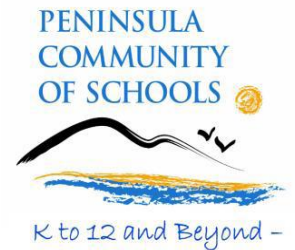


Peninsula Community of Schools

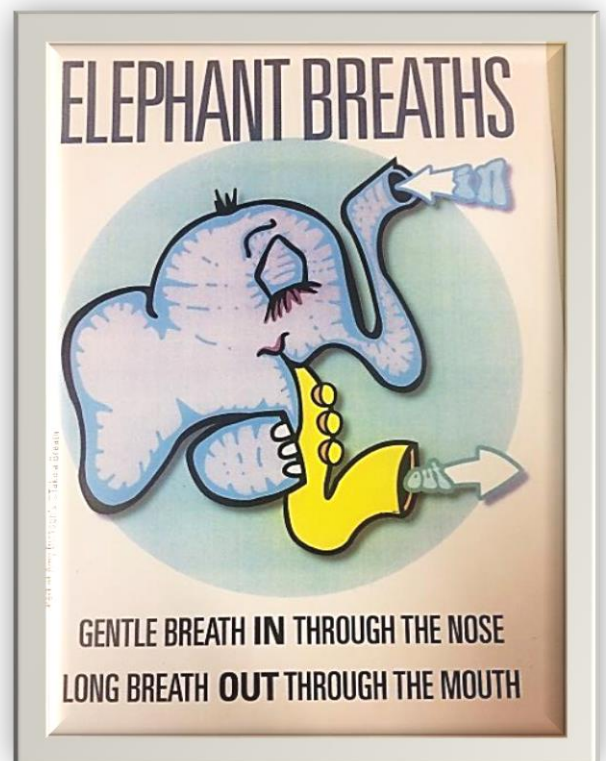


MACQUARIE
University

Term 1, 2017

Elanora Heights Introduces Amy Dickson and her Elephant Breaths

World renowned classical saxophonist and ex Elanora Heights student, Amy Dickson visited our school to show a breathing technique that helps her prepare for playing in front of thousands of people in musical performances all over the world. Everyone can learn this simple breathing method and students reported that they were able to centre themselves, relax and be present after learning this from Amy. It is a simple way for our students, teachers and parents to quieten the mind before going to sleep or settling the nerves before a performance or just simply calming themselves when too excited.



We thank Amy for coming to our school and we look forward to her return.

Narrabeen Lakes

Halogen National Young Leaders Day

"ImagiNATION" was the theme for this year's Halogen Young Leaders' Day on March the 3rd 2017. It was a great day for our Captains to meet inspirational leaders and friends from other local schools.

Our leaders, Starly, Will, May and Rory attended the National Young Leaders Day for 2017. They were accompanied by Wheeler Heights Deputy Principal Mrs Armstrong. The leaders were very fortunate to meet many famous people such as Emma Knight, Scotty Tweedy, Sam Skinner, Sam Webb, Jade Hameister, Dr Jordan Nguyen and Barry Conrad. They talked about their journey in life, and their leadership values, and were very inspirational.

Emma K and Scotty T were the hosts for the day; our captains received a booklet that was called your passport to the imagINATION. With each speaker, they wrote down any key words or ideas that inspired them.



Students were given time to explore their own personal leadership values and what they needed to work on to improve their ability to be great leaders for Narrabeen Lakes. They developed a deeper understanding of what leadership meant and then set ambitious goals that they would like to achieve in the year ahead.

There were at least 4,500 people from around NSW schools. They got to join in dances, Mexican waves and some percussion activities using their bodies. Students enjoyed a performance by Emma Knight who played the saxophone, Scotty Tweedy dressed up as a turkey and Barry Conrad Sing "Happy."

The day was a fantastic opportunity to meet some interesting leaders and develop their leadership skills.

Pittwater PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival

The Pittwater PSSA held their annual Zone Swimming Carnival at Warringah Aquatic Centre last Wednesday where the 9 Pittwater Zone Schools competed across a variety of disciplines. The day was run extremely well in the capable hands of Jo Connolly from Avalon who ran the day with aplomb.



Congratulations to Mona Vale Public School who were declared the overall champion school. From a Narrabeen Lakes standpoint, we were extremely proud of the results we have achieved. One of our students, Takumi was an absolute standout for our school, breaking four zone records on the way to being overall swimmer of the meet! We are also proud to have Maya and Kiahni also progress to the Zone team to compete at the Sydney North Carnival.

With all the success on the day, we were crowned the handicap point score champions. This is an achievement that we have never attained and we are extremely thrilled with the result.

Avalon Public School 21st Century Fluencies

Avalon Public School is keeping a close eye on educational trends and developments, with a view to providing the highest quality education to our students and on-going quality professional learning for our teachers.

Recently, approximately 70 families were represented at a presentation 'Welcome to the Digital Revolution' by Ian Jukes. This, once again, reinforced the positive community support that is evident at Avalon.

Echoing his delivery to our teaching staff earlier that day, Ian spoke about the on-going, and rapidly increasing, disruption to the workplace caused by fast paced technological change and innovation. He also detailed the changing skillset needed in the modern world of work and proposed how schools might prepare their students for this rapidly changing world.



One particular focus is what has come to be known as the 21st Century Fluencies: solution fluency, media fluency, creativity fluency, collaboration fluency, information fluency and global digital citizenship. These are skills, along with the essentials of literacy and numeracy, that students need to be taught to be fully equipped for the workforce of the future. These fluencies reflect the General Capabilities of the NSW K-10 syllabus documents taught at all public schools, including Avalon Public School.

In addition to meeting with staff, parents and students, Ian and his partner, Nicky Mohan, provided a day's professional learning to our 11-member modern learning team on integrating one of these fluencies – solution fluency – into units of work from the history, geography and science syllabi. They will trial this fluency with their classes this term and next, before we look to expand the learning out across the school in 2017 and beyond.



Exciting times ahead at Avalon – challenging minds and building character.

Collaroy Plateau Public School

Waste Free Wednesday

At Collaroy Plateau Public school the best day of the week is Wednesday. Why you may wonder...well, that's when all students K-2 do their bit for the planet. Waste Free Wednesday was introduced as part of our long term sustainability goals. Every week we try to use as little packaging as possible in our lunchboxes. We are finding that our playground is cleaner and the compost we are making is being used in our brand new Veggie patches.

As well as reducing waste, we are also trying to help chimpanzines by donating old mobile phones to the MobileMuster. By recycling we are saving energy and protecting our environment. All the money that is raised by reselling the phones is donated to support the work of Dr Jane Goodall to help fund conservation programs in Africa.

Collaroy Plateau Public School is very proud of the part we play in Reducing, Recycling and Reusing.



Debating Pedagogy Course Workshop for Teachers and Premiers Debating Challenge (PDC)



On Wednesday 15th March, Collaroy Plateau Public School (CPPS) hosted 110 students and 23 teachers from across the Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS) and the extended northern beaches to participate in team workshops and Teacher Professional Learning (TPL). The workshops and TPL were organised to provide support to students involved in the Premiers Debating Challenge, offering enrichment/GATS opportunities for these students. Students and staff were engaged in strategies and activities to meet speaking and listening outcomes with the most current training.

The event was organised by the Northern Regional Coordination Team, CPPS staff and tutors from Masters Academy.



This workshop was trialled for the first time with interest already being expressed from other schools on the Northern Beaches to host a similar training day in Term 2.

The students and staff had a wonderful day and valued the workshops and TPL. The feedback after the sessions was that teachers were keen to implement strategies into their classroom practice as soon as possible. The students were keen to start debating!

Narrabeen North Public School

Jasmin's Challenge

This term Narrabeen North Public School participated in our annual *Jasmin's Challenge - Shave and Colour Day*.

This was the 14th consecutive year that the school has participated in this important event which celebrates the life of Jasmin Holliday, a past student of NNPS, who sadly passed away in 2007 from leukaemia. Our annual event is supported by Jasmin's parents, Allan and Jill, who give generously of their time to continue this important school fundraiser.

Our community came together to raise money, specifically to assist children who are battling cancer in Westmead Children's Hospital Oncology Ward.

Students raised money or made donations to get their hair coloured or shaved. Each class had the opportunity to have their hair coloured throughout the day and then after lunch the whole school watched and cheered for those who were shaving their hair on the amphitheatre stage. The students enjoyed the day and managed to raise \$5500 for Westmead Children's Hospital Oncology Ward!

Each year, *Shave and Colour Day* really brings the school community together for a wonderful cause. Some of the brave teachers, Mr Bowden, Mr Trist and Mr Sutherland, as well as our Principal Mr Shepherd, even decided to get their hair coloured or shaved too!



Pittwater High School

Alanna Reneman the top ranked Aboriginal student in HSC Aboriginal Studies in 2016.

We were thrilled to hear that current year 12 student, Alanna Reneman, who achieved Band 6 and a very high mark in her HSC examination, was the top ranking Aboriginal student in last year's HSC. This achievement is even more impressive when you take into account that Alanna was an accelerated student, completing her examination as a year 11 student.

Alanna was presented with her award at the New South Wales Aboriginal Education Consultative Group 40th Anniversary dinner and she was presented with an impressive framed certificate, chocolates and a balloon with beautiful edible treats. Alanna was thrilled to be presented with her award by federal politician and aboriginal activist, Linda Burney, as she is currently working on her HSC PIP for Society and Culture on the under-representation of indigenous people in parliament. Alanna spoke beautifully and she was given a standing ovation in front of a large adult audience, including her proud parents, Katie and Rod and equally proud teachers, Ms Ferris and myself. Sharon Behringer

Alanna's Speech

Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity, I am so overwhelmed with the number of inspiring and influential people who have taken the time to be here tonight. I would like to thank the NSW Education Standards Authority and Aboriginal Education Consultative Group for their huge efforts to make tonight possible, it really has been an incredible evening. I am so thankful for the ongoing support of my Principal Jane Ferris, for encouraging myself and others to pursue the accelerated Aboriginal Studies Course in its inaugural year at Pittwater High. Completing this course has been such a unique and personally transformative experience as I was given the opportunity to explore complex social, economic and political issues, Indigenous culture, my own Aboriginality and aspirations in life after school.

I would like to thank Jane Ferris, Kirsty Payne, Nickolas Johns and Clarence Bruinsma for going above and beyond to organise a special trip to the remote community of Ngukurr, located 9 and a half hours south-east of Darwin. This trip provided me with an authentic learning experience that aided me to achieve so highly in the Aboriginal Studies course. The young men and women I meet throughout my stay in Ngukurr were so beautiful. They each had such a strong respect, understanding and awareness of their heritage, spirituality, culture, identity and aspirations in life. They were so welcoming to us all and keen to nurture such curious minds.



I would like to thank each and every one of these children for the influence they have had upon my future and for the place they have carved upon my heart, for I know I have made so many lifelong friends.

I would like to thank my inspiring teachers, Ms Behringer and Ms McLean because without their tireless efforts to answer my millions of questions and countless drafts throughout the previous year, my results would never have been possible. I would also like to give an extra special thankyou to my beautiful mum and dad who have motivated and challenged me to achieve all I can in all aspects of my life. I would also like to apologise to them for the huge amount of stress I placed on them over the previous year, as I know they shared both the happiness and sadness in which I have felt.





This subject has taught me more about myself than I ever would have thought possible. It is something I recommend for all students, Indigenous or not, and is an experience I will never forget.

As an Indigenous woman, I am proud to say I have an enriched understanding of my culture and of the world around me and aim to become an influential role model and social worker in years to come. I am determined to grow and learn as an individual through both formal and informal education and believe I can make the changes which I want to see in this world.

So once again, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has made the effort to be here tonight and to the NESA and AECG for making this evening possible.

Cromer Public School

Technology Enabled Learning Out in the Field

The digital environment is transforming teaching and learning in our schools. Technology has opened up new forms of learning and creative expression for students at our school. It has allowed them to take greater control of their learning. At Cromer, we are providing learning experiences through technology for all of our students to develop their creativity, collaboration, communication and critical thinking skills. Teacher collaboration and specific teacher mentoring in the area of embedding technology across all key learning areas allows our staff to support each other and share teaching practices, and encourages a change in pedagogical practices.

Over the past two weeks our Stage 2 students have visited the Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre at Boronia Park to participate in an amazing literacy focused program that introduces students to documentary making using an iPad. Our students worked as filmmakers to create their own incredible documentary filming focusing on living things found in bushland.

In the Field of Mars Environmental Education classrooms, students were introduced to skills, techniques and methodologies of digital photography. They learnt how to take a photo with an iPad, rule of thirds, composition, macro, etc. Students were then given time to practise some of these techniques in the bush. Out in the field, the students worked in pairs using an iPad. One student used the iPad to frame and compose a photo while the other focused on and took the photo. Once the photos were taken, the students reviewed and culled the photos taken out in the field. The remaining photos contained the best examples of life in the reserve. From here the students constructed a documentary using iMovies.



PCS Leadership Day

On Friday 3rd March, five Deputy Principals and forty school captains and vice captains from ten primary schools across the Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS) participated in a National Young Leaders Day at Darling Harbour. Neha R, Will A, Isabel E and Kale P represented Cromer at the "IMAGINATION" leadership conference.

There were four and a half thousand other young leaders in attendance listening to five inspirational speakers talking about their leadership experiences. The day covered themes such as; *"How we lead ourselves and others in any kind of situation reveals a large part of who we are as people. Who our leaders are as people (whether they be prime ministers, parents or prefects), determines the size and shape of the home, school, country and world we live in and questions about HOW and WHY we influence the people around us"*. The day was an inspirational one which inspired & influenced us all as leaders!



Mona Vale – Seniors Festival 2017

"Savvy Seniors"- Keeping up with the Grandkids in the digital age

On the Wednesday 8th of March, 2017 our school Mona Vale Public School was invited to present at the Seniors Festival all about technology, and how we use it. The seniors wanted to learn how to communicate with their grandkids using social media, file and image sharing, and how to collaborate with others using Google Apps.

Our teacher Mr Matt Kelson invited five of his tech-savvy students to present, and we were a little nervous at first to speak with a microphone in front of a large audience but we soon became comfortable and enjoyed presenting.

We created a Google Slide presentation to show the audience how we use technology in the classroom on a daily basis, and they were enthralled and a little surprised that 11 year olds could create presentations like this using technology. We couldn't believe how excited the seniors were about learning technology skills, and when we showed them how to use 'Airdrop' on their Apple devices and to send images, files and videos to each other with the click of a button, they thought we were Harry Potter-like possessing magic.

We showed the guests how to set up a Gmail account, and to then access the Google Apps that we use on a daily basis. The seniors were shocked to find out that students in our classroom are given Google Slide presentations where we work in groups of 3,4,5 or even 6 to create presentations on a range of topics, and utilise the ability to 'collaborate' and all work on the same presentation, at the exact same time, at our own homes.



We couldn't believe how engaged the audience was when we spoke, and the best part of the afternoon was walking around helping the seniors with their phones, iPads and other devices to understand them better. The food there that we were allowed to eat after presenting was incredible and delicious!!!

It was really nice to learn that grandparents are interested in social media too. Some of the guests said they have grandchildren living overseas and this was a good way for them to keep in contact with their loved ones. We spoke about how cool it is to use Instagram to share images, and to look at friends' images and family members' images too. We even spoke to the audience about our 6K class Instagram page, where our teacher Mr K shares images and videos of our school day for our parents to look at. This is our private account only for the class and their parents, and it is a huge hit with our Mums and Dads who get to see what we do, and also comment on the image or video.

We would like to thank the Seniors Festival for inviting us to present, and our teacher Mr Kelson, and a big thanks to our Principal Mr Greg Jones for making our school the best school ever.

by Phoebe Bunning & Robbie Wall (Age 11)

Wheeler Heights

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Kindergarten recently enjoyed 'Furry Friends Friday'! The children and teachers brought in their favourite furry friend who joined us in the classroom for the day. Our classrooms were packed with owls, penguins, cats, dogs, leopards, snakes and bears. We even had a few dinosaurs and unicorns!



Throughout the day, Kindergarten enjoyed a range of literacy, numeracy and creative arts activities based around teddies and the letters T and F. During the week the kindergarten students had delivered personalised invitations to their Year 6 Buddies and the highlight of the day was sharing a Teddy Bear's Picnic with them during the morning.



All children and their furry friends enjoyed the day and we would like to send a big thank you to our wonderful buddies for sharing it with us.

Stage 1 Raising Silkworms

Our Year 1 and 2 students are studying the Primary Connections Science Unit 'Watch it Grow' this term with Mrs Armstrong, Ms Tekampe and Mr Pikardt. As a part of this exciting unit they are learning about the life cycles of many animals including humans and getting the opportunity to raise silkworms in each of their classrooms.

The children are learning of the importance of caring for these animals environments and being gentle when handling and feeding them. We are amazed at how much they eat and how fast they have grown!



Barrenjoey High School Breaks Guinness World Record with Surfboards

On Thursday 16th of March, Barrenjoey High School SMASHED a Guinness World Record (unofficially – still waiting for verification from officials) by lining up 880 surfboards, end to end. The starting point for the line of boards was the school's motto, *Respect, Effort, Challenge*.

Barrenjoey beat by 195 boards the previous record set at Long Beach, California. The Committee behind the organisation had been planning the event for nine months and did a fabulous job in activating the community. Many locals contributed towards the success of the day by donating generously.

The World Record event raised awareness and much needed funds for the Disabled Surfers Association (DSA). The effort raised a total of \$5,500.



The Peninsula Community of Schools would like to wish all staff and students a wonderful Easter break.