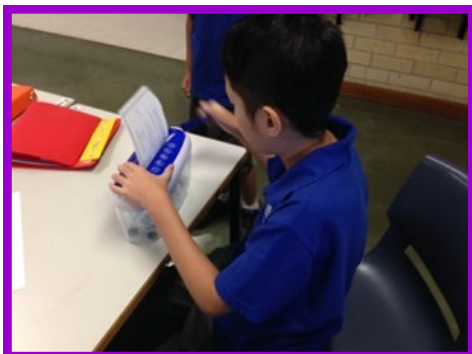
Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology>

Class JP

Class JP will be running the lunch order program this year which will involve delivering forms to each class, collecting the forms the next day and writing a shopping list. The students will then shop for all the ingredients at Woolworths and prepare each students order back at school. The program was a great success last year and I would like to thank everyone who got involved. Keep your eye out for the NEW order form and don't forget to have your orders in by Tuesday mornings.

Jen & Sue R



Smart foods to boost learning

Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory?

Veggie rice slice



Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups cooked brown rice
- 1 cup grated reduced fat cheddar cheese
- 1 large zucchini, grated
- 1 large carrot, grated
- 1/4 cup pitted black olives, chopped
- 125g tin sweet corn kernels
- 3/4 cup self-raising flour
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup reduced fat milk

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C
2. Grease a loaf pan and line with baking paper
3. Combine rice, carrot, zucchini, corn, olives, cheese and flour in a bowl
4. Whisk eggs and milk together in a jug. Add to rice mixture. Stir to combine
5. Spread into prepared pan. Bake for 35 minutes or until lightly browned and cooked through. Stand in pan for 20 minutes
6. Cut into slices. Serve.

Fisher Road Assembly Stars

Throughout Term 1 at Fisher Road School, the Positive Behaviour Engaging Learners (PBEL) team will be looking into updating the way we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students. We are incredibly proud of the progress that each individual student makes within their individual learning plans.

This newsletter we would like to recognise the achievements of the following students:

Charlii: Fantastic effort at swimming

Finnian: Taking great responsibility and doing jobs.

Thomas : Great maths work

Nathaniel: Great smart board work

Tiella-Dakota Great computer work

Arun: Awesome bike riding

Dylan H: Great mulching

Liam: Independently delivering tabbards

Chelsea: Helping others in class.

Class JM

We have had a very busy start to the year. Class JM has 3 boys and 4 girls. We spent the first week of school getting to know each other. Everyone has enjoyed some sensory work feeling coloured dry rice and letting it slide from their fingers. It also made an interesting noise as it fell into the container. The smartboard is also popular in our class especially slide show maker.

Julie
Carmel

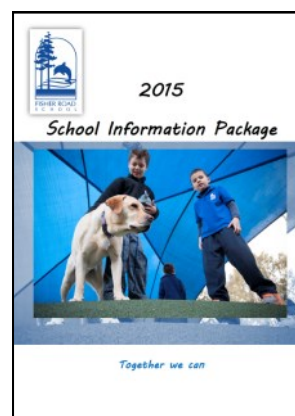
&



From the Office

Please return any permission slips or notes to the office as soon as possible.

The school will be processing a uniform order so please have any uniforms ordered using the online process by the end of Week 4 Friday 20th February. For ordering instructions please refer to the 2015 Student Information Package.



You will notice when visiting our school that there is a new visitor sign in system. Please complete the book and the office staff will provide a red visitor lanyard for you to wear during your time at school.



Class CW

Everyone has been very excited to set up the new Fisher Road Café. In the senior classes TAFE program, students in Class CW will be learning general hospitality skills such as making a milkshake and there will be opportunities to practice these types of skills in the Fisher Road Café. We have started to relocate furniture and students helped to wash the old tables from the work skills room with sugar soap. We then painted on a base coat and have started to paint the bright colours. We hope the café should be ready by week 6 or 7.

Caroline and Sue M.



What great teamwork! Preparing the tables before painting.



Lachlan and Terry (Fisher Road—General Assistant) working as a



Jesse hard at work, re-painting the tables for the new Café.

Class SB

Class SB are happy to introduce 2 new students to Fisher Road. Chris and Elycia are settling in beautifully to our school. We have had a busy start to the year getting to know our students and have discovered some of our favourite activities include music, dance, train set and painting. Please excuse the paint splattered hands and sometimes faces as our class love to make a mess! It's all great fun and we love playing and exploring.

Sally and Mandy



Artist Sekayi making a beautiful artwork.

Class TH

Class TH is a slightly smaller class this year, comprising of six boys. All students have returned to school full of energy and ready to tackle another year.

This year, Class TH will be in charge of the 'Thermomix Program'. This will involve shopping for ingredients, taking orders, preparing and making a meal, as well as delivering these meals around the school. This is an excellent integrated program for our students, in which many key learning areas (example, Mathematics, English, Science & Technology,) and skills are utilised. We are hoping to have the program up and running by Week 4. A newsletter will follow shortly with further details.

Trish & Wendy



Class TH boys hard at work!

Professional Learning

Term 4—2014. As you now the last two days of Term 4 were set aside for staff professional learning. These days were packed with various sessions aimed at increasing the knowledge, skills and understanding that contribute to the professional growth of staff and improved student outcomes in NSW public schools. Staff explored and engaged in the Mind Matters and PBEL programs, the Australian Curriculum and the School Plan 2015—2017 planning sessions before a final team building activity to end the school year. Thanks to Matt who planned an 'Amazing Fisher Road Race' activity that saw small groups compete with each other to get from Fisher Road School to Dee Why Pool. Congratulations to all staff on making this challenge.

Term 1—2015. Staff have already completed professional learning with a refresher on MAYBO and Module 1 of the Child Protection Training for DEC staff.



The winning team during the 'Amazing Race Fisher Road'



MAYBO Refresher Training



P&C News

The P&C are keen to build on the committee that represents and supports the wonderful programs of our school.

At the Parent Information Night, we will be circulating a short survey to gain insight into how families can be involved (in some capacity) to support our P&C.

The P&C is an opportunity to gather and gain current knowledge of the school priorities, raising ideas and suggestions and for families to have a direct impact on how we move forward as a school community in ensuring that Fisher Road School continues as a school of excellence.

It also offers a chance to get together and have a cuppa. Building networks and support throughout our school community is a way of sharing knowledge between each other.



Last year we were contacted by the company Symrise who were interested in supporting our school. Through a Christmas wish list, each employee at Symrise purchased and wrapped a present for each student at Fisher Road which was given at the Junior and Senior Christmas Party. Staff indicated an idea that they knew each student would like to receive with the gifts remaining with the students for play-ground or classroom use.

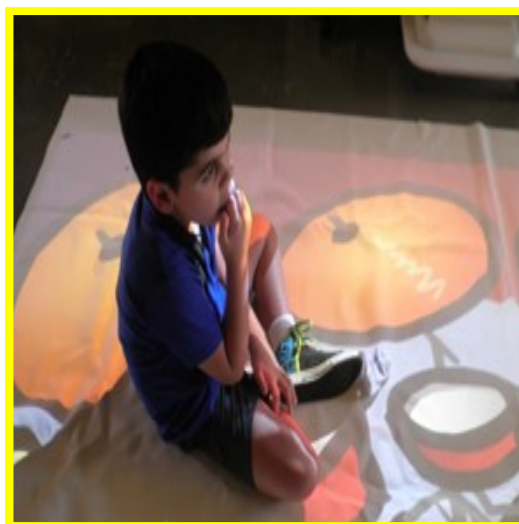


This amazing opportunity was only through the support from Symrise and on behalf of our students, staff and families we are extremely grateful for their support.



Class RR

We have had a very busy start to Term 1 with 6 very active students raring to get stuck in to activities. We have a class of 5 boys and 1 girl and we are planning a busy timetable to keep everybody engaged. We are delighted to not only have iPads and an Interactive Whiteboard in our classroom, but also the school's 'Magic Carpet' machine based with us. These photos capture a glimpse of the enjoyment it prompts!!
Ruth & Fran



Class RR enjoying their magic carpet ride!

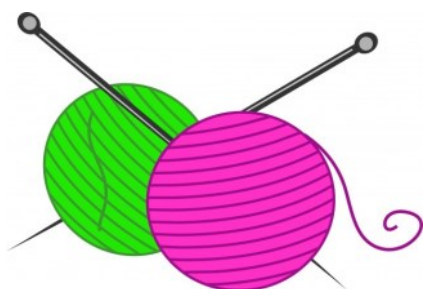
Parent/Carer and Community Support Page

Association for the Wellbeing of Children in Healthcare (AWCH)

This national organisation advocates for the needs of children, young people and families within the health care system in Australia. See www.awch.org.au/index.php, which has pages for Health professionals, Parents and Carers, Library, Rare Diseases, Ward Grandparents Scheme, Policies, Hospital Familiarisation Program and Reports.

The page for parents and carers contains links to a range of websites and documents that are useful as a resource and guide regarding children and young people's health. See www.awch.org.au/parents-carers.php which has links to topics like preparing your child for hospital stay, getting a blood test, helping children with pain, returning to school after serious burns, how to get kids to take pills. DVDs and visual resources can be borrowed from the library by contacting 9817 2439 or awch@awch.com.au.

Do you have any spare wool at home? Our senior classes are busy making pom poms and knitting squares to beautify our playground trees. Any wool donations would be greatly appreciated.



Calling Local Artists

Do you know a local artist, TAFE teacher or creative person who might volunteer their time and expertise to help?

Sculptures? Painters ?

We are looking into brightening up the front area of our school. First impressions are important and we want the front of our school to highlight and reflect the wonderful school that we are.

Please pass on our details to any interested people to contact Arianne on 9981 5222.

Footprint Books

**‘Opening knowledge for our
parents..... one page at a time’**

Another fantastic opportunity that arose in Term 4 was an offer by Footprint Books to donate \$1000 of resources to our school. We decided to use this opportunity to create a parent/teacher resource library which will be located in the school foyer. Parents/carers will be able to browse through and borrow top quality, latest resources encapsulating the very best in special education. Emma and Danielle from Footprint Books delivered these resources along with another large box of new resources generously donated on top of the \$1000. I look forward to sharing the official opening of this library with you later in Term 1.

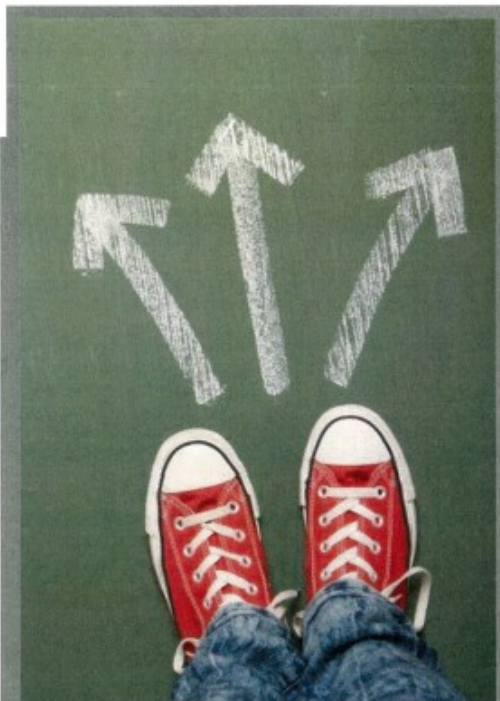


Donna and some of our parents receiving some of many wonderful books received from Footprint which will go into the Parent Library.



**footprint
books**

Discover the **pathway** that's right for **you** at the **post school options** **expo** for students with a **disability**



Join us at the **EXPO** to discover
all you need to know about;

Transition to Work
Community Participation
Supported Employment
Sport & Recreation
Open Employment
Apprenticeships
& Traineeships
and much more!

DATE: Wednesday 20th May 2015

TIME: 11am – 6pm

COST: FREE

LOCATION: THE CONCOURSE, Pavilion Room – 409 Victoria Ave Chatswood

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Students, Parents, Guardians, Advocates, Teachers and Support Staff. We encourage all students and families to attend even if the young person will not be leaving school for several years as the information distributed at this event will enable you to make informed choices for the future.

For more information contact;

Erica Jackel on 0408 529 641 or ericajackel@sunshinelgd.org

Proudly sponsored by:



Education & Communities



Part of TAFE



115 Fisher Road
Dee Why NSW 2099

Phone: 9981 5222

Fax: 9982 5439

E-mail: fiherrrd-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Together we can''

