

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This will be my last newsletter so I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Time to spend with family and friends is always special, to reconnect with family, to remember times past and to laugh a lot.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and wish them well.

New Community Agreement



All schools welcome parental involvement in their children's learning.

Earlier this month, a new charter by the NSW Education Department outlined the expectations of schools and their communities on how they communicate and collaborate to create a positive learning environment. The charter clarifies examples of unacceptable behaviour with the aim of ensuring the wellbeing of students, staff and the school community.

Dates to Remember



Last Day of Term 4
Wednesday 19 December

First Day Term 1 2019

Staff – Tuesday 29 January
Students – Wednesday 30 January

P.B.E.L. NEWS

Congratulations for another great year using PBEL at school and in the community. Special thanks to the PBEL team for organising our **Be a Learner** day in term 2 and **Be a Friend** day in Term 3. Holidays are a great opportunity to practice PBEL at home. Students can **Be a Learner** by listening and following instructions from parents. To practice **Being Caring** students can help sort recycling, water the garden and remember to pack away their belongings. They can **Be a Friend** by playing nicely with siblings and friends. Students can **Be Safe** by being sun smart outside, keeping their shoes and socks on or wearing seatbelts in transport.



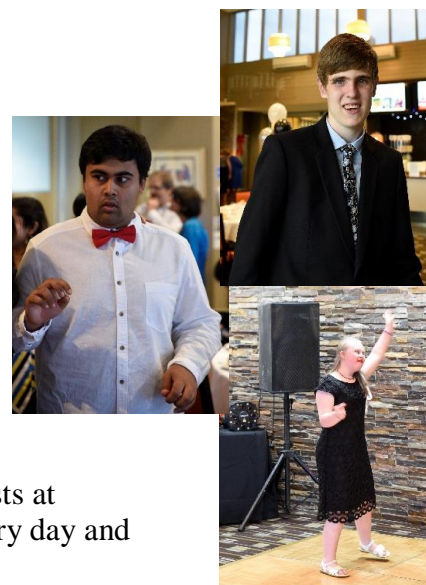
“Quality education requires everyone in a school community to work together,” Stokes said. That means relationships built on honesty and mutual respect, and on timely, polite communication.”

It is important for schools, teachers and parents to work together to get the best result for students and staff. Effective communication between the home and the school, parents and teachers is the foundation of mutual respect and honesty.

School Formal

It was wonderful to see the Past Students, Year 12 Students and senior students dressed up in their finery at Asquith Golf Club. The evening began with dancing, entrees, dancing, dinner, speeches, dancing, desert, dancing, farewell and more dancing.

The school leavers this year are Ben, Timothy and Simon. I wish them all well and hope they will think fondly of the time they have had at Clarke Road School.



Presentation Day

It was great to see all the students, staff, parents, volunteers and special guests at Presentation Day. We celebrated the students who strive to do their best every day and overcome challenges daily.



The junior students enacted the book ‘Oh Dear’ with Patrick the farmer looking for eggs. A senior student Timothy Yu led the song “Boom Chicka Boom” he was supported by Aiden and Jordan. The senior signing choir signed ‘A Million Dreams’ from the greatest showman.



The morning was about celebrating and it was wonderful to be there with all the students.

Reports

It's that time of year again, the teachers have been busily writing reports on student's learning and progress. Each report takes hours of work and the photos represent what learning looks like for your child. The reports will go out the last day of school, please fill in the survey and send it back first week of school.

The last day of school is Wednesday the 19th of December and the first day back for students is Wednesday the 30th of January. Our four kindergartens will start half days on the 31st of January. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday break.

Yours Sincerely
Catherine Treay
Relieving Principal.

Creating a Voice (CaV) Project

One of the key outcomes within Clarke Road School (CRS) is to **create a voice** for every child and young person. Another is to ensure **vibrant learning** takes place every day, so that students are given opportunities to build their unique and specific learning capabilities. Using The Communication Passport® (developed by Ylana Bloom and The Hills School), in addition, to our In the Zone for Learning (ITZ) teaching practices, as a school community we are realising these key outcomes.

A year in review

It takes many educators working collaboratively to transform learning. As the 2018 school year comes to an end, let's recognise and celebrate the many achievements by the team here at Clarke Road:

- All students assessed using The Communication Passport assessment.
- CaV classrooms assessed their students twice in 2018.
- One pilot class (Bembul) developed and implemented a 'model of practice' (i.e. the teaching and learning cycle: from assessment to targeted activities in the classroom).
- Developed the 'Learning map' pro forma (i.e. target/strength/extension form), which allows teachers to incorporate key parent goals within key learning activities based on The Passport assessment.
- Increased understanding and application of 'The flow'- The four domains (Cognitive, Receptive, Expressive and Social) are inter-related and certain areas can't be learnt/taught in isolation.
- Parent "Let's chat and Learn" sessions organised and implemented, so that we have a shared knowledge and common language within our CRS community.
- Approximately 20 newsletters articles written to inform CRS community.
- Increase in awareness and practice of keyword signs at most staff meetings.
- Professional Learning sessions for all CRS staff.
- SLSO mentoring session with Ylana Bloom about The Passport and other key information.
- Joint professional learning sessions with The Hills School- 3 Pop-Up days for Sydney metropolitan schools.
- Professional Learning sessions to:
 - Broken Hill region
 - Glenvale School (on In the Zone)
 - Lalor Park Public School and Willan's Hill School.
- Mentoring/coaching days to four schools.

Galston Bendigo Bank

This project is possible due to the Galston Bendigo Bank grant. Galston Bendigo Bank have been a key sponsor to our Creating a Voice project since 2015. We would like to thank them for their continued support. They also sponsor two Creating a Voice awards at our Presentation Day!

A sincere **thank you** to Tanya Townsend, Rebecca Saunders, Amy Owen, Verney Diamantes, Carol Cleasby, Nina Hayward and Aimee Firkins for a fantastic year on the CaV project. **Thank you** also to Ylana Bloom and The Hills School for this shared knowledge, common language and targeted learning/teaching practices that empower our children and young people to be the best learner they can be.

Warm regards

Kavi Razzaghi-Pour

Supported by:



Bendigo Bank

Awareness

Anticipation

Intentional

Imitation
First – Then

Categorising

Problem Solving

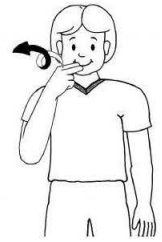
Critical Thinking

Santa's visit to Garraway



Last week, Garraway had a very special visitor to our classroom – everyone was very excited! Garraway have also been celebrating Christmas by creating and decorating Christmas ornaments – we can't wait until the 25th December!





Hornsby South PS and Clarke Road Junior School Signing Choir

What is Signing Choir? Well, it is where songs are both sung and key signs are used together. The junior school and Hornsby South Kindergarten classes have been singing and signing together for the last seven years! Hornsby South students regularly perform these songs during their special events. One of our favourite songs continues to be 'Up and down'! Thank you to Shanaya Dubash for conducting the choir this year. Take a look at all the great learners.



The Clarke Road and Hornsby South Signing Choir started in 2012, when we were relocated on the grounds of Hornsby South PS while our new school was being built!

**FUN
FACT**

Minty's Spot

Minty sleeping on the job.



Asquith Boys High Excursion

AN ANNUAL TRADITION



An Annual Event

A group of Clarke Road School representatives ventured out to Asquith Boys High School last week for the annual tradition of joint learning.

Rising To the Occasion

Students from both schools rose to the occasion and formed a special bond of understanding and compassion that will surely last a lifetime.

A Wealth of Activities

Students attended cooking, metal work, science and creative arts lessons. These were run by a number of Asquith Boys High teachers and supported by a selection of year 9 students.



Making sherbert in the science labs was a hit... that is until you put in too much citric acid.



Everyone loves to cook, everyone loves to eat



Aiden thanked all of the Asquith Boys helpers and their teachers for a fantastic day that ran like clockwork.



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Clarke Road Chronicle

The unofficial newsletter of Clarke Road School



Year 12 Graduate Formal

Written by Matt Horspool

It's that time of the year again when teachers, students, friends, and family join together to celebrate the year 12 graduates of Clarke Road School. Guests enjoyed an action packed night of speeches, dancing, good food and plenty of fizzy drink.

The dance floor was ablaze with energy and excitement as guests let loose to songs from old and new.

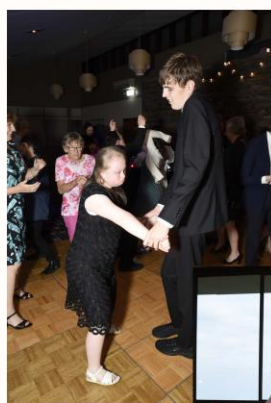
The Grads

Timothy Yu, Ben Hatcher, Simon Kabir, & Lance Fordham



New And Old Faces

There were a mixture of past school leavers and a fresh batch of Clarke Road's finest up and comers eager to make their mark on the night. All of the teachers remarked at how resilient and confident the new students were.



From everyone at Clarke Road School, we wish the graduates the best in their future endeavours.



Schools formalise partnership with parents

7 December 2018

A new charter outlines the expectations of schools and their communities on how they communicate and collaborate to create a positive learning environment.



All schools welcome parental involvement in their children's learning.

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Mr Stokes said the new charter would create the best outcomes for students.

"It's a question of developing a genuine partnership to support students, in which everyone is treated fairly and diversity is fully respected," he said.

The charter says parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- Communication from teaching staff will be timely, polite, informative and solutions-focused.
- Professional relationships with school staff will be based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

The charter outlines schools' expectations of clear, appropriate and respectful communications. It also reminds parents and carers that schools will take steps to address unacceptable behaviour to ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the school community. The charter outlines examples of these behaviours such as:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions and language, such as violence, threatening gestures or the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time-wasting communication.

All schools welcome parental involvement in their children's learning. Opportunities include helping in classrooms with reading and maths programs, coaching sports teams or creative arts groups, and volunteering with P&C associations.

Work Ready Skills

Book now
@ Hills Community Aid
hillsdailygrind@hca.org.au
96390620

Live your dream.

- Create a cool vision board – What do I want out of life?
- Learn resume writing and interview skills to get the job you want!
- Barista and customer service opportunities
- 10 important things you need to know about money!
- Looking after yourself – dealing with stress



Wednesday 23 January
9.30 am - 3 pm
Balcombe Heights Estate
(Turner Building 4)
92 Seven Hills Road Baulkham Hills
Morning tea & lunch included!



Hills Daily GRIND
MOBILE COFFEE



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay
DISABILITY FUTURES

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM VACANCIES

Open to school aged children



Monday – Friday
During the school term
3.00 – 6.00pm



**CatholicCare Disability
Futures Centre**
3 McAuley Place, Waitara



• According to NDIS price guide.
• Billed to your NDIS funding package.
• A fee for service set up is also available.

Our afternoon program offers children a range of activities including play time, music workshop, reading club as well as access to our purpose-built sensory room.

School aged children accessing our after school program are welcome to also enrol in our school holiday recreational programs.

Transport from school to our centre can be organised if needed. A small fee may be incurred.

MORE INFORMATION:

After School Programs
Disability Futures – CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay
P: (02) 9473 7213
E: disabilityfutures@catholiccaredbb.org.au

catholiccaredbb.org.au