



St Clair Public School Newsletter



Issue: 8 Thursday 9th August 2018

2018 Events & Activities

Term 3	Term 4
<p>Basketball Clinics – Weekly all Term</p> <p>Aug 6 to 10 – Swimming Scheme (Mainstream Students)</p> <p>Aug 10 – Enviromentors Workshops</p> <p>Aug 13 to 17 – Swimming Scheme (Support Unit Students)</p> <p>Aug 14 – Drought Relief Mufti Day</p> <p>Aug 14 – ICAS Mathematics Competition</p> <p>Aug 14 – Debate (vs Banks)</p> <p>Aug 16 & 17 – Stage 3 Bathurst Goldfields Camp</p> <p>Aug 21 – Book Character Parade</p> <p>Aug 22 – STEPS Book Forum</p> <p>Aug 29 – Father's Day Stall</p> <p>Sept 5 – Zone Athletics Carnival</p> <p>Sept 7 – Coffee & Chat Session</p> <p>Sept 11 – Debate (vs JEPS)</p> <p>Sept 11 – P & C Meeting (7pm)</p> <p>Sept 18 – Stage 1 Excursion to Australian Pioneer Village</p> <p>Sept 24 & 25 – Stage 2 Camp</p> <p>Sept 26 – Stage 3 Students First Foot Forward Program</p> <p>Sept 28 – Last Day of Term</p>	<p>Oct 15 – Students Return to School</p> <p>Oct 16 to 22 – Life Education Program</p> <p>Nov 1 – Dance Sport Championships</p> <p>Dec 7 – Presentation Day</p> <p>Dec 10 – Last School Assembly for 2018</p> <p>Dec 12 – Year 6 Farewell</p> <p>Dec 17 – End of Year Movie / Picnic Day</p> <p>Dec 19 – Last Day of the School Year</p>

This table will be updated with each newsletter.

The Principal's Message.....

STEPS Music Festival

What an outstanding night! I was so very proud of the performances from our choir, signing choir, senior and junior dance groups. Thank you to our students and teachers who give so much of their time to practise and perfect these items and to our parents and carers who support and encourage their children to enjoy the opportunities they are given. It was lovely to sit with the Principals from the other STEPS schools and celebrate the amazing talent from across our learning community.

Well done to the senior dance group and signing choir who also performed at Westfield this week as a part of Education Week activities.

Swimming Scheme

Our mainstream students have been participating in swimming lessons this week at Ripples, St Marys. The teachers are reporting they can already see improved swimming skills in our students. Our support unit students will be participating in swimming scheme lessons next week. Thank you to Ms Delfs and Miss Stellino for organising this very important activity.

Education Week / Open Day

Our Open Day on Monday was very successful. Thank you to the many parents, carers and family members who came along to the activities planned for the day. It was great to see so many at the coffee and chat session, the coding & robotics demonstration and the kitchen garden demonstration as well as our open classrooms. Thankfully the weather cleared up enough to have the picnic lunch as well. Thank you to all our parents, carers and family members for continuing to support and celebrate all the great things happening at St Clair PS.

Security Incidents

Recently we have had a couple of security incidents within the school grounds. Late last term, one of our cleaning staff had her number plates taken (very early in the morning) and just this week a teacher had her car broken into and property taken. Please take care if you are parking around the school. Make sure your car is locked and don't leave any valuables in sight. I have been informed that police will be doing some extra patrols for a little while.

Stage 3 Camp

Next week our Stage 3 students are heading off to Bathurst for their overnight camp. I know they will have a great time. Hopefully they may even come back with a little gold!

Debating

Good luck to our debating teams as they continue in their respective competitions over the next few weeks. They have been very busy practising their skills and we wish them well. Thank you to the students involved for their commitment and enthusiastic participation.

Basketball

Our basketball sessions have commenced this term with the students having a great time whilst improving their skills. We certainly have some very talented players!



Kindergarten Excursion

Well done to our Kindergarten students who attended their first excursion this week. From all accounts they had a fantastic day at Calmsley Hill Farm.

Staff Achievement

Congratulations to Mrs Jackie Aczel, our Itinerant Support Teacher (Hearing) Assistant Principal, who was successful in her application for a Premier's Teacher Scholarship. Mrs Aczel will be attending a Premier's Reception hosted by the NSW Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, in the city next week to acknowledge this achievement. Well done and good luck, Mrs Aczel!

Drought Relief Mufti Day

Next Tuesday August 14th we are holding a drought relief mufti day to raise desperately needed funds for our farmers. Our students are asked to come dressed as a farmer or a farm animal and donate a gold coin. Of course they are more than welcome to donate a little more. Below is an email I received from one of our own parents. I am sure you will agree that this very moving email sends a clear message about the hardships currently faced by our farming communities. Thank you to our SRC for organising this day.

I just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone organising the Mufti Day to help farmers.

*My Parents, *****'s Grandparents are some of those farmers.*

I see first hand, the impact drought has on people. I have seen my Dad sitting in his chair, staring into space for hours on end, knowing what he's thinking and trying my best to make him see positives. I have seen my Mum work herself into the ground and have a heart attack while cleaning out water troughs, only to pick herself up off the ground 15 minutes later and go on with her day.

My Parents spend \$4500 every week to feed their cattle and sheep. This is before they buy food for themselves, pay their bills and their mortgage. They feed their animals first because they are their livelihood and they would rather go hungry themselves than see their animals starving.

You don't realise that you are actually saving a man from hanging himself, you're saving a mother from taking her little ones and leaving because she can't go on, you're saving beautiful animals from wandering around in the dirt, looking for food that just isn't there, and finally collapsing and dying, you're saving mother cows from making themselves go into early labour and delivering a dead calf because she knows she won't have milk to feed it.

My Parents are just two of the many, many farmers that struggle every day, and tiny schools like yours are the ones making a difference to their lives.

*I am so proud to have ***** at such a caring school and I hope you are all proud of your efforts to contribute to the farmers, and I hope you know how grateful they are.*

Thankyou so much,

Book Character Parade

The SRC have also organised a book character parade for Tuesday 21st August. Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character. I am looking forward to seeing some wonderful costumes! No payment / donation is required for this activity.

Warm Regards,

Dale Bruce
Principal

Awards

Mini Merits

Cooper G, Rathushaan M, Zipporah H, Makaylah P, Corey N, Cahllil S, Brandon T, Jasmine R, Amy H-L, S.F, Jordan M, Cooper B, Charlotte Wi, Rochelle C, Ty S-S, Lucas M, Ava K, Jack W, Shae S, Netallie P, Cydney S, Hannah D, Alexis D, Alexa B x2, Chelsea B, Khoi N, Suhaani S, Faith G, Dakota F x2, Crustal Marie D

Principal's Awards

Matilda V, Alexa B, Jasmine G, Jasmine R, S.F

School Award

Matilda V

Aussie of the Month – July (Honesty)

Holly F & Tyler S

PBL Awards Term 2 Week 10

Class	Student	Class	Student	Class	Student
1	Jasmine R	7	Khloe T	12	Jameliah L
3	Genevieve N-R	8	Sebastian	13	Tyler S
4	Anabel F-G	9	NA	15	Jasmine G
5	Makaylah P	10	Shae S	16	Zander F-W
6	Juanita T	11	NA	18	Catalina A

Merit Award Term 2 Week 10

Class	Student	Class	Student	Class	Student
1	Seb S & Mohammad J	7	Yousif M	12	Alexis & Denise P
3	Tua & Pranav S	8	Obinna B	13	Emily W & Kenzie G
4	Hannah B & Caliana M	9	Katrina E	15	Maddison R & Ayah
5	Bronte J & Ashton R	10	Jayden S	16	Gulnaz & Netallie
6	Joshua B & William S	11	Shayne S	18	Zaiden & Marley

Excellence in Mathematics Awards Week 2 Term 3

Class	Student	Class	Student	Class	Student
1	Jasmine P	7	Khloe K	12	Elaine C
3	Kaitlyn B	8	Sebastian P	13	Lucas M
4	Lavayan S	9	Johannes M	15	Hannah D
5	Mia W	10	Brenden S	16	Rhys M
6	Rochelle C	11	Corey N	18	Hunter M

Merit Awards Week 3 Term 3

Class	Student	Class	Student	Class	Student
1	Ashlee B & Henna S	7	Levi G-W	12	Scarlett F & Daniel S
3	Leinrd S & Ivanna V	8	Jaslyn W	13	Stephanie R & Kyle H
4	Abigail L & Joseph K	9	Bryzbyn W	15	Chaise M & Kaleb Z
5	Ashton R & Jasmine Z	10	Abdullah A-S	16	Tile R & Daisy P
6	Juanita T & Harrison B	11	Jayden S	18	Fiona S & Elwyn C

P & C News

Thank you to all parents who came to our P&C Meeting on Tuesday 7th August.

Coin Race

We would like to thank all the families and staff who contributed to our 5 Cent Coin Race in Term 2. We exceeded our target and raised a total of \$1506.15. The top two classes were so close that we decided to have 2 winners this year.

Congratulations **Classes 13 and 18** on your massive efforts! We are working with Mrs Minard and Ms Young to organise your Pizza Parties.

The school is looking into how to best use the money for playground improvement and we support their enormous efforts. There are some exciting ideas in the pipeline, in line with the School Plan, and we will keep you informed as these big decisions are finalised.

Father's Day Stall

Our Father's Day stall is on the 29th August. We have a large variety of gifts available. We would like to thank Mrs Sandra Reynolds, Mr Phil Reynolds, The St Marys Men's Shed and Mrs Rebecca Jones for their amazing gift donations.

Upcoming Dates

29th August – Father's Day Stall – Volunteers welcome

11th September – P&C Meeting in the staffroom at 7pm

Tell Them From Me Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 1 this year. Asking students to complete the survey twice in one year allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across the school year.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 27 August and 26 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Monday 13th **August 2018**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

The consent form and FAQs are available in 23 languages.

Thank you,

Mrs Goodwin

Acting Deputy Principal

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden News

Welcome back to Term 3! Upon returning from the school holidays, the garden completely turned around. Because of the frost in the morning, sadly some of our vegetables and plants died and some are barely surviving. During the first week of Term 3, the students made biodegradable pots and planted some seeds. They are now nicely tucked away in the greenhouse, away from the freezing cold weather. There was so much to do in the garden, such as getting rid of the weeds around the grape vines and mulching the area. We also had to collect some (a little damaged but still edible) peas, snow peas and sugar snaps from the garden. Making a biodegradable pot and planting seeds was definitely a preferred job but some students absolutely enjoyed being outdoors using the shovels and the wheelbarrows. Students started planting watermelons, rockmelons, dew melons, tomatoes, carrots and capsicums. Hopefully these seeds will sprout and be good seedlings ready to be planted in spring time so we get to eat them in summer! For the next few weeks, we will be planting more seeds ready for spring but we will also discuss our garden focus for this term: the life cycle of a bee.



Our kitchen focus is all about legumes and root vegetables. The second week of Term 3 was a busy week in the kitchen. The students cooked mung bean soup served with rice, pumpkin fritters with besan flour (chickpea) and hearty lentil soup served with herbed bread. We used our sweet carrots, potatoes, mixed herbs, celery and chard from the garden. We also got to cook our sweet pumpkin for our fritters. Legumes are one of the ingredients I love to cook with and use in the kitchen, especially in winter. They are cheap, healthy and delicious. A whole kilo of mung beans cost \$3.50 and that fed three classes! Chard seems to do well in winter and we have plenty in the garden. It is a perfect match for any legumes and the students love it. Next week, we will be cooking more of the legumes in some Mexican dishes. We have plenty of limes, coriander and lettuce for our dishes. The students will also be making wheat flour tortillas from scratch and will be using the tomatillo verde salsa I preserved last term. Very exciting!



It was a great day at the Open Day thank you for visiting the kitchen. Students from Class 1 did an amazing job making the vegetarian fried and steamed chicken and dumplings. Parents had the chance to see our garden, the kitchen and our dining room. We were so proud to show what their children had mastered in the kitchen. We loved all the positive feedback regarding the program and most importantly the support we are



on Monday; garden! amazing job dumplings vegetable to see our room. Some working in show what the kitchen. regarding getting.

Thank you for the great week everyone.
Until next time.
Cazendra.

Would you like to donate? We need: olive oil, cheese, tinned tomatoes, rice noodles, garden seeds mushroom mulch



butter, block and





All Abilities Focus
Learn Today - Hope for Tomorrow

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY FORUM 2018

Hear from people with intellectual disability
about their experiences using NDIS funding.

AUGUST 23, 2018
11:30AM - 3:30PM

VINEGAR HILL MEMORIAL COMMUNITY
CENTRE
ROUSE HILL TOWN CENTRE
29 Main Street, Rouse Hill

For more information please contact:
Sonal Chatrath- 0488 682 312
schatrath@ssi.org.au

Intellectual Disability
Forum aims to build your
knowledge and capacity
by engaging with local
intellectual disability
service providers.

Come along to this FREE
COMMUNITY EVENT, check
out information stalls from:

- At The Corner
- Speech Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Ability Links NSW
- National Disability
Coordination Officer
- Hireup
- Learning Links

AND MANY MORE!

Listen to presentations by:

- NSW Fair Trading
- Uniting- Local Area
Coordinators
- Side By Side Advocacy
Service
- Council for Intellectual
Disability

AND MANY MORE!

All our events are inclusive
and everyone is welcome to
attend. For any adjustments
or inquiries please contact
Sonal.



Uniting

HAMPER DAY

ST CLAIR

TUESDAY 14TH AUGUST 2018

10:00AM - 12:00PM



FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE, FREE HAMPERS FOR FAMILIES
AND INFORMATION STALLS OF LOCAL SERVICES.

AUTUMNLEAF NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE
CNR AUTUMNLEAF PARADE AND TIMESWEEP DRIVE
ST CLAIR

For more information or to book a service stall please contact
Naomi on 9834 2708 or email
naomi@communityjunction.org.au

www.communityjunction.org.au



St Clair Public School Kindergarten Enrolment is Open for 2019



Do you have a child turning 5 years old by 31st July 2019?
If so, they are eligible to enrol in Kindergarten in 2019.

Do you know of other family and friends in the St Clair area with a child ready for school?
Let them know now is the best time to begin the enrolment process.

Contact our school office on 9670 1966 for an enrolment package.



<https://www.facebook.com/St-Clair-Public-School-1530955660488146/>
<http://www.stclair-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>