



# St Clair Public School Newsletter



Issue: 7 Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019

## Upcoming Events & Activities

Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
June 11 – STEPS Mass Choir Rehearsal (at Clairgate PS) June 12 – School Athletics Carnival June 18 – STEPS Junior AECG Meeting June 20 – Debate (vs JEPS) June 20 – Senior Dance Workshop Rehearsal June 21 – NAIDOC Cup June 25 – Forensic Science Incursion June 25 – P & C Meeting 7pm June 26 – Stage 3 UTS STEM Project Showcase June 27 – Coffee and Chat 9am June 27 – Senior Dance Workshop Rehearsal June 28 – Semester 1 Student Reports go Home July 1 to 4 – Parent / Teacher Interviews July 2 – PBL Morning Tea (Students) July 4 – WSU Campus Visit (Stage 3 Students) July 5 – Last Day of Term 2	July 23 – Students Return July 31 – OC Placement Test Aug 1 – STEPS Music Festival (9.00 – 2.30 Dress Rehearsal / 7.00 Evening Performance) Aug 2 – Enviromentors Workshop (K-2 & Support Unit) Aug 5 to 8 – Education Week Aug 5 to 9 – Swim Scheme (Mainstream Students) Aug 6 – P & C Meeting Aug 7 – Kindergarten Calmsley Hill Excursion Aug 9 – Public Education Concert Aug 12 to 16 – Swim Scheme (Support Unit Students) Aug 13 – The Young King Theatre Excursion (TBC) Aug 15 – Debate (Vs Clairgate) Aug 15 – STEPS Book Forum Aug 22 – Greening Australia Tree Planting Day Aug 22 – Debate (Clairgate) Aug 26 – 30 SASS recognition Week Sept 4 – District Athletics Carnival Sept 5 – Stage 1 Excursion to Taronga Zoo Sept 10 – P & C Meeting Sept 19 – Debate (vs Banks PS) Sept 19 – Footy Colours Mufti Day Sept 23 & 24 – Stage 2 Survivor Camp Sept 25 to 27 – Stage 3 Overnight Canberra Camp Sept 27 – Last Day of Term 3	Oct 14 – Students Return Oct 22 – Dance Sport Championship Oct 29 – P & C Meeting Nov 7 – Debate (Blackwell) Nov 7 – Coding & Robotics Excursion to IMC Dec 3 – P & C Meeting Dec 6 – Presentation Day Dec 11 – Year 6 Farewell Dec 16 – End of Year Picnic / Movie Day Dec 18 – Last Day of the Year

This table will be updated with each newsletter.

Our Calendar seems to be growing with each newsletter. Don't forget to update your fridge flyer or personal calendar with newly added events and activities.

## The Principal's Message...

### Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Farlow who was successful in her application to fill the Assistant Principal position at our school through merit selection. Mrs Farlow has held this position in a relieving capacity since the beginning of the year, so it's wonderful to have her now as our permanent Assistant Principal. She is a lovely fit for our school, bringing many years of experience and a commitment toward ensuring all students reach their potential through education. Mrs Farlow will continue to supervise our K – 2 students and staff.

### NAPLAN

Well done to our Year 3 and Year 5 students on completing NAPLAN online this year. As a school it ran very smoothly with only a couple of minor issues which were easily resolved. Thank you to all our parents and carers for making sure the students had headphones for the duration of the tests. Thank you also to Mr Heath who coordinated the process over the two weeks.

### Verse Speaking Competition

On Monday our annual Verse Speaking competition was held and I have to say, what an impressive group of students they were. It was absolutely wonderful to see how animated, clear and entertaining each student was in presenting their verse. Their confidence is to be admired and even though some were a little anxious and nervous, they gave it their all. Well done especially to our four Kindergarten students, who stepped up and presented their verse to the whole K – 2 (plus parents, families, friends and teachers) audience – their first time in front of such a big group.

### Walk Safely to School Day

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May, our students participated in Walk Safely to School Day. It was wonderful to see so many being sensible around roads and pathways, following all the right rules to be safe and arrive to school ready for the day. Thank you to Miss Bernstein for organising this activity and to the staff who greeted the students at the gates.



### Maintenance

Over the last couple of weeks we have had new carpet laid in a number of learning spaces around the school. Unfortunately not all classrooms were included in this round but hopefully they will be included in future maintenance plans. The front steps have been repainted as well. Our PBL team are currently investigating setting up a variety of play areas in the playground and we hope to make some decisions and get some areas completed this year. The focus will be on the area between the artificial grass and the hardcourt, along with sections of the oval. We also hope to have the old fence around the oval removed soon.

### Music Festival

The annual STEPS Music Festival will be held this year on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August at Panthers. This will involve a full day rehearsal followed by an evening performance. Our choir, signing choir, junior and senior dance groups have been excitedly practising and preparing for the festival. Tickets for the evening performance will go on sale from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July and can only be purchased through Panthers.

### Semester 1 Student Reports / Parent Teacher Interviews

The teachers are currently well underway with writing student reports for semester 1. These are due to go home on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. During the last week of the term, parents will have the opportunity to come to a parent / teacher interview to discuss their child's progress at school. More information about booking an interview time will come home soon. As in previous years, interview times will be booked online.

### School Athletics Carnival

Our school athletics carnival is on next Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June. This is a whole school event with all of our students travelling to Blair Oval for a great day of competing and having fun. Hopefully the weather will be lovely! This year, we have requested that all students travel on the bus with their class and sport house mates. This will assist with both organisation and sporting team spirit! Tomorrow is the last day for notes and payment to be returned. I ask parents not to allow your child to stay home rather than attend this event, but instead encourage them to participate and enjoy the day.

### P & C News

The next P & C meeting was due to take place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, however, due to a number of committee members being unable to attend that evening, the meeting has been moved to the following week and will now be on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June. This is in Week 9 of this term. Coming along to a P & C meeting is a great avenue to hear about what's happening in the school and to also support the events and activities planned by the committee. If you have the time, come to a meeting and see what it's all about!

### Coffee & Chat

My next coffee and chat session will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 9am in the staffroom. At this session, the new manager from the community centre will be there to share information and answer any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing some regular and hopefully some new faces there.

Warm Regards,

Dale Bruce  
Principal

## Awards

### Mini Merits

Julia I, Amy T, Madison B, Rochelle C x2, Cooper G, , Leinard S, Makaylah P, Amy H-L, Aiden C, Abdullah A-S, Brenden S, Akira W, Shane S, Chrissy B, Riley C, Kayley M, Kiana S, Hunter T, Marie S, R.F, Kaemon R, Saxon Z, Nathan B, Jordan M, Braxton A, Chelsie S, Mia W, Liam B, Enrique G

### Principal's Awards

Morgan S, Chloe W, Jenny A, Lucian R-M, Kapish B

### Positive Behaviour for Learning Awards (PBL) Awards

Hannah B, Nate N, Lucas B, Emily G, Corey N, Leah Y, Lavayen S, Julia I, Chrissy B, Cydney S, Rathushaan M, Elwyn C, Lorelle G, Emir E, Jaslyn W

### Upcoming Assemblies...

Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June (Term 2 Week 7)	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June (Term 2 Week 8)	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June (Term 2 Week 9)	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July (Term 2 Week 10)	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> July (Term 3 Week 2)
No Assembly Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade-Up Awards</li> <li>Merit Awards</li> <li>Class 12 Item</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade-Up Awards</li> <li>Aussie of the Month</li> <li>Excellence in Science Awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade-Up Awards</li> <li>PBL Awards</li> <li>Class 6 Item</li> <li>Verse Speaking Presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade-Up Awards</li> <li>Aussie of the Month</li> <li>Excellence in Mathematics Awards</li> </ul>

Don't forget to look after your trade-up awards and hand them in when you have collected enough to build up to your next award.

- 5 mini merits – trade up to a merit award
- 5 merit awards – trade up to a Principal's award
- 5 Principal's awards – trade up to a school award

## Library News

### Congratulations to Class 4 who have the highest rate of returns this week!

Thank you to everyone who has returned their overdue books.

Please encourage your child to bring their library bag and books in each week. The library is open most lunchtimes so children also have an extra opportunity to return or borrow books.

Library Day	Classes
Monday	1, 4, 5, & 6
Tuesday	12, 13 & 15
Thursday	3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16 & 18

Thank you to all the students who came along to participate in National Simultaneous Storytime. The students really enjoyed listening to *Alpacas with Maracas* and creating some lovely alpacas that are on display in the library.

Thank you,

Mrs Farlow





## Verse Speaking Competition

The Verse Speaking Competition is an annual competition that has been part of St Clair Public's culture for over 25 years. All students were asked to select and learn a verse and present it in front of their class. Students were assessed on their presentation and the top 4 students of each grade were nominated to present their verse at the school final, held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. All finalists did an amazing job of entertaining the audience as they presented their verse and they should all be congratulated for their enthusiasm.

The winners of the competition were: Kindergarten- RF, Year 1- Kingston, Year 2- Keave, Year 3- Scarlett, Year 4- KF, Year 5 (joint winners) Rochelle & Holly, Year 6- Amy.



## Sport News

### District Cross Country

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 44 students from St Clair Public School headed off to The Kingsway Sporting Field, St Marys to compete in the 2019 District Cross Country Carnival.

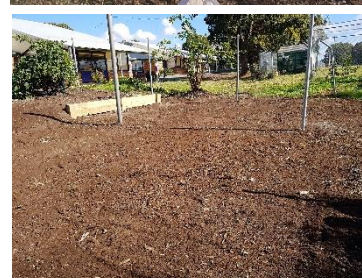
Students who were turning 8, 9 or 10 this year had to complete a 2km course while students turning 11, 12 or 13 this year completed a 3km course. All students ran their race in good spirit and strived to achieve their quickest time. When they were not running, our students made sure they cheered for St Clair as loudly as they could! St Clair Public School is one of the smaller schools within the St Marys Sporting District but came a very impressive 7<sup>th</sup> out of 14 schools due to the valiant effort of our runners. Four of our students finished within the top 8 of their race and earned a place to compete in the Sydney West Area Cross Country on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June. Those students are; Akira W (8<sup>th</sup>), Cooper G (5<sup>th</sup>), Jordan W (4<sup>th</sup>) and Ethan A (8<sup>th</sup>). We wish them well!





## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden News

After a good seven years, St Clair PS' vegetable garden finally gets a renovation. Those recycled boxes that Juanita made into garden beds had given us so many crops over the years. Sadly, early this year, most of these fell apart. I am so thankful that our Principal, Mrs Bruce, saw the need to make the changes. After getting a reasonable quote, our garden renovations began. It took a week of moving and dismantling the old boxes and getting the garden area levelled; it was hard work but it was all worth it. We now have a clean and freshly levelled area and five brand new garden beds. The garden looks amazing. Wayne's Magic Maintenance did such a wonderful job! Of course, there is so much more left to do in the garden. There are also plenty of old beds that need to be thrown away and eventually replaced. I thank Mr Rutledge for helping us move old boxes and helping clean the area.



Our chicken area also had some renovations. Our school bought a brand new garden shed and turned it into a chicken coop. Thanks to our families who support the program, we also bought an extended chicken run and new nesting boxes for the 'ladies'. Two of the chickens are now laying in their boxes but most of them are still trying to get used to this amazing "mansion" that was not there before.



Last week we started to plant some winter vegetables in the garden. Class 1 enjoyed planting cabbages, broccoli, cauliflower, beetroot, lettuce and wombok. Other classes pulled out most of the weeds around the garden. Because the garden was not safely accessible for the students and I was busy trying to save some plants from the old garden beds, students did not cook or garden for some time. The students are truly missing their cooking time in SAKG so our Kitchen



Garden lessons will start again next week. We are going to be back in the kitchen and will be making lots of hearty soups and homemade breads -- perfect for this cold, chilly weather.

We are very fortunate, for we don't need to buy any ingredients for our dishes next week. Families have donated kitchen supplies, fresh fish, and an abundance of fresh fruit and vegetables such as onions and pumpkins. We also received garden seeds, garden tools and bio-degradable pots for the seedlings. Some students also started paying their \$5 donations for Term 2. Thank you so much for your great support! We will definitely use these over the next few weeks. Thank you, Mrs Bruce and Mrs Robinson, for your support towards the program and to me. We are very excited with our new garden and we will no doubt do and learn many amazing things in the garden and enjoy our harvest soon.



Until next time,  
**Cazendra**

Term 2 has begun with the students of St Clair Public School taking on the NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge. The purpose of the Challenge is to encourage students to participate in sport and physical activity to lead a healthy lifestyle. The aim is for students to work towards an average of at least 60 minutes of activity per day for ten weeks.

## Benefits of Physical Activity

Physical activity is valued for its physical, social and emotional benefits. It also helps young people to develop communication skills, confidence and resilience. We would like to invite families to support us in encouraging students' healthy use of leisure time and to experience the joy of being active together.

## How the Premiers Sporting Challenge operates

Over the ten week period students will be monitoring their physical activity levels during class time, at recess and lunch as well as during sport lessons. Any activity that is moderate to vigorous in intensity can be accrued, including activity outside of school hours.

## Award Levels

Award levels reflect a daily activity time commitment- either as part of a class team or individually. Kindergarten to Year 2 are logging their activity as a class and students in years 3-6 are logging their activity at an individual level.

Award	Daily Activity Time
Bronze	30 minutes per day
Silver	45 minutes per day
Gold	60 minutes per day
Diamond	80 minutes per day

At the end of the 10 week Challenge, students will receive a personalised certificate (Diamond, Gold, Silver or Bronze), signed by the Premier of New South Wales.

If you would like further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Belinda McCann  
PSC School Coordinator