SCHOOL NEWS

10 May 2019



Dear parents, carers, family members and community members,

Welcome back for Term 2. We certainly hope you had a lovely break and an opportunity to relax. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kavi Razzaghi-Pour for relieving as Principal during my leave at the end of Term 1. I had the opportunity to travel in Japan which was simply wonderful. I hiked the Kumano Kodo trail on the Tii Tanabe Pennisula. Japan is a wonderful country.

We welcome Cathy Treay back to Clarke Road School this term. Cathy had a lovely time establishing some classes at another local school during Term 1. Sadly, we farewelled Annabelle Dodd at the end of week 1 this term. Annabelle has been lucky enough to be able to go traveling and working in the USA. We extend our appreciation to Annabelle for her wonderful work in Bembul class. We will miss her.

This week we had a *serious medical incident* with a young student at Clarke Road School. We are so pleased to say the student is fine, thanks to the

 PBEL Be Safe Day

 22nd May

 22nd May

 Athletics Carnival

 29th May

 9:00am – 12:30pm

 High Flyers Assembly

 24th June

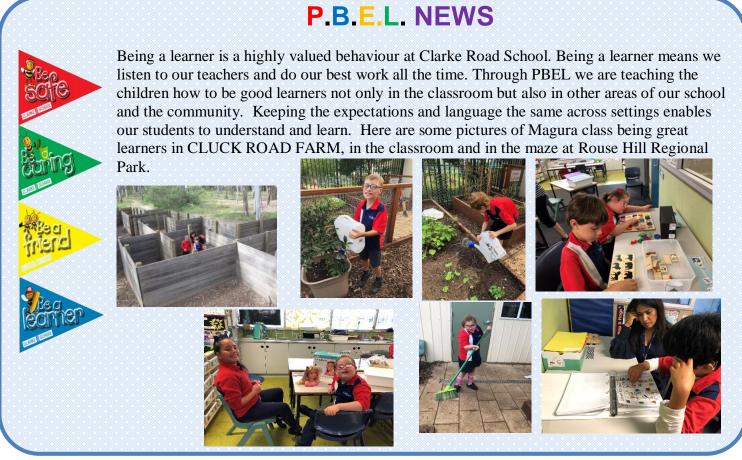
School Photo's

20th May

Dates to Remember

calm, quick and professional response of staff. I extend my deepest appreciation to those staff members. Their training and actions were critical. It is a timely reminder to all families and to us to-

- 1. Ensure all medical details for your child are up to date and accurate.
- 2. Advise the office of any changes to care, health or medication.
- 3. Ensure medications, puffers, epi-pens are in date and provided to the school.
- 4. Ensure all medication (where appropriate) are provided in webster packs.



Parents must update asthma and anaphylaxis plans every year in consultation with their doctor. These are to be forwarded to the office. Parents must provide asthma puffers, epi pens OR medications to the drivers and escorts if your child travels to school via the Assisted School Transport Program (ASTP). We have provided plans to all drivers and escorts (TSOs).

To support our students and their wellbeing we would like to reduce the likelihood of allergens. We ask that parents DO NOT send any nut products to school to help reduce the risk. We cannot guarantee a nut free environment, but your support is really valued.

If you believe your child requires an escort (TSO) on transport to support their needs, parents should advise the school and we will support you in completing the application to ASTP.

ASTP is a wonderful program that ensures so many of our students have travel to and from school. Parents put in applications for this program and the NSW Department of Education Assisted School Travel Program determine eligibility. It needs to be stressed that we (Clarke Road School staff) do not decide who drives ASTP cars and buses, nor do we employ staff who travel on these vehicles. I continue to support parents who have issues with any aspect of ASTP as a courtesy. We work closely with our drivers and escorts to ensure your child travels safely.

Sick students- We are heading into the winter months where the dreaded flu starts to emerge. Please ensure students are not sent to school when they are unwell. Germs spread quickly and students are much more comfortable resting at home. Should your child become unwell at any time at school or on the way to school, office staff will contact you and advise you. Our students' wellbeing matters.

In this newsletter we have a *survey for you to complete*. It is for our "Creating A Voice" team. Please take a moment to complete and return to school.

Over the holidays we had our school buses detailed ready for some travelling in Term 2. Our buses are such an essential part of our community access program and they ensure all students have the opportunity to get out into our community.

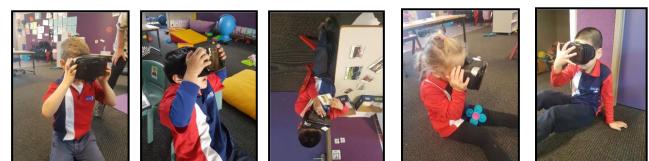
This term we kicked off our "Parents as Partners in Learning Project" and we had a whole day training session with a team of 4 parents- Brooke Moore, Archana Yadav, Ai Keng Ong and Helen Tozer. IT IS AN AMAZING team of parents to work with for our first session. The training looked at key values, tools and strategies that can be used to support our students as learners. Our mentor and partner Gerry McCloughin could not talk highly enough about the capabilities and commitment of these parents. We learnt so much together. The importance of strong home school partnerships can never be under estimated. Students learn best when there is consistency between home and school.

This week we started a trial program "move to Learn" in the junior school. We approached Building Blocks to design a movement program that supported our students to develop regulation skills, play skills through activities that stimulate brain development The importance our students being In The Zone for learning is just so critical. This needs to be combined with predictable structures and routines. Junior students participated and the feedback was just so positive from staff. The trial will be assessed at the end of this term. Thank you to families who have supported this innovative approach. We really hope it works for our students.

Can I leave you with some amazing photos of Yarra class using the Virtual Reality headsets to explore places and locations within our school.

Have a great week!

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Creating a Voice (CaV) Project

History of the Creating a Voice (CaV) project

Back in 2012, a group of parents from the junior and senior section of the school were interviewed, by an independent interviewer, with the main purpose of supporting the school to develop clear directions. After reading through the interview transcripts, a team at Clarke Road School wrote these two key outcomes/directions. In 2018, these were updated to reflect our current information and planning.

Vibrant learning

At Clarke Road School, we understand that your child's learning needs are unique. You will be an important voice in the planning of your child's learning because we recognise you as an expert too. Your child's educational program will have a strong focus on their individual learning needs so that delivery of curriculum is both meaningful and relevant. Innovative teaching methods ensure that student outcomes are achieved through the use of best practice teaching and learning programs.

Creating a Voice

At Clarke Road School, we provide outstanding opportunities for every student to communicate with the world around them. We recognise that being able to express needs and wants is vital to your child's happiness, contentment and learning. Your child is heard. Your child has a voice. We have high expectations that all students will learn to communicate effectively. Creating a voice will empower your child to engage with people and activities and empower your child as an individual.

About the Creating a Voice team and articles

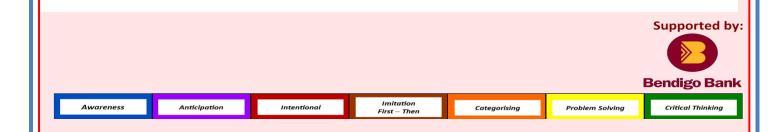
The CaV project and team were formed to achieve these outcomes. Outcomes that parents told us they valued and wanted for their children. The Creating a Voice articles are to inform parents, family members and community members on various aspects of the project. These include, but are not limited to:

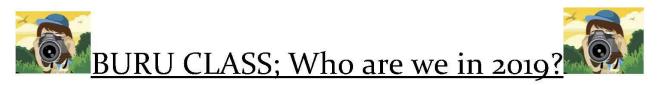
- key information from The Communication Passport
- how our human brains learn
- what this information looks like within a classroom
- practical examples
- how it has changed our teaching practices.

An important request

It is important to our CaV team/school team that we are informing you of the types of information that you find most helpful and practical. Can you please take the time to complete the survey (single, blue sheet in newsletter) and return it to your class team by 25 May 2019?

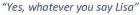
We value your feedback- by supporting each other we can better support our children and young people.





We are a class of 6 boys (young men they say). We are all friends and like each other's company. Some of us are in primary school and some in senior. This makes us very busy as we get to do some extra learning that other students have to do. We love our cooking and Leisure Skills program as we get to hang out with the older students and see what they do. We can't wait for every Tuesday when our teachers Scott and Lisa take us out on excursions. It helps our learning of some subjects that can be hard for us to understand. We like our set routines but don't mind if it changes a little bit, because they show us objects that we know and photographs that we understand. It also means something exciting is going to happen! If we get upset or don't feel well, there are lots of people at my school that know how to make us feel better, even when we don't think it will help, it actually does! They really know their stuff. Our classroom is really cool too, with heaps of exercise equipment and room or "zones" to move around in. It helps us to sit and concentrate for a little bit, and increase our anticipation of a new activity. Even though some of us are non-verbal and something about us liking concrete when we learn, they are designing individual ways to help us better communicate at school and at home. Anyway, here are some pictures showing all the awesome stuff we have done so far in 2019......









"Me and Bee Man after Highflyers"



"Being safe while waiting for the Green Man"



"I don't need a chair to be a learner"



"I like big bubbles & I cannot lie"



"I just caught the Bus again YAY"



"Kick harder Chris please"



"Happy birthday to me"



"I love hot chips, too much"





Term 2 P&C Meeting



Friday, May 17 at 9:30am Clarke Road School Library

All welcome. It is a great way to have input into the school and meet other parents. Morning tea is provided.

Contact Kathy Cahill for further information: <u>kitcahill@bigpond.com</u> or 0405448450

Woolworths Earn & Learn program has started



From Wednesday 01 May to Tuesday 25 June you can collect stickers at the checkout. You will earn one sticker for every \$10 spend, excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards. All stickers collected will be used to purchase teaching resources from Modern Teaching Aids.

Clarke Road School has registered again this year, and the stickers are coming in every day. Please keep encouraging your family and friends to collect as many stickers as possible for our school.

Any stickers collected can either be placed in the box in the Hornsby Woolworths store labelled 'Clarke Road Special School', or they can be sent into the school office.





Supporting resilience in children and families

Resilience is the ability to 'bounce back' from life's difficulties. For young people it is vital to help them develop resilience building strategies that support and promote well-being. Resilient people are seen as resourceful anc are emotionally and mentally balanced. Half of all serious mental health problems begin before the age of 14. We also know however that early intervention to address difficulties can improve the chance of long-term mental health and wellbeing.

will be able to create opportunities daily to help children and families develop their social and emotional skills to Professionals and community members who are aware of protective factors, and supporting resilience in people This forum is about developing our understanding and awareness of building resilience skills in children, families and ourselves to support our ability to cope with the inevitable challenges we are likely to experience in life grow into resilient adults.

THEY'LL BE OKAY- Collett Smart

Collett Smart is a psychologist, qualified teacher and author of newly released, 'THEY'LL be OKAY: 15 Conversations to help your child through troubled times.' (Hachette) Collett will be sharing about the theory and practice of developing and supporting resilience in children and families.



Collett Smart

Collett has more than 20 years' experience working in private and public schools, as well as in private practice. She appears regularly on nationa world. She is an Ambassador for International Justice Mission Australia television and radio, as an expert in teen and family issues. Collett has taught and delivered psychology workshops and seminars around the and is mum to 3 children, aged 11, 16 and 18 years old. Psychologist, Author, Speaker

Helen Tozer will be sharing about her lived experience of building resilience in herself and her family as they have navigated multiple country's, systems and challenges to access the services and support needed.



Helen Tozer

Macquarie University. She spent 15 years working in humanitarian aid in experiential education programs, and staff training. Following courses at internationally and locally on her experience with parenting a child with founded a family support charity, Fragile X Hong Kong. She has spoken Originally from Sydney, Helen studied early childhood development at complex learning needs. Helen lives with her Guinness World record holder husband, Mike, two children and enjoys coffee and running. Harvard in communications and nonprofit management, Helen co-Hong Kong, which included volunteer management, facilitating

Public Transport and Parking

into the theatre for validation and payment, otherwise it will be levied at the full rate on exit by Secure Parking is \$8.00 for guests. Patrons must take a ticket from the machine at the car park boom gates up Chatswood Train Station and Buses are a very short walk from Zenith Theatre. Parking.



12th June 2019

Wednesday

Date:

Details

Registration &

lunch: 12pm

FORUM 2019

Wednesday 12th June 2019

1-4:30pm

Seminar:

CHILDREN AND **RESILIENCE IN** SUPPORTING FAMILIES





Exceptional learning and care

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CITY COUNCIL































gmail.com

www.trybooking.com/ **Register: BCHWI**

fee. Includes light lunch

& afternoon tea)

(\$39.50+ 50c booking

Cost: \$40

Chatswood Railway St,

Cnr Mcintosh &

Zenith Theatre

Venue:

Wednesday 5th June Bookings close on **RSVP:**

All welcome

Inscfinteragency@ Further Info Please contact

CLARKE SCHOOL		Term 2 Planner				Term 2, 2019
Month	Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
May	2	6	7 The Corner Shop opens	8	9	10 May
May	3	13 NIDHC (Clinic)	14 The Corner Shop	15 Barker College Peer Support Program	16	17 May Hornsby South (HSPS)-Junior combined signing choir
May	4	20 School Photos	21 The Corner Shop	22 PBEL Be Safe Day	23	24 May HSPS-Junior signing choir
May	5	27	28 The Corner Shop	29 Barker Program Athletics Carnival All welcome	30 1.40pm- HSPS Band performance	31 May HSPS-Junior signing choir
June	6	3	4 The Corner Shop	5 Barker Program	6	7 June HSPS-Junior signing choir
June	7	10 Queen's Birthday	11 The Corner Shop	12 Barker Program	13 Dental Clinic	14 June HSPS-Junior signing choir
June	8	17 NIDHC (Clinic)	18 The Corner Shop	<i>19</i> Barker Program	20	21 June HSPS-Junior signing choir
June	9	24 High Flyers Assembly Time: 9.30am All welcome	25 The Corner Shop	26 Barker Program	27	28 June
July	10	1	2 The Corner Shop	3	4	5 Apr