

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I have arrived back from North Carolina University with lots of current research information on individuals with autism. Thank you Kavi Razzaghi-Pour for relieving while I was away.

The two day TEACCH autism ASD conference discussed Transition to Employment and Post-Secondary Education Programs for individuals with ASD, Current Research Trends in ASD, Preparing Students with ASD for Life after School, Surviving and Thriving in the Real World and ASD Sexuality and Sexuality education. This will help me to look at our current practices and the implication for students moving towards adulthood.

The three day TEACCH course at North Carolina University looked at how to assess students with Autism and develop individual TEACCH programs for students.

Verney Diamantes and I also visited two New York special schools. The Horan and Julia Richmond schools shared their classrooms, ideas and current resources with us. We meet with Principals and executives and discussed difference and similarities of our educational settings.

Dates to Remember



Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea:

Friday 30 November

School Formal

Wednesday 5 December

Presentation Day

Thursday 13 December

P.B.E.L. NEWS

Being a friend in the **classroom** is very important at Clarke Road School for both the students and the teachers. In the classroom friends wait their turn, share resources, help each other and enjoy being together.



These senior students Andy, Jordan Jagraj and Jayme have been friends for years! Here they are enjoying morning tea together.



Gibba class visits Magura class to share games and build new friendships across the school. Older students being great role models for the younger ones.



Sharing toys is what friends do! Here are Max and Damon learning about sharing the cars in Bunya class.



Jasmin, Will, Tim and Ava taking turns waiting for each other building friendship skills through games.

"Knowledge is power
Information is liberating
Education is the premise of progress
In every society and every family" (Kofi Annan)

It is my belief, that sharing of information and expertise between colleagues grows our abilities as educators.



Two staff at TEACCH Course in Victoria

In the school holidays two teachers Amy Owen and Shanaya Dubash travelled to Victoria to complete the first stage of a certified TEACCH course. Shanaya and Amy are already implementing TEACCH structured learning in their classes with great success. They have brought back some wonderful ideas and resources to share.



*Breathing and Relax
Activity*



Thank you Amy and Shanaya for giving up a week of your holidays to attend professional development.

*Breathing and Relax Activity
Smell the Flowers and Blow out
the Candle put into Practice*

Opening of Cluck Road Farm

On Thursday the 8th of November Cluck Road Farm was officially opened by Ku-ring-gai Rotary. Guests included Rotary District Governor Susan Wakefield and her husband, President of Ku-ring-gai Rotary Joy Newling, Malcolm Braid Past President of Ku-ring-gai Rotary, Christopher Zerial and Andrew Davidson from Westfield, Debbie Bagshaw and Peter Ruefli from Bendigo Bank Galston Financial Services, Hornsby Shire Mayor Phillip Ruddock, Kathleen Cahill Clarke Road P&C President, Clarke Road P&C, Clarke Road School volunteers, Ex-Principal Beth Seach, Clarke Road School Staff and students, and Ku-ring-gai Rotarians.



In August 2017 Ku-ring-gai Rotary approached Principal Diane Robertson regarding a project at the school. The staff at Clarke Road had been talking about having once again a chicken coop and so the project began. From April 2018 to November 2018 Rotarians under the Project Manager David Forsythe, Arthur Maltby and many other helpers spent Thursdays and Sundays at Clarke Road School, removing the jungle of plants, building garden beds, bringing water to different areas in the garden and chicken coop, constructing a water cistern for the chooks, assembling a chicken coop and run, cleaning out the shed, attaching awnings for the doors, painting the shed floor, building the deck and steps, cutting a door into the shed, replacing doors/locks, building a potting area, making signs, carrying pavers, sand, tanbark and equipment up to the shed area. The attention to detail was outstanding and provided a dream for the staff and joy for the children at Clarke Road School.

We have already used the mint and lettuce from the garden to make drinks and sandwiches and propagating plants. The chickens which hatched at Clarke Road School are thriving in their *Castle Chicken Coop* and all the children want to watch their antics.

How can we say thank you to Ku-ring-gai Rotary – maybe by the hundreds of smiles each day.

Rotary BBQ

To celebrate the opening of Cluck Road Farm the Ku-ring-gai Rotarians invited Clarke Road School community to a BBQ. Rotary, Staff and Parents with their children all had a great time. Along with other Rotarians I was lucky to receive the order of the chook.



Thank you Westfield for the \$10,000 which will help us get electricity to the shed.

Yours Sincerely
Catherine Treay
Relieving Principal.

Success for Complex Learners Project Fair Education Program

A main focus of the Success for Complex Learners project is to develop a strong partnership with parents, so that learning can be maximised both at home and school. Parents from

- Clarke Road School, Hornsby
- The Hills School, Northmead,
- Broken Hill High School support unit, Broken Hill and
- Willans Hill School, Wagga Wagga

were invited to attend a workshop outlining the purpose of the project and some key elements. Thank you to Ai Keng for attending this session. Parents will now be a part of the leadership team for this project, so that parents have a strong and clear voice on it.

Here at Clarke Road, we have started “Let’s chat and learn” sessions so that together we are developing our knowledge and skills on The Communication Passport and In the Zone for Learning. We also have around ten parents who have expressed an interest in developing a ‘parent toolkit’. These all contribute to the ‘partners in learning’ component of the project.



Creating a Voice (CaV) Project

Keyword Signing is another element of the Creating A Voice project which gives some students the ability to assist their communication.

What is keyword signing or key signing?

- It is when you speak a sentence and use sign language at the same time, but you only sign the keywords.

For example, “Who is at home?” Say the entire sentence, while signing only “who” and “home”.

Why use keyword signing as part of a communication system?

- Research has shown that the use of sign language helps develop speech with some children.
- Using sign language can increase a child’s understanding.
- It can improve attention and eye contact.
- It gives children the opportunity to express themselves.



Some key points.

- Say and sign the word or sentence at the same time.
- Sign only the keywords in the sentence.
- Get a child’s attention before signing. You might have to stand in front of them or sign at their eye level, so that they can clearly see the sign.
- Always use the same signs and sign them clearly. You are the model for your child.
- When you use sign language, the hand you move the most is the one you use to write. It is called the leading hand.
- Use your face and body language to increase or add to the meaning of the sign. For example,
- If you are asking a question “Do you want more?”, have a questioning look on your face.
- Certain signs can be moved (directional). For example, if you are asking your child to give a toy to their friend, sign “give” from your child to the friend.
- Think about where a sign can be made (placement of signs). For example, the sign “sore” can be signed over the body part that is hurt. Sign “cup” on a table to give the message that you want the cup on the table.

What are we doing at Clarke Road School?

At Clarke Road School, keyword signing is used in the Senior Signing Choir and the Junior Signing Choir. The Junior Signing Choir includes our junior students and Hornsby South Primary School students. This has been a great choir activity for the last seven years.

Supported by:



Bendigo Bank

Awareness

Anticipation

Intentional

Imitation
First – Then

Categorising

Problem Solving

Critical Thinking

Yarra

This term, we have been reading the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and creating artwork based on the story. We have been creating butterflies, caterpillars and leaves using a variety of materials. Have a look at all of the interesting artwork which we have done!!!



Look at our beautiful butterflies



Shelani is gluing coloured cellophane on her C



Gabriel is gluing green crepe paper on his leaf with help from a Barker student



Atharv is role playing 'The very Hungry caterpillar' by putting food in the caterpillars' mouth during story book activities



This is The Very Hungry Caterpillar which ate all of the fruit



Jacob is putting glue on his C with the support of Barker students



These are our big fat caterpillars on the leaf

The Official Opening of Cluck Road Farm



Christopher Zerial Westfield Manager and
Andrew Davidson Westfield Retail Manager
planting a cumquat tree



Rotary District Governor Susan
Wakefield cutting the cake



Hornsby Shire Mayor
Phillip Ruddock planting a
mandarin tree

Christopher Zerial Westfield



Staff and students of Clarke Road School Chicken Dance



Senior Signing Choir 'A Million Dream'



Joy Newling and David Forsythe, Ku-ring-gai Rotary opening Cluck Road Farm



Malcolm Braid Past Rotary President planting a lime fruit tree



Thank you Morning Tea

Your chance to share morning tea, talk with staff and show your appreciation for all their hard work and dedication this year.

Tuesday December 4
10:30 - 11:40

*Bring a plate to share
(NO nuts).*

*If you can't make it but
would like to contribute,
send something in.*



enquiries to Kathy Cahill: kitcahill@bigpond.com



Self-Management

Steps to self-manage your NDIS funding

Come along and find out more about Self-Management, and learn the steps to have more choice and control by self-managing your NDIS funding.

- Hear from people with disability and carers who are currently self-managing their NDIS plan and how they do this
- Develop skills and confidence in using the NDIS portal to successfully self-manage your NDIS plan
- Meet other likeminded people who are self-managing or wanting to self-manage their NDIS plan
- Connect with Local Area Coordinators, Service Providers and Local Community Supports.

DATE: Monday 10th December 2018

TIME: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Mantra Chatswood, 10 Brown Street, Chatswood, NSW, 2067

If you would like to attend please RSVP to **02 9275 9441** OR <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/self-management-steps-to-self-manage-your-ndis-funding-tickets-52384062140>

If you require AUSLAN or language interpreting services, please advise at the time of the booking.

Light Lunch catering will be provided.

Mountain Climbing Toy



We have had a generous donation of a Mountain Climbing Toy from a family who have outgrown this toy. They would love to see another family get some use from it now. Please contact Deb Marsden on 0451 893 131 if you are interested. All parts and instructions are available.

CareFlight's Christmas Magic Mania

PO Box 6333 Alexandria 2015
Telephone: 02 96993925
Fax: 02 96901280

"CAREFLIGHT'S Christmas MAGIC MANIA"

A project by Magic Mania for special needs children and families throughout New South Wales

We would like to invite any special needs children and their families from your organisation to "MAGIC MANIA". It will be held on **Saturday 15th December 2015** at **QUAYSIDE (Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre), Homebush**. There are three (3) available show times commencing promptly at **12.30pm, 2.30pm and 4.30pm**, although we ask those needing assistance to arrive **at least 30 minutes prior**.

We are offering **FREE** tickets to this event to all special needs as well as care givers and family members who would like to attend. These tickets to you are completely **FREE OF CHARGE** and made possible by the generosity of your local business and professional people. If you could please reply by email or fax by **Wednesday 6th December**. We request that you email or fax us the number of tickets you require. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to call **Jenny Goodman** during business hours on

02 9699 3925

Yours sincerely

Jenny Goodman

Jenny Goodman project coordinator
Magic Mania



FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS PLEASE EMAIL OR FAX:

FAX: 02 9690 1280

careflightmagicandmoviemania@magicmania.com.au

NUMBER OF TICKETS: **SHOW 1 @ 12.30PM** _____

SHOW 2 @ 2.30PM _____

SHOW 3 @ 4.30PM _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

ORGANISATION from or heard about show from _____

Your Tel: _____ Your Fax: _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

☐ Please tick if you would like your tickets emailed (saves paper and postage)
Proudly supporting

CareFlight

Po Box 6333 Alexandria 2015

Term Planner

Term 4, 2018

Month	Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Oct	1	15 School starts WELCOME BACK!	16	17 The Corner Shop	18	19 Oct
Oct	2	22	23	24 The Corner Shop	25	26 Oct
Oct/Nov	3	29 JUNIOR SWIM SCHOOL	30	31	1	2 Nov P&C Meeting- 9.30am
Nov	4	5 JUNIOR SWIM SCHOOL	6	7	8 Cluck Road Farm Opening- All welcome!	9 Nov
Nov	5	12	13	14 The Corner Shop	15	16 Nov
Nov	6	19 NIDHC (Health Clinic) Selected students	20 Roseville College work experience students- all week	21 The Corner Shop	22 St Aloysius work experience students- Wed & Thurs	23 Nov
Nov	7	26	27	28 The Corner Shop	29	30 Nov Volunteers- Thank you morning tea
Dec	8	3 Orientation for new families	4	5 The Corner Shop Yr 12 Formal	6	7 Dec
Dec	9	10	11	12 The Corner Shop	13 Presentation day - All Welcome	14 Dec
Dec	10	17 Reports home	18	19 The Corner Shop Last Day of Term 4- have a safe holiday	20	21 Dec