

'Together we can'



Fisher Road School Newsletter

2015 . Term 2 . Week 2



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go straight to our
website

STUDENT Events

T2-W7

Mon. 1st June
Performance
to students
by Ukulele
group PUFF

PARENT/ CARER Events

Parent Event
Wednesday
20th May
9.30-11.30
Outpost Cafe
- Cnr Anzac
Ave and
Pittwater Rd
Collaroy
(See page 11)

P&C Meeting
Tues 26th May
11:30am
Fisher Road
School
Senior Café

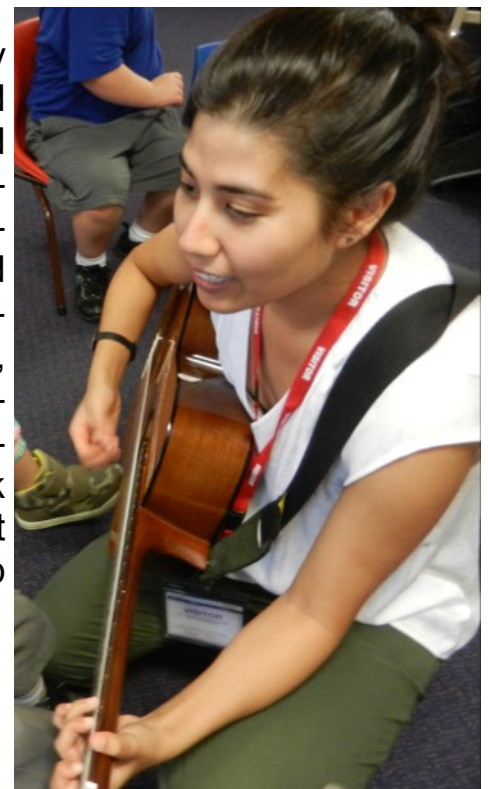
Marvelous Music Therapy with Akino

Everyone can respond to music regardless of age, gender, race or diagnosis. Music therapy is the use of music to support self-expression, communication, personal growth and healing. Music therapists are equipped with a specialised set of music skills to develop clinical goals and interventions for individuals or groups, using music in a creative way to focus on therapeutic outcomes. The results of this may not always be apparent during sessions, and at times may have an ongoing impact on the client after the session. While music therapy may maintain elements of music education, learning musical instruments is not the main objective.

At Fisher Road the music therapy program is largely focused around the well being of students and providing them with a creative outlet and alternate means of expression. This may include singing and movement activities or playing different instruments including guitar, drums, bells and various percussion instruments. Students are provided with the opportunity to work both individually with the therapist and also as a member of the group in a supportive environment.

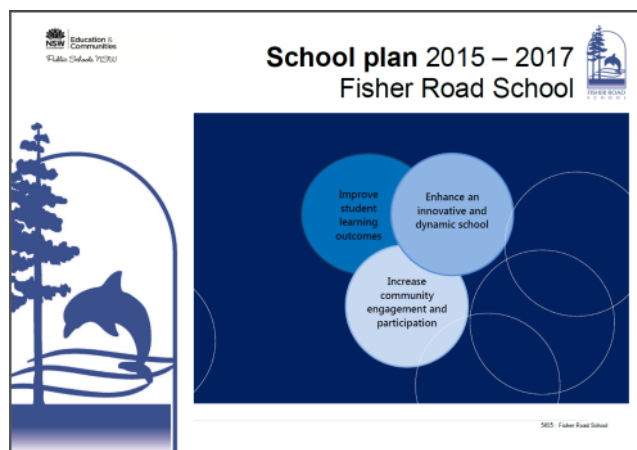
Akino Ogawa

Music Therapist



Believe you can and you're halfway there ~ Theodore Roosevelt

I am pleased to announce that the published version of the Fisher Road School Plan 2015-2017 has been uploaded to the school website. Completion of this plan has been in collaboration with our staff, students, families and wider school community and I am extremely proud of the shared vision for our school.



'At Fisher Road School we believe that *engaging students* in meaningful, inclusive and functional educational programs and that *working in partnership* with our school community, maximises *student learning* across all environments.

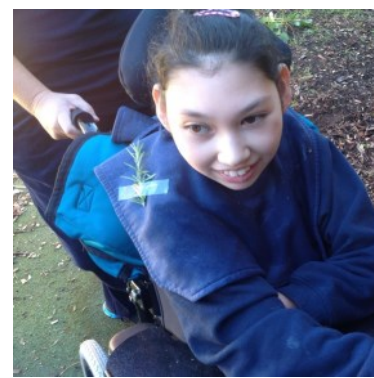
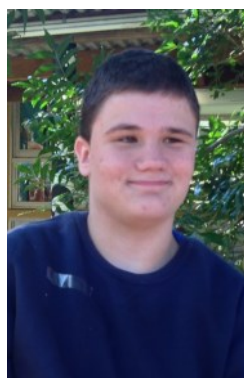
All students are *challenged* to reach their full potential.'

Fisher Road School 3 strategic directions:

- **Improve student learning outcomes**
- **Enhance an innovative and dynamic school**
- **Increase community engagement and participation**

You will find the full version of our school plan on the school website
www.fisherrd-s.schools.nsw.edu.au/

We proudly acknowledged, remembered and commemorated the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who landed at Gallipoli on the 25th of April 1915 and the bravery and sacrifice of the thousands of men and women who died during the eight-month occupation of Gallipoli. Our senior students participated in the 1 minute silence smelt and wore rosemary during the special Anzac assembly with Class TH cooking Anzac biscuits for our students to share following assembly.



Our students wearing rosemary

Please enjoy this newsletter highlighting Music Therapy along with some wonderful achievements of our students within their learning program so far this term.

Together we can.

Donna Blatchford

Principal

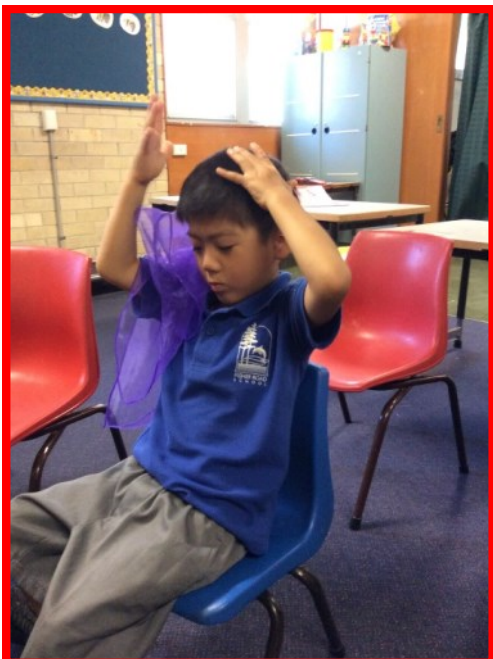


Class SB

Class SB have been enjoying music therapy this semester. One of our favourite activities is the coloured scarves. Elycia and Dylan like to wiggle them, Sekayi and Chris put them on their heads. Charlil and Kanga make them move to the beat and enjoy lots of movement activities with them.

Sally and Mandy

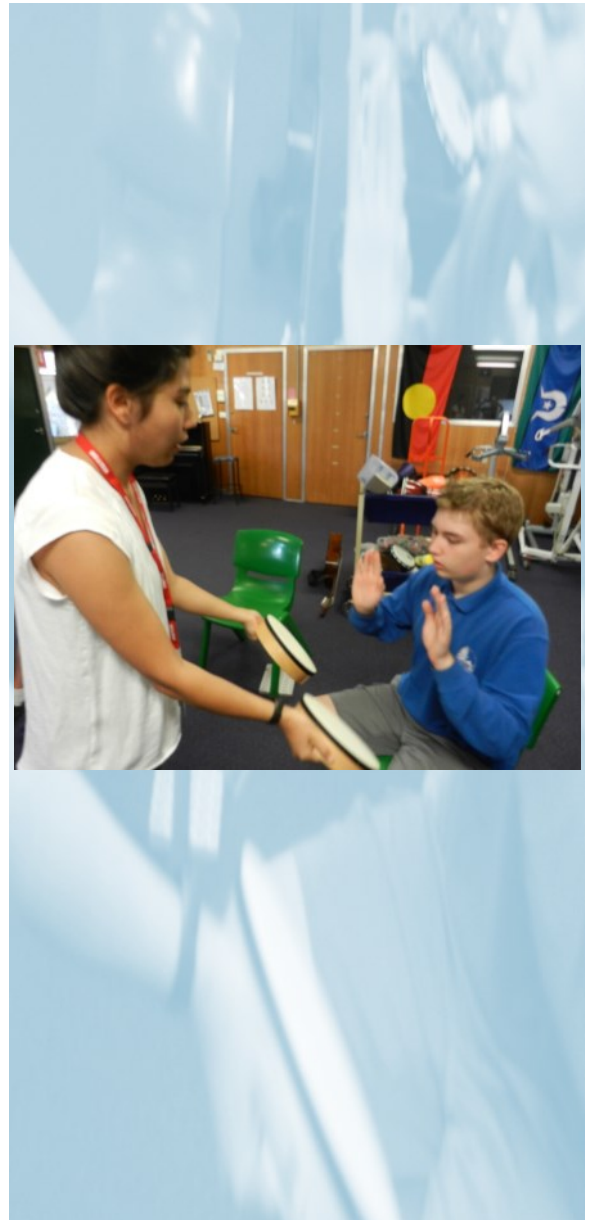
Coloured scarf fun!!



Class TH

Class TH are aspiring musicians. We have some students like Russell and Jarryd who love to sing, and others like Harrison and Zane, who enjoy the exposure of playing a range of musical instruments. Movement and dance is also a preferred area of music for Class TH. Jake and Thomas demonstrate fine rhythmic strengths here.

Trish & Wendy



Food Technology Programs

With all the wonderful programs we have that provide functional and meaningful opportunities for our students to enhance communication and develop independence across all areas, it can sometimes be confusing as to what's happening and when. Because these programs include our students collecting, processing, purchasing and preparing all food, a system of ordering is needed in advance. Hopefully this information will assist.

Tuesday—Café Program

- Orders sent home Thursday
- Families return money Friday
- Students receive order Tuesday

Tuesday—Thermomix Program

- Only the families that took up this offer at the beginning of the term are included in this program. On this day your child will receive a Thermomix meal for lunch.

Wednesday—Lunch Orders

- Orders sent home Monday
- Families return money Tuesday
- Students receive order Wednesday

Friday—Canteen

- Students purchase directly from the canteen on Friday. If you would like your child to purchase items please ensure there is a \$2 coin in their wallet each Friday.

Class JO

Jen got married in the holidays so class JP will now be called Class JO. Her new married surname is Olk. Her email address will stay the same for the moment – when it has changed you will be notified. The wedding was absolutely perfect and Joe and Jen had a wonderful time celebrating with family and friends. Music has been a great motivator for listening in class JO. The students are learning to play different instruments and listen for their cue to play. I am very pleased to say that all students have been listening well during music therapy. Ella and Naomi have loved movement with scarves to music where they get to choose an action to demonstrate to the class with a scarf. Phoenix, Finnian, Henry and Andy have enjoyed beating on the drum and listening to the requested number of beats they are allowed to do for their turn.

Jen & Sue



Class NS

The class is continuing to make good progress making jaffles using a jaffle maker, wholemeal bread, baked beans and cheese. However, the students do find using the jaffle maker quite challenging at times when it is hot, especially when opening and closing it, although they have all made progress in this area. The students are also learning to sit and wait patiently for their turn while others are making a jaffle, which is an important skill, as many activities out in the community require sitting and waiting patiently. In the photos you can see Dylan eating the jaffle that he has made and the bench set up for the next student to have his turn.

Nick, Donna & Jenny



Class AM

Class AM were relieved to see the sun come out after all the rain. The whole class have been



busy tidying up the school and keeping it safe for students, staff



and parents. Neri has been using a rake to gather all the leaves. Michael, Tyson, and Jake have all been

a fabulous help collecting all the sticks lying around the grounds. Liam found a whole heap of worms in the garden when we were cleaning up. He enjoyed showing it to the other boys in the class.

Matt & John



Class VR

Our students enjoy the Music Therapy session with Akino on Wednesday mornings; even those of us who are feeling a little sleepy wake up when Akino starts to sing. Students are keen to play the musical instruments often independently strumming or drumming and appear very satisfied with their efforts. Marcus, Kai and Alessandra like playing guitar, Tiella-Dakota especially enjoys the ukulele and Dallas and Angelina sometimes play the drum using their feet.

Virginia and Sue



Class RR

iPads have been a terrific asset to the bank of materials we use at Fisher Road School. All classrooms have computers and Interactive Whiteboards, and the iPads add greatly to the technology opportunities available. Our Class has 3 iPads and they can be easily personalised to specific needs, and locked to specific apps for wandering fingers! Arun is shown here giving great eye-contact to an app called 'Big Bang', with which he regularly engages. He shows delight at some of the graphics and sound effects and enjoys controlling this 'cause-and-effect' app to his own pace. Go Arun!

Ruth and Fran



Class CW

We have started a 19 week Introduction to TAFE course at Northern Beaches TAFE, Brookvale campus. Our Teachers name is Kristen. In our first week we learnt about health and hygiene and made jelly. Jesse opened the jelly packet, Emma and Chelsea cut open the packet and poured the hot water into the mixing bowl, Adam used the wooden spoon to stir the jelly in a figure 8, Chloe poured the cold water, Lachlan and Hannah poured the jelly mixture into the jelly moulds. What a great day. After lunch, Lachlan and Chloe played Foosball in the cafeteria. Caroline & Sue



Class JM

Music therapy is definitely a much loved activity in class JM. Everyone loves having Akino sing a welcome song to them. As she sings, the students are encouraged to strum the guitar. Ella, Maia and Connor need some assistance to strum the strings and they smile and use eye contact whilst being sung to. Emily has only just begun to strum on the guitar strings. She also likes to vocalise quite a bit with Akino which is fabulous. Nathaniel gets very excited when it is his turn to play the drum and he does this with gusto!

It is great to see all the children interact with the music therapist and the instruments. It is a fun filled session where all students are encouraged to participate to the best of their abilities.

Julie & Carmel



Class MP... The big adventure!

Laragh, James, Kyle, Eddie and Jasper would like to share their day trip experience to the city on the last day of Term 1. We took the Manly ferry to Circular Quay with happy and enthusiastic faces looking around and wondering where we're heading. James was so curious about the engine sound while Eddie enjoyed having his face splashed with water. Laragh loved the feel of the wind blowing on her face while Kyle and Jasper were smiling with the movement of the ferry. We walked around the Quay and watched entertainers sing and dance.



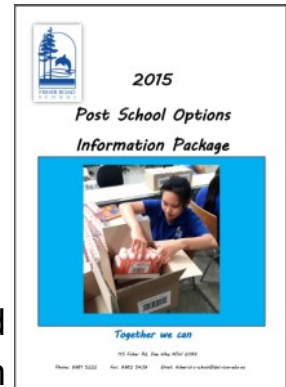
The trip back to Manly was a lot calmer as we were on the bigger ferry. We had fish and chips for lunch at the wharf, watched James share his chips to the seagulls while Jasper, Kyle and Laragh were keeping their food close to themselves. Eddie was so worn out he didn't get to eat his desert.



Hats off to our students because they were well-behaved. They were able to generalise their social skills to an environment they haven't been before. It was such a beautiful experience we hope to do another adventure again.

Maria, Monika, Amy

Post School Options Parent Information Night



Thank you to our Year 10, 11 and 12 parents that attended the post school options parent information night. Lin Stachan the Support Teacher Transition was available to talk us through the process involved as students transition from Fisher Road School into post school options. It was a chance to hear about the assessment, researching of service providers and planning that goes into the year for our Year 12 students. It also put a few minds at ease with various options discussed and advice on asking questions when looking for post school service providers. On the night, parents also received the 2015 Post School Options Information Package developed by Fisher Road School with various information on how we support this important transition phase for our students. Big thank you to Caroline White (Fisher Road Classroom Teacher) who has worked on collating and finalising this document for our families. On the night there were a few websites and supports mentioned which I have included below for you.

Donna Blatchford



On the night, Lin mentioned that children with disabilities are entitled to Taxi Vouchers when they turn 16. Find out more information about this entitlement at Transport NSW-RMA <http://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/ttss>

National <http://www.ndis.gov.au/>
disabilityinsurance
Scheme

Professional Learning

Term 2 started with our school **Staff Development Day**.

Teachers spent the day reviewing the NSW Syllabuses including English, Mathematics and Science across K-10. The syllabuses developed by the Board of Studies NSW for each stage of learning are inclusive of the full range of learners. This means that students at Fisher Road School meet curriculum requirements by participating fully in learning experiences based on the regular syllabus outcomes and content. Teachers then spent time refreshing their knowledge and application of PECS through to Phase 3. Thank you to Virginia and Sally (Fisher Road teachers) for leading this professional learning opportunity. The afternoon was then allocated to DEC mandatory training covering the new Performance and Development Plans that teachers will be utilis-



ing this year as they plan, implement and review their professional development and learning. The overarching purpose of the performance and development process is to support the ongoing improvement of students outcomes through continuous development of a skilled, effective and professional teaching workforce.

SLSO staff attended the annual SLSO conference at Hornsby which included a full day of professional learning incorporating accessing the DEC portal, employee services with specialist speakers in the areas of Autism Spectrum Disorder (Dr Anthony Warren—Aspect) and Child Anxiety Programs (Dr Sally Fizpatrick—Macquarie University).

This term, professional learning for all staff is being conducted each Monday afternoon 3.15—4.00pm. Our school is committed to well-resourced and timely professional learning that meets the needs of teachers to enabling a skilled, effective and professional teaching workforce. Topics staff will build knowledge, skill and understanding in this term include Total Communication, Supporting students with a hearing impairment, Reporting to parents, Mind Matters and PBEL.

Parent/Carer Support Page

Parent Event



Parents' of children in the Junior and Senior school at Fisher Rd School. The consensus from those who replied to my email was a walk and morning tea for parents. So, I thought I'd set a date! The details are as follows –

Date – Wednesday 20th May 9.30-11.30

Meet – Outpost Cafe – Cnr Anzac Ave and Pittwater Rd Collaroy

Walk – To Long Reef Point and back again.

Morning Tea Venue – Outpost Cafe Anzac Ave Collaroy (from 10.30)

RSVP – Charmaine Collins - collins.home@bigpond.com

or Mob – 0422 997978

(wet weather option– just morning tea at Outpost Cafe from 9.30)

If you are unable to make the walk, please consider meeting us for a coffee. I expect the walk to take about 1 hour. I look forward to meeting you on the walk.

Regards,

Charmaine Collins (Parent Co-ordinator)



P&C News

Thank you to the parents/carers that attended our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 28th May.

The following office bearers were voted in and elected in the following positions:

President : Michele Anderson

Vice President : Gordana Kovacevic and Claire Cavanaugh

Secretary : Polly Job

Treasurer : Sarah Barwell

The table was buzzing with a variety of wonderful ways we can work together to support our students and already we have parents actively seeking funding grants and information.

.....**Watch this space !**

The next P&C meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 26th May 11:30-12:30. We would love to see you there.

SOCIAL BASKETBALL PROGRAM

St Luke's Grammar School, in partnership with NBI is running a 'Social Basketball Program' for local youth with disabilities, offering basic skill development in a tailored, fun and social atmosphere.



WHAT?

A semester long program, hosted at St Luke's in partnership with NBI, in which senior St Luke's students pair up with and coach participants of a range of ability levels.

WHY?

After the successful launch of the program last year, St Luke's would like to keep offering a fun & inclusive sporting activity to youth with disabilities.

WHO?

A mixed team of St Luke's students, and a group of participants aged 10-18. **Note:** participants must be accompanied by a parent/carer

WHEN & WHERE?

In the Hall at St Luke's, Dee Why (parking on Tango Ave - disability access). Monday avos, 4.30-5.30pm throughout terms 2 & 3, commencing Mon April 27th.

IS IT FOR YOU?

The program is open to participants aged 10 to 18 and can be tailored to suit individual abilities. No previous skills required & no cost involved!

QUESTIONS?

Please register your interest (or questions) with NBI

admin@nbi.org.au

Or call us on 9970 0500.



Program hosted by St Luke's Grammar School, in partnership with NBI



Warringah Council presents

RAISING RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CITIZENS

With Leonie Smith the Cyber Safety Lady



Leonie Smith is one of Australia's leading cyber safety educators and a mother of four.

Learn how to keep your kids safe online.

- Screen time balance
- Safe social media
- Cyber bullying
- Smart phone safety
- Avoiding adult content

Tue 26 May

7 - 9pm

Covenant Christian School, 212 Forest Way, Belrose

FREE but bookings essential on youthbookings@warringah.nsw.gov.au

For more information call 9942 2681.



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