

Fisher Road School Neusletter

A Message From Our Principal

We have had a great start to 2025. Students were excited to be back at school and have all settled into their new classes. A warm welcome to our 6 new students: Luca, Nash, Austin, Baxter, Daniel, Prishan and their families. We hope you can come to the Harmony day/evening on the 21st March to get to know some of our Fisher Road families.

External Validation has rolled around again for Fisher Road School. External validation is an integral and deliberate element of school planning and supports effective self-assessment to inform high impact strategic directions. External validation is not an inspection. It provides an opportunity for schools to discuss their judgements about the school's practice, and the evidence that underpins them, with a panel of peers.

The external validation process supports excellence in NSW public schools. School improvement is grounded in rigorous self-assessment and analysis of the school's current situation with respect to student outcomes and teaching and leadership practices. Schools regularly collect, analyse, and evaluate a range of quantitative and qualitative data and evidence as part of ongoing self-assessment practices.

Once during the 4-year School Excellence cycle, each school must undertake an external validation of evidence of their school selfassessment.

Schools engage in discussions with an external panel and have their self-assessments validated using the School Excellence Framework. Aligning school planning and external validation cycles allows schools to use the knowledge and feedback gained from the external validation process to inform their situational analysis and to develop or further refine strategies to target identified areas for improvement through their Strategic Improvement Plan.

Schools must develop a new Strategic Improvement Plan following external validation.

On the 13th & 14th March the executive will be involved in a conference with two other SSP's to discuss external validation and the process of a thorough dive into examining evidence to support our submission.

Arianne McCombie

SAVE THE DATE ! Upcoming Dates to Remember

Harmony Day Friday 21 March 5-7pm

Last Day of School

Friday 11 April

School Resumes Wed 30 April

For updates on these important dates, please be sure to check the school diary or Dojo regularly for reminders.

Sun Run

On Saturday 1st February, 4 staff members participated in the Sun Run to raise funds in support of the Childhood Dementia Initiative.

Michelle, Fran, Ashley and Laura, as well as two friends of Fisher Road, raised just over \$1500.

These funds are vital as childhood dementia is severely under-researched. Research is essential considering 1 in 2,900 babies are born with a condition that causes childhood dementia and it is estimated that around 50% of these children do not reach their 10th birthday.

A big thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause that is close to the hearts of our community.



Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism. Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it.

Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

At Fisher Road, we would like to celebrate Harmony Day by inviting families and friends to come together on Friday 21st March on our school oval from 5-7pm. Please bring a dish from your culture to share so we can all experience the unique cuisine from your country.

It would be great to see you and your family there, dressed in traditional clothing or attire that represents your culture. IMBRELLA SCHOOL OF MUSIC'S PRODUCTION OF



Fostering inclusivity, showcasing diversity and bringing connectedness to our community!

Our Sydney-first, unique production of Camp Rock, the one-act edition. Innovatively buddies individuals with and without disability to share character roles, creating a truly groundbreaking and heart-warming performance. Be part of theatre history by attending one of our shows at the Zenith Theatre in Chatswood on March 25, 27 or 29! Or donate to our production so we can make our show the best it can be and as accessible as possible.

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CLASS KF

Class KF students have had a great start to the new school year. Our students are quickly learning our morning routine, starting with the Yarning Circle, engine room gross motor activities followed by crunch and sip before sitting down to complete their individualised Teacch programs. Once our work is done everyone is enjoying free choice play time. Jackson and Elsa love water play and the train set, Stella has been making amazing lego creations, Eli loves playing with the animals, Metok enjoys the iPad and block construction and Seldon loves the dolls house and drawing. Everyone loves the playdough!

Our days are busy with swimming, STEM, shared reading, bike riding, art and craft, music therapy and a visit to the park filling our week. All our students are working hard to communicate their needs and we are very proud of how they are all learning to take turns, wait patiently and pack away.

We are also looking forward to starting integration at Cromer Public School later this term.

Fran, Kari and Lauren

CLASS KF



CLASS MG

Welcome to class MG- 2025!

Our class is made up of senior boys. Given these dynamics, it allows us to focus on vital work skills and time to regulate via movement.

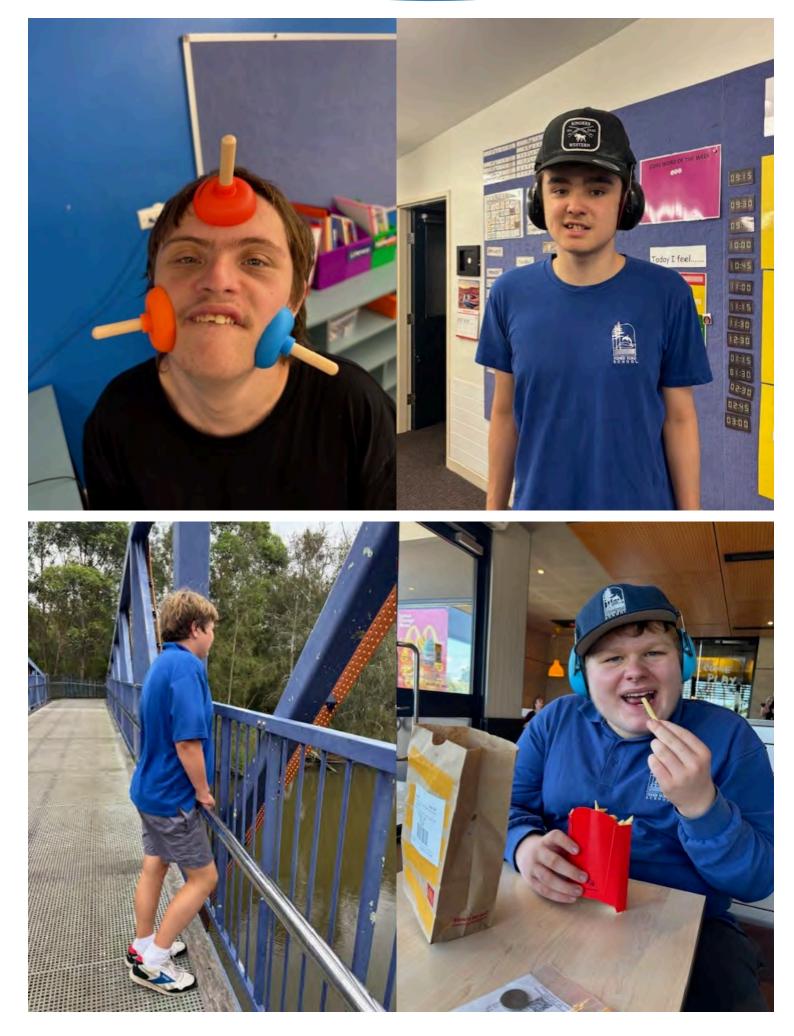
On Mondays, Class MG participates in community access. Over the past few weeks, the students have enjoyed exploring our local environment via bushwalking. After our walk, we have been frequenting McDonalds for lunch, where the boys are learning to order and pay independently.

On Wednesdays, all senior students engage in work skills. Tasks include packaging at One Meal, pamphlet delivery around the local area and learning about garden maintenance.

We are looking forward to a productive year ahead for Class MG

Michelle & Cuban

CLASS MG



CLASS AB

We have had a lovely start to the 2025 school year in Class AB. We are all settling nicely into our new classroom environment and routines. We have been engaging in a lot of sensory activities, including swimming sessions, TACPAC and cooking, as well as students doing great work during their individualised TEACCH programs. We have been focused on our fine motor skills and movement exercises.

It has been lovely watching the class engage very socially with each other, and we have been navigating new activities during our timetable. The class absolutely love music therapy with Anita on Wednesdays.

We are very excited for the year ahead!

Ashley, Jen and Elodie

CLASS AB













CLASS SL

Welcome to Class SL! We started the new school year celebrating Logan's 8th birthday. Happy birthday Logan! We have all had a fantastic start to the school year. The boys are very settled in our freshly painted classroom and everyone is trying their absolute best when learning about new topics, turn taking, sharing and communicating.

Swimming on Tuesdays is a hot favourite with all, as is our class community access on Thursdays. Last week we went to Collaroy Plateau park to practice exiting and entering the bus safely, navigating the carpark and playing nicely with our FRS friends, as well as others in the community. This semester we are learning all about families and the community so please send in some pictures of your family so that we can share them with your child and the class. The boys love looking at pictures of themselves with mum, dad, Grandma, Grandpa etc.

It's going to be a great year and we look forward to working with you.

Sandy, Genevieve, Anat and Sue

CLASS SL



CLASS CR

Welcome to our new Class CR of 2025. We've commenced the year full speed ahead, busy establishing our weekly timetable and getting to know one another over the first few weeks of term. We have a wonderful classroom set up, meals and deskwork area, our major learning and sensory space, our own bathroom facilities and not to mention our fantastic outdoor area known to us all as The Paperbark, which we share with two other classes.

Students have been quick to communicate their favourite place around the school. The swimming pool where we now spend two sessions a week, and our wonderful sensory room, this year equipped with some new and exciting accessories. We are finally settling into our daily routines, starting with our Morning Circle & roll call and ending the day with our Smiling Minds program, hopefully preparing your child for an easy calm journey home.

A big welcome to our new Fisher Road student Austin. He joins our other students of Class CR – Mia, Kai, Jude and Jackson.

Chris, Gen, Flora & Lynn

CLASS CR





Thank you to all our families who took the time to join us at the Parent/Teacher night. Hopefully, Class MP families will take the opportunity to come and celebrate Harmony Day with us on the 21st March.

Our class has a combination of 5 boys and 1 girl with varying abilities and various stages of their education. Logan, Zebedee, Prishan, Beau, Baxter and Shyna are engaged with a variety of toys and activities that help them develop their crucial skills. Playing with miniature cars, people, animals, dolls, blocks, kitchen utensils and other toys fosters their creativity and fine motor skills while outdoor activities like riding bikes, jumping on the trampoline, and climbing the spider web provide essential physical exercise and sensory experiences. It is through these activities that Logan, Zebedee, Prishan, Beau, Baxter and Shyna develop essential social and communication skills making learning more meaningful and enjoyable for them.

As a Class, we are also currently learning to transition from one place to another for instance Classroom to pool. Our students are learning to walk with or alongside their classmates and teachers. As well, everyone is learning to sit and wait, for example, for their turn at Morning circle). We hope to share some good news about our progress in the next issue of the newsletter.

Maria, Genevieve and Mandy

CLASS MP



CLASS LB

It has been a great start to 2025 in class LB and all students are settling in really well. The last few weeks have consisted of getting to know each and every student, their sensory needs and what they enjoy doing. We have experimented with making jelly, playing with shaving foam, creating artworks, students individualised TEACCH activities as well as basic gardening skills.

We will continue to focus on students' sensory needs and life skills throughout the year as well as extend on communication skills throughout our daily routines.

Laura and Jenny

CLASS LB



T





CLASS MJ

Class MJ have had a busy year so far settling into our Classroom and learning new routines and programs. Most mornings we participate in Engine Room activities to get our bodies and minds ready for the day ahead. Here, students move between four stations completing activities such as riding exercise bikes, lifting battle ropes, doing step-ups, and negotiating an obstacle course before heading into the classroom.

Our Class responsibilities this year involves the Canteen program and Tabards where we deliver clean tabards in the morning to those Classes who require them and collect any used ones in the afternoon; these are then washed and dried ready for the next day. The Canteen program involves delivery and collection of order forms from each class and shopping for and preparing the food. Our students then deliver the prepared food to the classrooms. The many skills required for these programs to run smoothly are useful skills for our students to learn and take forward into their future lives.

Swimming and STEM sessions are popular with all the class. STEM includes the use of our Virtual Reality equipment, using Beebots to negotiate pathways and constructing marble runs to successfully allow marbles to roll through from start to finish. We will also utilise the school vegetable garden to demonstrate the requirements needed for plants and seeds to grow.

We look forward to sharing more news from Class MJ next time.

Megan and Deb

CLASS MJ



CLASS TH

Class TH is made up of seven energetic boys. We welcome three new students to Fisher Road -Daniel, Luca, and Samuel, who have joined us from different settings and even a different country.

Now that we are in Week 5, all the boys have shown just how quickly they've adapted to their new school environment, peers, routines, and programs. Our returning students, Vito, Zack, David, and Ethan, have also settled back into the school routine beautifully. They are happy and fully engaged in our morning activities, which include roll call, TEACCH, and the engine room. They are also enjoying the variety of sessions we have in our middle period.

We end our day with a meditation session, which is the perfect way to wind down. While the start of the term always brings some adjustments, we are finding our rhythm and are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Trish and Ebony

CLASS TH





The students of Class LH are settling in well to their new routine and we are all enjoying getting to know each other. We are a class of 6 boys and it has been wonderful to welcome Nash to Fisher Road School.

Getting to know each other has also allowed us to explore the core words 'same' and 'different'. Students have been completing 'All About Me' activities, which show that some of us have the same coloured hair or eyes, but others are different. The boys are also learning to share and take turns, when others like to play with the same toys.

As part of our morning Roll Call, we are focusing on communication, learning to wait our turn and the Fisher Road Zones Program. All the boys are exploring the colours of the Fisher Road Thermometer and learning to match emotions and how they are feeling, to the coloured zones. We are also starting to explore our individualised toolbox charts and all the things we can do to help us to get back to the green zone. Our morning engine room is a great way to get our muscles and minds ready to do work. Listening to stories about emotions and completing our new 'Choose It Maker' activities, are helping to consolidate our learning.

Lainie & John















CLASS SH

As we welcome the students back to school, the students in Class SH are adjusting smoothly to their new class, embracing changes in the class and schedule with ease.

We have a busy schedule full of opportunities to learn in diverse settings and environments. We go out in the community to shop for our ingredients for our cooking class where we make pizza and milkshakes, go to One Meal for packaging, in addition to our weekly work skills programme. Additionally, students enjoy playing sports, swimming and bush walking, so there are plenty of fun activities besides our in-class activities of TEACCH, STEM and art.

We are seeing relationships starting to form between the students, having a laugh with each other or going to choose the same activity. We are looking forward to a great year in class SH!

Te, Sam and Alena



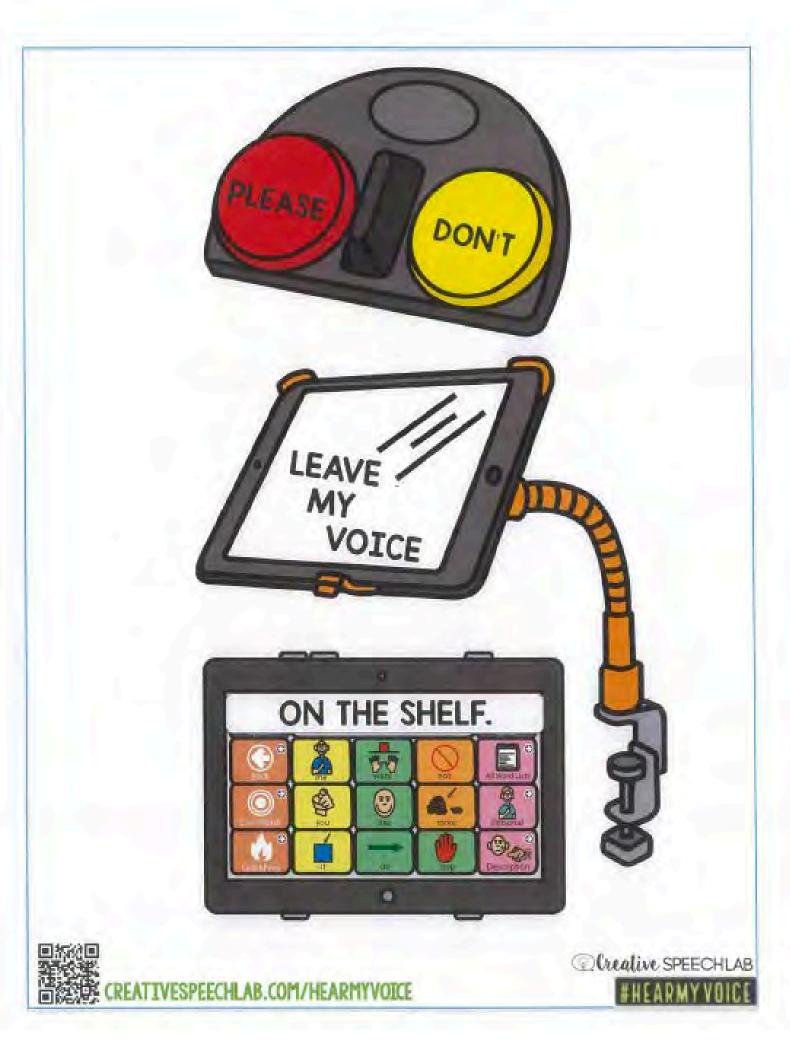








COMMUNICATION TEAM



COMMUNICATION TEAM

Exciting Updates from the Communication Team: A Year of Growth and Support

Dear Families,

As we kick off another year, we're excited to share some of the initiatives the Communication Team is focusing on to enhance learning and support across our school. We're committed to fostering an environment where communication, social interaction, and support systems continue to thrive. Here's a look at what we're working on this year:

1. Recommencing the Core Word of the Fortnight Program

We're thrilled to bring back our Core Word of the Fortnight program! Every week, we will introduce a new core word, with fun and engaging activities designed to promote understanding and use of that word. You can find a video each fortnight on Dojo, so be sure to check them out and support your child's learning at home.

2. Development of the Communication Crew

This year, we're excited to trial a new group skills session called the Communication Crew. The Communication Crew is designed to foster positive interactions between students who are not in the same class, helping meaningful peer to peer interactions on the playground.

3. Supporting Cooperative Play in the Senior Playground

In the senior playground, we are focusing on supporting cooperative play among our students. Through structured activities, we're helping students develop social skills, problem-solving abilities, and teamwork. These activities aim to create an inclusive environment where all students can engage in positive, cooperative play while building friendships and communication skills.

4. Consistent Objects of Reference

We are also working on re-establishing consistent objects of reference in specific classes. These objects are key visual cues that help support students with their communication, learning, and daily routines. By maintaining a consistent approach, we ensure that students feel secure and can more easily understand transitions, tasks, and expectations.

We are excited about the progress we're making and look forward to seeing how these initiatives will positively impact our students this year. Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a dynamic, inclusive, and communicative environment for all learners.

News Flash New After School Care



Fisher Road School

After School Care

Dear Families,

As you would be aware Sunnyfield will no longer be running an afterschool care service at Fisher Road School in 2025.

We understand this is an important service to families, so we have found a new provider that will take over the service from term 1, 2025. The Support Society will be the new provider. The program will be re-named to the Future Ready Club. The staff running the service, and the hours of operation will remain the same at 3pm-6pm.

If you would like your child to attend the Future Ready Club in 2025 you will need to contact Olivia at The Support Society on-

Phone 7238 8390

Email: olivia@supportsocietyaus.com.au

Regards,

Matt Tonkin

Assistant Principal

Fisher Road School

Phone: (02) 9981 5222 Fax: (02) 9982 5439 Email: fisherrd-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au Web: www.fisherrd-s.schools.nsw.edu.au Address: 115 Fisher Road, DEE WHY NSW 2099

Together we can



Northern Beaches GrooveABLE presents:

RAINBOW

DISC(

TEENS WITH A DISABILITY (12-17)

Come dressed in your favourite rainbow outfit!





FRIDAY NIGHT AT: PCYC DEE WHY 40 KINGSWAY, DEE WHY



Tickets available online: TAX https://www.trybooking.com/CZFYD Tickets can also be purchased at the door

Please bring your carer if needed - carers have free entry

Contact us at: nbgrooveable@gmail.com

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5 YRS TO YDUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITY - GIRLS + BOYS



10:30AM SUNDAYS APRIL TO August 2025 (Excludes School Holidays)



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COACHES FROM AFL KIDS + 1:5 RATIO PROFESSIONAL DISABILITY SPORT SUPPORT



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MODIFIED AFL FUNS KIDS WITH DISABILITY!

KICKABILITY REGISTRATIONS NOW

AFL kids

PLAY

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Pittwater ar Club, Your Community. RTS Mahony group

ТНЕ GYM **FACT**

Warriewood

IRY

Open Air Cinema St Matthews Farm Reserve, Cromer



Runt Friday 21 March



The Wild Robot Saturday 22 March

Gates open 5.30pm for 6.30pm start

The first 1,000 people through the gates each night will receive a bag of popcorn courtesy of Brookvale Mitsubishi. Visit **northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au** for more event information.

Book your free tickets



northembeaches.nsw.gov.au

ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR TERM 1/ 2025!

CENTRE-BASED INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT 1:1 TRANSPORT AVAILABLE









WANT TO GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST START IN 2025?

NO

WAITING

LIST

Early Intervention

After School

Weekend Program

School Leavers

School Holidays

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Jiu-Jitsu

Capoeira

Music Therapy

Club Sandwich

For more information www.luzallabilities.com.au

Looking for an CLUNG and SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL HOLIDAY SA EXPERIENCE for YOUR CHILD

Our Easter Disability Respite Camp in Forster, NSW, offers an unforgettable adventure in a safe and welcoming environment.

Designed for children with disabilities, our comp is packed with **fun activities**, including quad biking, swimming, basketball, beach outings, and a **GIANT EASTER EGG HUNT!**

With a beautiful farm setting close to the coast, it's the **perfect place for kide** to enjoy nature, make new friends, and create lasting memories.

Our highly experienced disability support workers ensure that every child receives the care and attention they need while having an amazing time.

We provide all-inclusive respite care, covering accommodation, meals, activities, and transport, so families can enjoy peace of mind knowing their child is in capert

Give your child an Easter holiday to remember—limited spots available, so BOOK NOW!



14th to the 17th of April 1800 637 782 admin@ourfamilyrespite.com



Lifestyles Youth Programs

Learn new skills, make friends, and have fun! Based at our Allambie Heights centre, our programs support teens with cerebral palsy and similar physical disabilities to build life, social, and work skills through hands-on experiences.

Led by expert disability support practitioners, we help young people grow independence, make lifelong connections, and work toward their goals in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

- Daily living in-home supports
- ✓ Social groups
- Afternoon Club (4pm 6pm)
- Masterclass (incl. work experience) Individualised support
- ✓ Weekend & school holiday programs ✓ SLES School Leaver Employment Support

Contact us



1300 888 378

ask@cerebralpalsy.org.au

cerebralpalsy.org.au







Flexible Respite for Kids & Teens

Our Northern Beaches respite homes provide a safe, supportive, and fun environment for 7-17-year-olds with physical and/or intellectual disabilities to build skills and enjoy new experiences.

We provide flexible options to suit your family's needs, including:

✓ 24-hour overnight stays

- Daytime stays
- Shorter overnight stays (3pm 9am) / School holiday programs
- Afternoon Club (3pm 8pm, incl. school pick-up)
- NDIS funded

Contact us



1300 888 378

ask@cerebralpalsy.org.au

cerebralpalsy.org.au





Birthday News

Happy Birthday Eli



Birthday News Happy Birthday Logan



Birthday News

Happy Birthday Zack



Birthday News Happy Birthday Sai



Birthday Mews Happy Birthday Marius

Birthday News Happy Birthday Kanga



Birthday News Happy Birthday Vito



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Fisher Road School acknowledges the Gaimaragal people of the Eora Nation and the traditional custodians of the land in which we learn and pay respect to Elders past and present.