School News

Principal’s Report

Last week I attended the State Primary Principal’s Association State Conference. The keynote address was delivered by Rosie Batty, Australian of the Year. While Rosie’s story was devastating, staff in schools need to have greater awareness of the complex issue of domestic violence and the traumatic impact on parents and children. This, I believe, reinforces the outstanding work being undertaken in this school by our KidsMatter team in leading professional learning in relation to children’s mental health and wellbeing.

This term, following the successful introduction of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) in our Opportunity Classes, we have introduced BYOD to our Stage 3 students. Feedback from Mrs McKervey (Stage 3 Assistant Principal) has been that students are following the guidelines and using their devices correctly. We are committed to introducing new ideas that will engage our students and provide new opportunities to extend their learning.

World Teacher’s Day

World Teachers’ Day is a day that celebrates the efforts of teachers on a global scale, acknowledges the important contribution made to our community in an increasingly complex, multicultural and technological world.

Inaugurated on 5th October 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), World Teachers’ Day is celebrated annually in over 100 countries. The day allows students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for teachers and the positive impact they make on society.

Internationally World Teachers’ Day is celebrated on the first Friday in October. However, as this is usually during school holidays, Australia celebrates the day on the last Friday in October of each year.

Every day teachers make a difference as they inspire and engage young people to learn and succeed. Often it is years later that a teacher realises the impact that she or he had on a student, or an entire class.

World Teachers’ Day is an important day internationally to acknowledge the skills and efforts of teachers in an increasingly complex society.

Greg O’Neill
Principal

Live Life Well @ School

Live Life Well @ School is a joint initiative between the NSW Department of Education and NSW Ministry of Health to promote physical activity and focus on healthy eating habits. This term equipment buckets have been provided for each classroom to encourage children to be active during recess and lunch. The senior students have especially enjoyed the long skipping ropes used to skip with up to 10 people at a time!
**Keeping In Touch – Week 4**

Mr Lloyd has also been busy this week building our new garden beds for our kitchen garden. Look out for the fruit and vegetables that will start appearing over the coming weeks.

**District Public Speaking Competition 2015**

On the 14th October, 2015, four students from our school went to the District Public Speaking Competition, which was held at Plumpton Public School.

All students represented Colyton Public School with pride and honour. Congratulations on your hard work and excellent presentation skills.

Special mention to Tazeen Atif of 4K who achieved third place.

Our Stage 2 students were also awarded with **third place** out of 14 contestants.

Representing our school at this competition has already made you **WINNERS!**

Students who represented our school were:

- Priyan Thesinghu 3P
- Tazeen Atif 4K
- Micaiah Franco 5H
- Denzel Betham 6V

**Runners Wanted! - join our Run Club**

Colyton is trialing a running club to provide students with an opportunity to improve their fitness. Students of all levels of fitness are encouraged to participate. They can run it, walk it or do both!

**Who:** Any students from years 3-6.

**When:** 8:30am Wednesday mornings

**Where:** Meet at the bell on the staff lawn.

**What:** Joggers and a bottle of water.

Yours in Sport,
Mrs N Schreurs and Mr J Clark

**PSSA Gala Day**

Last week Colyton’s Senior League Tag teams participated in the PSSA St Mary’s Gala day. This was a non-competitive gala day where the students were able to play a number of games against other schools in our community. The students who represented Colyton Public School have been training hard and their respectful behavior on the day is to be commended.

The Colyton senior boy’s team won all their games with **Benny-Ray Ibekaku** receiving the Player of the Match Award and **Saifullah Rashid** receiving the Sportsmanship Award.
The Colyton senior girls team won all but one game, with Anna Maria Kobti receiving the Sportsmanship Award and Jaylease Vandorp-Bronwing receiving the Woman of the Match Award.

Thank you to the family members who came along to show their support on the day.

Mrs Durkin
Yr 5 Class Teacher

**South Western Sydney Soccer sessions**

On Monday 26th October 2015 members from the SWS soccer club came to Colyton Public School and ran sessions with students in 3-6 classes. In each session we got the opportunity to learn some new soccer skills. We learnt how to dribble, juggle and how to do headers! We played the shark game where we had to keep our ball in the square. We also learnt the 5 tricks in soccer which are:

1. On the run
2. On the shoe
3. On your knee
4. On the floor and
5. Stay alive

We also got the chance to play on their big blow up field which was totally awesome. We would like to send a big thankyou out to the South Western Sydney soccer club, in particular to Alex and Bill who volunteered their time. We had loads of fun!

By 4C

**Art Club -Artwork on display in Westfield**

Last term the Stage 2 and Stage 3 Art Club students put together a canvas artwork that is a part of the "World's Biggest Classroom" project. It is currently on display in Westfield Mt Druitt, along with artworks from other local schools. It can be found near the main stage area, out the front of the ‘Connor’ store until November the 8th.

The students came up with the ideas themselves and constructed the entire canvas themselves, with a little help from 6B.

If you get a chance, go out and check out the talent we have at Colyton!
**Busways - Changes to Numbering System**

We advise parents that the bus numbers of Busways trips serving your school will change, commencing on **Monday 2nd November 2015**. This is due to Transport for NSW business rules that necessitate all bus companies to convert dedicated school buses to an individual 4 digit number, in order to assist with reporting and technology requirements. As a result, the existing 1 and/or 2 digit numbers will need to change – for a general example, Bus 1 becomes 6015.

It is important to note that there are **no changes to the roads used and arrival/departure times** associated with this process – it is just a simple re-numbering of the existing Busways services. We also wish to highlight that any ‘route’ services (generally a 3 digit number) which serve your school will not change.

Attached to the end of this newsletter is a copy of the number changes.

Should you have any questions about this change, please contact **Busways Customer Service on 9497 1870 or 9497 1887**.

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**Stewart House**

Every year Stewart House benefits financially from collections of clothing in schools. The Smith Family generously provides bags and undertakes the collection, paying Stewart House for each kilogram received. About $25,000 is raised each year from this collection.

Once again schools are seeking your support. Last week you would have received a Stewart House Clothing bag. By returning the bag with all your clean, good quality second hand clothing, you will be making a most valuable contribution to the welfare of children and adults in great need.

Please return your bags by **Friday 6th November 2015 to 2M’s room**.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

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**P&C News**

Over the next few weeks the P&C will be asking families for donations for upcoming raffles and colouring competitions. We appreciate that Christmas time can be expensive for families so any donation you are able to make is very much appreciated and helps the P&C to support our school in providing and encouraging a community environment within our school.

We will also be asking for volunteers, ideas and attendance at our meetings so we can learn more about what our school community would like to see in our school. Life is busy so we don’t ask a lot of your time, even half an hour can help to share the workload amongst other parent volunteers. Many hands make light work!

We will be holding orientation for kindergarten in the next few weeks, so please be sure to say hello to our newest students and parents and help them feel welcome to our school community.

Next year we would love to see more parents, businesses and the local community involved in our P&C so come along to the meetings, meet other parents, gain new friendships, learn about the school and community and voice your ideas and suggestions.

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**P&C Meeting – Change of date**

Due to Melbourne Cup Day and suggestions from parents the next P&C meeting that was due to be held on the evening of Tuesday 3rd November has been changed to:

**Friday 6th November at 9:30a.m in the residence**

Thanking you,

Grant Pickering
P&C President
Thank you for your Woolworths stickers!

We would like to send a big thank you to all the parents and community members who collected stickers for the Woolworths Earn 'N' Learn program.

Colyton collected an amazing 21,651 stickers, which will be used towards new educational equipment for our school. We look forward to receiving our goods in Term 1, 2016.

Selective High School Applications for 2017 - now open online

Applications Open

Applications for placement in Year 7 at a Selective High School in 2017 are open to parents of students in Year 5 from 13 October to 16 November 2015.

All Year 5 students have been sent home with an Intention to Apply letter this week. This letter provides parents with important dates and some brief information about the application process. If you would like to submit an application for your child, you will need to complete the bottom section of the letter sent home and return it to Mrs Rodgers. Mrs Rodgers will then give your child an Application Information Booklet. The application information booklet will also be available on the High Performing Students Unit's website at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE. THERE ARE NO PAPER APPLICATIONS.

Parents without internet access or who cannot use a computer can apply at a public library. The school may also be able to make arrangements to make a computer available. Parents who are unable to use a computer may contact the High Performing Students Unit for assistance.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT LATE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 16 NOVEMBER 2015

All students wanting to go to a selective high school for Year 7 in 2017 will have to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of 10 March 2016. Parents can apply for up to three selective high schools. A map showing where the selective high schools are is available on the Unit’s website and a complete list of selective high schools is available at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolfind/types/shs_ahs_details.php

Parents may email the High Performing Students Unit: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au or telephone: 1300 880 367 if they have enquiries not covered in the application information booklet. Applications for Selective High School are now available on-line only.

Kindergarten Enrolments

If your child turns 5 on or before the 31st July 2016 they are eligible to commence formal schooling in 2016. If you intend to enrol your child in Kindergarten at Colyton Public School in 2016 please call into the school office and pick up an Application to enrol in a NSW Government School.

This term our school will hold Kindergarten Enrolment Orientation days and it is important that you apply to enrol your child as soon as possible so that you & your child can be invited to and included in these programs.

Community News

The 2015 Blacktown City Art Prize

The 2015 Blacktown City Art Prize, Children and Young Artists Section is now open! Children and young artists between the ages of 5 and 15 are invited to submit entries for selection and judging, with certificates and age group prizes on offer.

The completed entry form and artwork must be delivered on Friday 13th or Saturday 14th November (between 10:00am and 5:00pm) to the following address:

Blacktown Arts Centre
78 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown NSW 2148
(Enter Arts Centre car park via Campbell St)

For enquiries please phone (02) 9839 6558 or visit Blacktown Arts Centre - 2015 Blacktown City Art Prize for details.
## Keeping In Touch – Week 4

### Council Cleanups
- *do you have unwanted usable items?*

[www.councilcleanups.com](http://www.councilcleanups.com) is a group of volunteers that will come to your home and take away your usable, unwanted items and re-home them with needy and grateful families who are ‘doing it tough’.

Although not affiliated with any particular council or government department, [www.councilcleanups.com](http://www.councilcleanups.com) has adopted this name because of the widely understood and accepted concept of ‘having a council cleanup’. When the time comes to dispose of usable items please contact us on:

- **Web:** [www.councilcleanups.com](http://www.councilcleanups.com)
- **Email:** sydney@councilcleanups.com
- **Phone/Text:** 0411 347 207

## Term 4

### Week 5

| Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November | Panthers on the Prowl - Stage 3 |
| Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November | P&C Meeting 9:30am in the residence |

### Week 6

| Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November | Panthers on the Prowl - Stage 3 |
|                               | Kinder Orientation Evening – 7pm |

### Week 7 - Kinder Orientation Afternoons Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov

| Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November | Panthers on the Prowl – Stage 3 |

### Week 8 - Kinder Orientation Afternoons Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov

| Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November | OC Orientation Night - Panthers on the Prowl – Stage 3 |
| Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November | OC Orientation Day |
| Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November | K-2 Disco |
|                               | 3-6 Disco |

### Week 9 - Kinder Orientation Afternoons Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec

| Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November | Panthers on the Prowl – Stage 3 |

### Week 10

| Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December | Panthers on the Prowl Graduation |
| Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December | 3-6 Presentation Day |
Keeping In Touch Term 3, Week 10

Friday 11th December
- K-2 Presentation Day
- Year 6 to IMAX

Week 11

Monday 14th December
- Year 6 Graduation Assembly
  – Year 6 Farewell

Tuesday 15th December
- Year 6 to Luna Park

Wednesday 16th December
- Last day of Term 4 for students

Thursday 17th December
- Staff Development Day – no students
  - Last day for teachers

Lilys is kid friendly!

Don’t stress out on the thoughts of taking the kids to dinner.
At Lilys we offer plenty of entertainment that will keep them busy.

Fun, Fun Fun! The Gizmo Kids Room is a great space where the young ones can enjoy themselves in a safe environment. With a wide assortment of coin operated machines the kids are pretty much guaranteed of a happy time.

Lilys will even be more kid friendly with a brand new outdoor playground being built next to the new alfresco dining area. The multimillion dollar renovation will be finished early November and welcomes families 7 days a week.

Did you know that kids eat free on Thursdays? Order a main meal and receive one kids meal for free.

For more info about the venue, trading hours and menus, visit www.lilys.net.au

Lilys Restaurant, Bar & Function Centre | 5 Quinn Avenue, Seven Hills | 02 88185555

Coming soon!
Dear Student/Parent/Guardian

Commencing Monday 2nd November 2015, many school bus numbers will be changing as shown below. It is important that you make yourself aware of the new bus number for the morning and afternoon trip, as both will be different.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM - PM</th>
<th>Current Bus Number</th>
<th>New Bus Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AM</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6007</td>
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<td>6579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6507</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This change to 4 digit numbers is required to ensure Busways can meet guidelines set by Transport for NSW in terms of reporting and ticketing functionality.

Detailed school bus timetables (including all connecting services) are available on the Busways website at www.busways.com.au or for further information, please contact Busways Customer Service on 9497 1870 or 9497 1887.

Busways wishes to apologise for any confusion this critical information upgrade may cause.

Yours sincerely

BUSWAYS BLACKTOWN PTY LTD
(10) Colyton Public School (19/10/2015)
For further information on the Saver Plus program please contact Ms Hanna on 9625-8185.

Frequently asked questions about the Saver Plus program

What is Saver Plus?
Saver Plus is a matched saving program that can help people and families to establish a long-term savings habit, build their money management skills and knowledge and save for education costs.

What does Saver Plus offer?
The Saver Plus program offers
- an opportunity to build your financial skills
- an opportunity to save for your own or your children’s education
- personal support and guidance to save
- an opportunity to have every $1 you save ‘matched’ with $1 (up to $500).

Who is eligible to participate in the program?
You may be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:
- are 18 years or over, and
- are either
  - the parent or guardian of a child who is attending school this year or next year, or
  - attending vocational education yourself where you will receive an accredited vocational education certificate
- have a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal
- are able to demonstrate capacity to save after regular expenses have been paid
- commit to attending a MoneyMinded Financial Education Program.

How does Saver Plus work?
Saver Plus participants select education-related items they wish to save for. They agree to a savings routine over a period of 10 months. If participants make regular and consistent savings deposits and completes the MoneyMinded Financial Education Program, every dollar they save will be matched with an additional dollar, up to a total of $500.

Matched funds are used to buy an education-related product or service for the participant’s personal vocational development or their children’s educational costs. For example, education resources could include uniforms, textbooks, camps, excursions, special subject costs, musical instruments, sporting equipment or a computer.

Where are savings deposited?
Saver Plus participants open an ANZ Progress Saver account in which they deposit their savings. This account does not have any monthly account keeping fees.

What does the MoneyMinded Financial Education Program involve?
The MoneyMinded Financial Education Program covers personal finance and money management. It usually involves four workshops each 2.5 hours long. They are conducted in small groups. They include saving strategies, setting goals, budgeting, superannuation, scams, credit cards, credit checks and banking. The workshops are informal, fun and interactive. They are designed to help develop financial skills, knowledge and confidence.

What happens if participants want to leave the program or make withdrawals?
Participants are free to leave the program at any time. This would mean that they give up the opportunity to have their savings matched with additional funds, but they still receive all of their savings and any earned interest.

Participants are advised to use the account exclusively for Saver Plus program savings and whilst they are not prohibited from withdrawing their funds before the end of the program, the amount withdrawn will not receive matched funding.

How will participants receive the matched funds?
At the end of the savings period, Saver Plus National Office will arrange for an electronic funds transfer (EFT) into the participant’s ANZ Progress Saver account after receiving a request with a copy of evidence that shows the price of the item/s and details of the registered business that is selling the item/s.
Keeping In Touch Term 3, Week 10

Guide for eligible savings goals

The following items are eligible:

- School specialist subject costs and extra tutoring
- Equipment or fees for your child's club or community activities such as sport, music, dance, scouts, art, photography, etc.
- Computer accessories & Internet costs
- School book bags/backpack, lunch box, drink bottle
- Uniforms and sports uniform including school shoes and child's sports shoes
- School excursions and camps
- Furniture for studying (e.g., desk, chair, bookshelves, desk lamp)
- Special education aids and special needs services that are not available through other funding, e.g., picture cards & speech therapy
- Equipment needed for vocational training & TAFE/VET fees

Please note that the list of items is not exhaustive and participants may propose other savings items. Saver Plus reserves the right to decide on any items eligibility. If a participant experiences any inconsistencies, they may change the educational item they are saving for. However, they should immediately discuss this with their Saver Plus Worker.
The following items are NOT eligible:

- Watches
- Non-study related furniture
- Mobile phones, telephones, MP3 players, televisions or gaming consoles
- Items including second-hand equipment purchased without a receipt that includes an ABN
- Medical or health equipment
- Clothing and shoes for outside school including wallets and purses
- University fees, AHEAD-HELP, VET-FEE-HELP

Please note that this list of items is not extensive and participants may propose other savings items. Saver Plus reserves the right to decide on items eligibility. If a participant's circumstances change, they may change the educational items they are saving for; however, they should immediately discuss this with their Saver Plus Worker.
This year at Colyton Public School students will be focusing on a rule of the week. Each week students will participate in PBL lessons which are targeted at the rule. At each stage assembly a PBL award will be given to a student from each class who has been seen following the rules and expectations of the week.