

Dates to Remember .

Last Day for Students

Friday 16th December

Students Return

Tuesday 31st January 2023

Dear parents, carers, family members and community members,

In our final newsletter for 2022, I would like to take the opportunity to wish all of our families a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**. There has been much to celebrate this year, but also great sadness, as we grieved the loss of one of our students. I would like to extend my deepest appreciation for the continued support provided by our families and community members.

Thank you to Shanaya Dubash and the PBL team who coordinated a fabulous Presentation Day last week to celebrate all that our students have achieved this year. I would also like to thank the staff for their tireless effort in 2022 in ensuring that our students were known, valued and cared for in their educational programs. Thank you to our amazing executive team, our office staff, our ASTP drivers and escorts, and our cleaners for the wonderful job they have done in 2022.

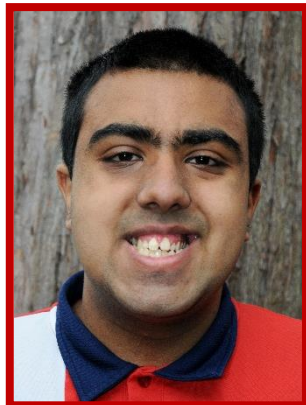
P.B.E.L. NEWS

This year CRS students have made great progress at school and in the community. During the school holidays, CRS students should be encouraged to **Be a Friend** in family gatherings by greeting others, talking nicely, and sharing food. Remind your child to **Be Safe** by wearing seatbelts in transport and following safety rules during activities (e.g. not running in swimming pool areas). Encourage your child to **B Caring** and wash up or wipe the table after mealtimes. CRS students are amazing **Learners** when following instructions and keeping good hygiene practices (washing hands, keeping social distance) at school, and they can do the same at home.



New School Leaders for 2023

Last week at our Presentation Day, we were thrilled to announce our new school leaders for 2023. Please join with me in acknowledging our School Captains for 2023: Will Patterson and Justin Sandhu; and our School Prefects: Ava Marsden and Valentine Starey. We know that they will do a fabulous job and will represent their school proudly in their new roles.



Thank you, Hornsby Westfield

Yesterday, we had a special visitor to Clarke Road who was sponsored by Hornsby Westfield. Santa's visit was greatly enjoyed by all and it was such a joy to hear the excitement across the school when he arrived and rang his bell! A special **thank you** to Glenn Wootton-Wilson and Lucy from Hornsby Westfield for their continued support of our school and for the generous and thoughtful gifts for each of our students.

Wishing you all a safe and restful break and we look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Rebecca

Principal's Speech from Presentation Day

Dear parents, carers, special guests and community members,

I would like to begin this morning by acknowledging the Guringai peoples of the Darug nation on whose land we meet today. I would also like to acknowledge and pay respect to Aboriginal peoples past and present.

In 2022, Clarke Road School added a new term to our vocabulary – 'awesomeness'. We learnt this from a parent, Rachel Callander, who spoke at an education conference about her child's 'super powers' or 'awesomeness'. It was a term that resonated with all of us because at Clarke Road we recognise the importance of choosing to focus on what our students **can** do and of celebrating the joy in each step of their journey. Today is about celebrating our students' 'awesomeness'.

2022 has been a year in which we have had an opportunity to implement many of the initiatives outlined in our School Improvement Plan developed last year. Clarke Road School has continued to be pioneers in the implementation of Passport for Learning and In the Zone and it has been exciting to see the Assessment for Complex Learners trial in 80 schools across the state through the work of the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE). I would like to acknowledge some of our CESE leaders here today, Alex Oo and Rachel Smith. This year has also seen the Success for Complex Learners project move into Stage 2, with this next stage having a particular focus on parent engagement. Our Clarke Road Parents, Ai Keng and Archana are valued members of our leadership team. Our Jannnawi parent group has also reformed with parents and staff together considering how to develop a meaningful toolbox of shared frameworks and strategies for parents. I would also like to acknowledge two other members of our Success for Complex Learners leadership team here today, Geoff Wing, our Fair Education Coach and Gerry McLoughlan our Community Partner. Their advice and wisdom have been invaluable and significantly appreciated.

2022 provided some complexities for us in our educational community, as we continued to navigate the pandemic with restrictions continuing in various forms throughout the year. The resilience, dedication and commitment to our students by staff and families continued to be a strength as together we supported our unique learners at a time of significant change in our wider community.

Despite these challenges, we were excited to further extend opportunities for our students through the opening of our Mini Woolies store in May. Students are now able to 'shop' and 'scan' on site during weekly shopping activities, furthering their academic and functional life skills. We are appreciative of the initiative and foresight of companies such as Woolworths and Fujitsu in considering their contribution to making Australia an inclusive country; a place where our students are seen and valued. Thank you, Sarah Corey from Woolworths, for joining us today. Of course, this program was also made possible by the original vision and initiative of Ku-ring-gai Rotary for Cluck Road Farm. We continue to value and appreciate our partnership with Ku-ring-gai Rotary and have been grateful for their support throughout the year.

2022 was also a year of great sadness, as we unexpectedly farewelled one of our much loved students, Harrison Coughlin. From the time Harrison arrived at school, he was a big personality; engaging, determined and loud. We particularly remember him at this time of the year, as Christmas was a treasured time for him. Harrison's passing reminds us all of the preciousness of life and of the importance of taking the time to laugh and celebrate together. It is special today to acknowledge him by presenting the Harrison L Coughlin award for determination and persistence. Thank you, Mel, Andrew, James and Tom, for being with us today.

Our P & C has seen great change this year. We farewell some of our longest serving members in Kati and Roshan. Kati and Roshan received Executive Directors Awards recently in recognition of the significant contribution they have made to the Clarke Road Community in their many roles. They will be greatly missed and our wider school community is grateful for the passion and commitment with which they have served. We also acknowledge Belinda's contribution to the P & C in her time at the school. We welcome with great appreciation our new P & C President, Brooke Moore. I would also like to acknowledge our other P & C members who are here with us today.

To our amazing staff and families– thank you! Thank you for your incredible commitment to our students' learning; for placing our students at the centre of all that you do. Thank you for your

teamwork, compassion and for pursuing with passion and purpose opportunities for students to be engaged meaningfully in their learning.

I would also like to add my personal thanks to Jann Pattinson in her role as Principal Coach Mentor.

I would now like to acknowledge our graduating Yr 12 leavers and their families. As I say your names, could I ask our Year 12 leavers and their families to stand. Taylor - Kati and Dave, Aman – Roshan and Vikrant, Evi – Belinda and Steve, Bene - Alissa and Vanni, Luca – Josie and Sarino, Abbey – Nichole and Richard.

To our students and families moving on to different settings in 2023 – Atharv – Archana and Sushil, Harry - Tracey – and Jesse – Julie and Chris

And now for the Principal's award for 2022

Evi started at Clarke Road School in 2019 when she was in Year 10 and it was with great courage that Belinda and Steve began the next steps in Evi's journey of starting at a new school. When Evi first began at Clarke Road, she was very reserved and unsure about engaging with others. Although she quickly won the hearts of class staff, we recognised that it would take time and a whole school approach for Evi to heal and to find her voice again.

Evi's goals in that first year were to increase her expressive language skills and to become more independent in a range of areas.

In the time that Evi has been at Clarke Road School, she has grown significantly in confidence and in her ability to follow routines and engage in learning activities both individually and with her peers.

This year, in Evi's last year of school, she has continued to make wonderful progress.

Some of the highlights of Evi's growth in 2022 have been:

- Initiating conversations with peers and staff
-
- Working as part of a team at the school café
-
- Engaging for longer periods when attending to learning tasks and
-
- Transitioning around the school with greater independence

Evi Rowe is the worthy recipient of the Principal's Award for 2022. Congratulations Evi!

Passport for Learning (P4L) Project

This week's Passport for Learning newsletter article looks at the cognitive skill: **Can the student handwrite and create texts?** Many students enjoy experimenting with drawing and painting skills as they develop their writing ability. In order to develop your child's understanding of writing it is important to begin at the right level. Here are some ideas to help you find the best place to start.

Blue students are working toward writing and drawing by developing a greater understanding of cause and effect (when I do something, it will make the object do something). A blue student understands cause and effect with one very familiar object. These students will benefit from lots of opportunities to use toys that do something that interests them when activated. For instance, a child who loves music could enjoy using keyboards, instruments or a switch operated radio.

A purple student is also working towards writing and drawing through cause and effect activities. A student working at a purple level understands cause and effect with a few familiar items. These students benefit from frequent opportunities to use cause and effect toys. Finding cause and effect toys with a motivating action for your child will assist them to develop this skill.

A red student can place marks on a page with an implement, such as scribbling without assistance. They can also use their fingers to paint. Students at this level are still learning to recognise writing implements (e.g. pen, crayon) and how to use them. This student uses a 'fist grip' (Palmar supinate grip) and can use one hand to hold a pencil while the non-writing hand supports/stabilises their paper. A red student benefits from writing implements that are thicker and easier to hold. Assist students at this level through joint attention, labelling and imitating students' pictures as they scribble. For example, use an implement to make dots on a page as a student makes dots. Students should continue to work on fine motor skills to develop their finger strength. Help students isolate their thumb and index finger (pincer grip) to pick up small items and put them in a container or tear and scrunch paper to make a picture.

A student working at a brown level can start to imitate drawing/writing by scribbling. Students are beginning to apply meaning to their scribbles such as attempting to scribble/draw things they frequently see, like their family, pets and favourite objects. A brown student will often scribble by using their whole arm to manipulate their writing implement. Help develop your student's writing skills by initially imitating their drawing before encouraging them to copy your movements such as drawing large continuous circles on a page. Developing fine motor skills through opportunities to pull up large zippers, place rings on a peg and remove pegs from a peg board are also helpful.

An orange student can make repeated and random marks on the page and imitate circles (tends to be open), diagonal, curved, horizontal and vertical lines. This student uses a digital pronate grip (all fingers are holding the writing implement, but the wrist is turned so that the palm is facing down towards the page). Some students will benefit from a pencil grip to help them develop a more mature grasp. Orange students are also beginning to stabilise their shoulders, so that the movement comes mostly from the elbow. As students are learning to apply meaning to the marks on the page, assist them by labelling and acknowledging their drawings. Help develop your child's interest in drawing by providing students with opportunities to draw by themselves. Squeezing water from a sponge, threading large beads and placing large pegs in a peg board can also help develop fine motor skills for drawing at this time.

Yellow students can draw simple human figures (for example, head, stick body and one other body part). They can copy other shapes like a cross, square, diagonal lines and can trace zig-zag and crossed lines. Student can label what they have drawn (i.e. they become more intentional with their drawing). This student uses a quadrupod grip or 4 finger grip (4 fingers are held on the writing implement, beginning to form the arc between the thumb and index finger). They can use movement mostly from the wrist (i.e. the hand and fingers move as one whole unit). A yellow student can now understand that writing is made up of lines, curves and repeated patterns which they try to imitate in their own writing. Although yellow students may not write actual letters, you may see components of letters in their drawing, which might include lines, dots and curves. Encourage yellow students to draw pictures to retell an experience. For example, after going to the park, ask them to draw themselves playing on the swing (assist them if needed). Write a sentence about what they did to model how to label drawings.

A green student can draw pictures of people in more detail (for example, drawing both arms and legs and facial features). They can copy more shapes like circles, triangle, squares, and diagonal cross. Green students can understand that the lines they draw can represent something (for example, a square for the house, a triangle for the roof and a rectangle for the door) and they are drawing with more clarity. Students use a static tripod grip or 3 finger grasp (3 finger grasp where the thumb, index and middle finger work as one unit). This student begins to understand the difference between drawing pictures and writing letters/words. Help develop a green student's drawing skills by providing simple sequences for them to copy e.g. "how to draw a sun," "how to draw a car".

Awareness

Anticipation

Intentional

Imitation
First – Then

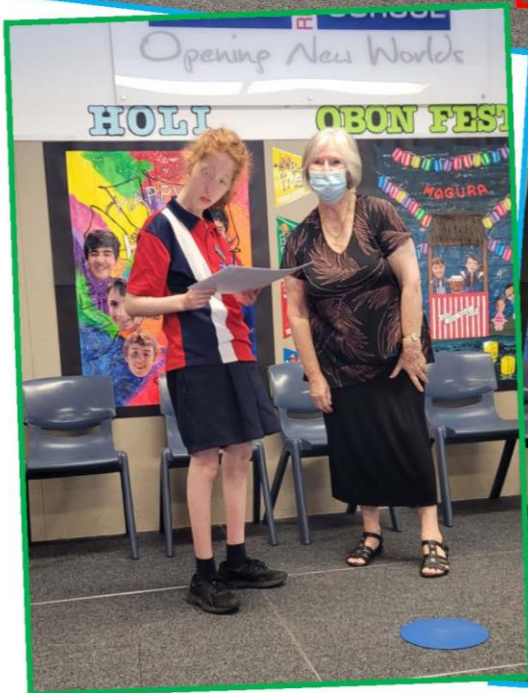
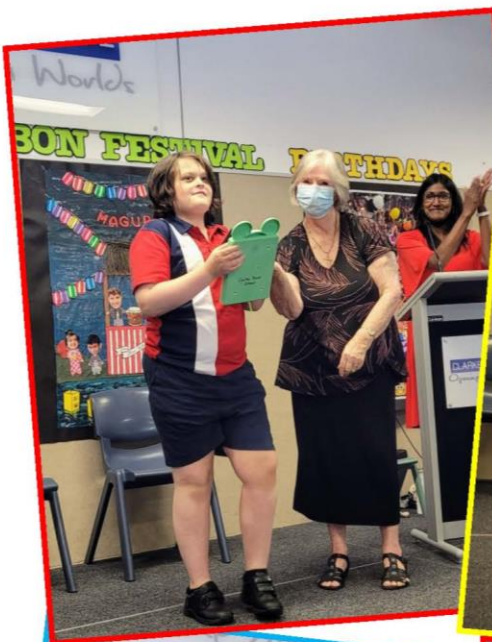
Categorising

Problem Solving

Critical Thinking

Congratulations to
our award recipients,
Year 12 graduates,
performers and all
our students for a
wonderful 2022!







Congratulations to our 2023 school captains - Will and Justin
and school prefects - Val and Ava!!



This week we had a very special visitor to Clarke Road! He wears a red suit, has a long white beard and says "HO HO HO!"

We didn't spot any reindeers but it didn't matter because Santa brought presents for everyone!







A big thank you to Hornsby Westfield for their generosity in providing gifts for students and staff.

Thank you to Glenn and Lucy for their time and co-ordination of the visit.

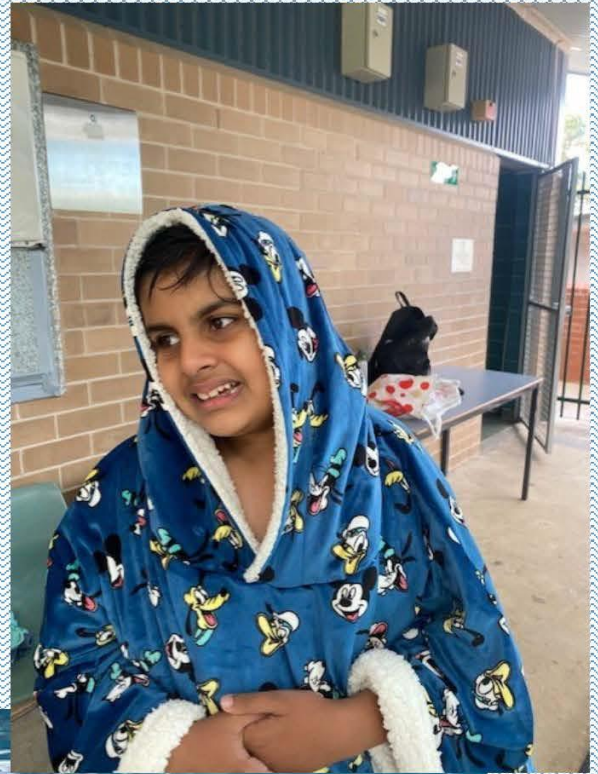


HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Bembul have swam every Friday
this year and made excellent
progress. We have splashed
and giggled, kicked and swam.
We all look forward to Fridays!

What an amazing year !
THANKS Bembul





School Holiday Program

Wednesday 22nd December 2022 -
Saturday 28th January 2023
Fun, Safe & Exciting Activities



Activities

- Raging Waters
- SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium
- Movies
- Flip Out
- Beach!



Scan QR
code to
Register

For more information see link below!

Or contact one of our Sparkle Team Members



Mixed Full Day Activities & Focus Camps at PCYC!

Dec 19 - Jan 30

Join us for gymnastics, parkour, netball, nerf wars, basketball, boxing, crafts & much more!



Students Name _____

Class _____

Item	Unit cost	Size	Quantity	\$
Short Sleeve Polo Size: 4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18/S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL	35.00			
Long Sleeve Polo Sizes: 4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18/S, M L XL 2XL, 3XL	43.00			
Girls Summer Tunic Sizes: 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20	70.00			
Jumper – red Sizes: 4,6,8 (no size 10 available)	48.00			
Jumper – red Sizes: 12,14,16,18,20	53.00			
Weather proof Jacket – Navy Sizes: 4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18	53.00			
Cap – Navy / Red. Please indicate colour (One size fits all)	14.00	Navy/Red (Circle)		
Bucket Hat – Navy Sizes: XXS (46cm), XS (50cm), S (52cm), M (54cm), L (56 cm)	16.00			
Bag - small	54.00			
Bag - large	60.00			
TOTAL ORDER PRICE				
\$				

PLEASE NOTE THAT UNIFORMS ARE TO BE PRE-PAID

Please send order form together with payment / bank transaction receipt in an envelope marked "Attn P&C – Uniform Order".

Payment methods:

1. Direct deposit to P&C account

Account Name: Clarke Road School P&C Association

BSB: 032085

Account Number: 322215

Reference: Please use Student name as on the order form to identify payment and email transaction receipt to clarkerd-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au

2. Cheque (payable to 'Clarke Road School P&C')

3. Cash with uniform order

Please allow 7 days for processing your order

Prices as at October 2022