

Corrimal Community of Schools NEWSLETTER

Term 3, 2017



(Above) Book Week Activities across the CoS

Featured in this issue







CoS Carols Save the Date

Learning Together



Great Teaching, **Inspired Learning** across our CoS

2017 Education Week: I Learn, We Learn

Education Week is a state-wide, annual event to celebrate Public Education in NSW. This year it was held from 31 July to 4 August. The week highlights the achievements of Public Education and local schools, putting the spotlight on our students, our educators and the communities that support them.

This year's theme was I Learn, We Learn. It is a celebration of our CoS' commitment to ensuring: <u>System-wide Improvement</u>

Every student, every teacher, every leader and every school within our CoS will improve every year. <u>High Expectations For All</u>

A culture of high expectations across our CoS for our students and our educators sets high standards, which leads to high achievement.

Personalised Student Learning

By teaching to the strengths and needs of each individual, students will be better able to reach and exceed their potential.

<u>Wellbeing</u>

Every student within our CoS is known, cared for and respected.

Creating Stronger Links with Local Communities

Parents and carers are our partners in the education and wellbeing of each student. Partnerships with local businesses and industry create opportunities for our students to contribute to and thrive in society.





(Above) Tarrawanna students stumped their parents with some maths magic during Open Day in Education Week. They also took home a bag of goodies to practice their maths at home with their families.



(Above) Jack and Kahui at the District Athletics Carnival. Kahui came first and Jack second in the 8 Years 100m. The boys are now off to the Regional Carnival in Canberra.



(Above) Parents, students & teachers of Bellambi PS enjoying the book week book sale.

2017 Education Week: I Learn, We Learn



(Above) Teachers getting into the spirit of Book Week dressing up as a book character. Harry Potter was a clear favourite!!



(Above) Students from Towradgi after an event filled week of visits from parents, grandparents and friends where students proudly demonstrated their learning.



(Left) Acting Deputy Principal from Corrimal HS Mark Banasiak and Secretary of NSW Department of Education Mark Scott discussing the future of education for schools of the Illawarra at an Education Week dinner hosted by the Curriculum Networks Illawarra (CNI).

2017 Corrimal CoS Early Learning Conference

The 2017 Community of Schools Early Learning Conference – 'Catering for All Children's Transition to Big School', was hosted at Tarrawanna Public School on the 20th July this term. The 2017 conference attracted a greater number of pre-school representatives within the CoS compared to that of last year and several inquiries from centres outside the CoS. Some of this year's success must be attributed to the foundations established last year and subsequent interest generated as a result of the 2016 Conference. The conference evolved into an expo and its success was attributed to the hard work, dedication and cohesive teamwork by all committee members. The expo was possible due to the support provided by Corrinal High School and the generous release by Principals for all teachers involved.





The overall feedback was that it was an EXCELLENT DAY! "It is great to be amongst colleagues who value Early Childhood education." Participants felt inspired and more equipped with lots more ideas to implement back at preschool. They are looking forward to future Early Learning Expos and increased partnerships with schools.

(Right) Participants with their certificates after a productive and insightful conference.



2017 STEM Gala Day

As you read in last terms Corrimal CoS Newsletter, our schools were gearing up to compete at the second annual STEM Gala Day. This year's challenge was the coding and problem solving based Sphero Olympics. Students participated in a variety of activities run by Corrimal High School STEM class students and teachers.

Throughout Term 2, students honed their coding skills by learning how to program Sphero Robots. They practised applying their codes to a variety of challenges that required a high level of problem solving and troubleshooting. All students were asked to work in teams of up to 4. The explicit teaching of the essential skills of Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Creativity and Communication (known as the 4 C's) were fundamental to the programs success.

After a hard fought battle of the minds and all schools showing strengths in different areas, Corrimal East Public School were the eventual winners of the STEM Gala Day Shield.



Great Teaching, Inspired Learning at Bellambi PS



Students took on 'The War on Waste' with 5/6F winning the challenge with 0.92kg of rubbish.



The NRL Dragons popped in for some skills and drills along with teaching students about resilience, well being and fair play.





Bellambi PS students enjoyed listening to the Tree Whisperer.



Siena and her mum Ellie enjoying Education Week.



We are very proud of our Performers and Aboriginal Ensemble for Southern Stars.



(Left) Margaret and Shania won the NAIDOC Public Speaking competition at Dapto Primary School. They will be competing in the finals at Albion Park Rail Public School on the 12th September. *Good Luck Girls*!

(Right) Tarrawanna students stumped their parents with some maths magic during Open Day in Education Week. They also took home a bag of goodies to practice their maths at home with their families.





(Left) The Tarrawanna Tennis Team won the overall tennis competition at Guest Park. They have progressed through to the finals at Homebush. A great team given a wonderful opportunity.

(Right) Our new audio visual equipment in the hall made the show that the children put on for the many visiting parents family and friends very professional. *Our Book Week celebration was enjoyed by all.*



Great Teaching, Inspired Learning at Corrimal PS

Across all stages in our school we integrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) into our class programs. Learning is collaborative and project-based; students work closely together in a hands-on way to construct and solve real-world problems.



Students have participated in a range of activities, such as STEM challenges, unplugged and online coding and robotics. The students look forward to these lessons every week. At Corrimal Public School we are passionate about preparing students for a world in which they will thrive.



CODING CLUB: Our Coding Club meets weekly for our Stage 2 students to develop skills in various coding techniques by using coding websites. The students have been developing their computational and problem solving skills in order to complete set tasks. This is a very popular school program and each week the students can't wait to get stuck into their learning.

BLUE BOTS: Our Early Stage I and Stage I students have been learning about robotics by using blue bots. They have learned to program their blue bot through different pathways by writing algorithms. Students work together to problem solve and debug. It is great to see the students persevere and work collaboratively to create a successful program.

ROBOTICS: Selected students attended a Robotics Day at Corrinal High School. The students completed several activities: they programmed a sphero to move through a maze, a mathematical challenge, an unplugged coding activity and the most exciting activity of the day was when the students made a rocket out of plastic bottles and cardboard. A high pressure launcher was used to fire the rockets. Although the rockets did not make it to outer space they travelled a fair distance. It was great to see the students working collaboratively, developing their problem solving skills and in general having a fantastic day.

Great Teaching, Inspired Learning at Corrimal East PS

P&C Easter Basket presented to the Wollongong Children's Ward

In Term 2 our school Captains and Vice-Captains had the special honour of taking the P&C Easter Egg hamper to the Wollongong Children's Hospital and hand out the chocolate eggs to the sick children and their families. This very kind gesture was very well received and all were thankful for this incredible kindness.



Early Bird Reading

Our Early Bird Reading program is becoming a huge success. The CEPS Early Bird Reading Program forms part of our 2015-2017 School Plan under Strategic Direction I (Enhancing the Quality of Student Learning) and 3 (Creating a Culture of Excellence: Powerfully Positive Programs). Early Bird is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:40am in our school library.









Did you know CEPS runs a fantastic 'Kindness on Purpose' program?









Great Teaching, Inspired Learning at Towradgi PS

What a fantastic Book Week we had this term! The week started off on Tuesday with a full day visit from the Story Crowd, where authors Louise Park & Sandy Fussell and illustrator Jules Faber inspired us with their tips for writing a great story and shared some of their work with us. Jules Faber taught everyone how to draw WeirDo and drew caricatures of some of the teachers!





Our Shining Southern Stars

What a wonderful job our students did as members of the choir and dance groups in this year's spectacular performance of Southern Stars, 'Postcards'. We would like to sincerely thank all of the teachers involved for their tireless team efforts in preparing our students for their performances. We also would like to extend our thanks to the many parents and staff who supported by helping with transport for rehearsals and performances and also with costume preparation and supervision of students.



Education week

On Tuesday Ist August Towradgi Public School celebrated Public Education. The day began with classroom visits by parents, grandparents and friends. The teachers and students showcased the interactive and engaging teaching and learning activities that are part of each day at Towradgi Public School.



Great Teaching, Inspired Learning at Corrimal HS



Farewell Mr Griffith

This term we bid farewell to the much loved teacher at CHS, Mr Griffith who after over 35 years of teaching at Corrimal HS has retired. Mr Griffith has taught thousands of students over the years. He will be sorely missed but we wish him well in his retirement.

Sharing Expertise

Brandi and Maddi, two of our excellent public speakers were asked to attend the Bellambi PS Public Speaking competition to adjudicate. Well done to the girls for giving back to our CoS and sharing your expertise.



Ski Trip

Recently our students were given the opportunity to go on our annual trip to the ski fields. Both students and teachers had a fantastic time experiencing near perfect snow conditions. Our senior students showed dedication to their studies while away taking time to revise and complete school work in the evenings.







Leading in Technology and Engineering

Congratulations to our FI in Schools team the *Racing Roo*'s for placing first in the Engineering and Manufacturing of their racer at the recent regional FI in Schools competition. They now move to the State Championships. Well done to the team and Mr Foster for their efforts.

CAROLS IN CORRIMAL



Christmas can be a fun time to celebrate with the family and catch up with friends. Community of Schools, in partnership with the Corrimal Cougars Rugby League Club and the Corrimal Chamber of Commerce, have organised our 2nd Corrimal Community Carols and everybody is invited.

> <u>Where:</u> Ziems Park, Corrimal - Senior Field <u>Date:</u> Friday Ist December <u>Time:</u> 6pm for a 6:30pm start <u>Entry:</u> Gold Coin Donation for the Surf Life Saving Club





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Our CoS Newsletter is proudly sponsored by the Corrimal Chamber of Commerce.



We invite you and your family to come along and visit your local Public School

Starting Primary and/or High School are big steps in the learning journey. We hope that by coming to visit your local school within the Corrimal Community of Schools your journey will be made a little smoother for you and your child. Please use the contact details below to arrange an interview/tour of your great local Public School. We look forward to meeting with you and beginning a rewarding partnership.





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