NEWSLETTER

ST CLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOL
4 Time sweep Drive
St Clair NSW
Telephone: 9670 1966
Stclair-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

A lighthouse school for outstanding
Kindergarten & Year 1 programs

Newsletter available online @ www.stclair-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR LEARNING FOCUS

PBL encourages positive behaviour from students, which has been shown to improve their self-concept and motivation to learn. The focus is “Strive to Achieve”.

Presentation Assembly

Friday 4th December is our Presentation Assembly where students receive certificates for academic achievement, improvement, citizenship, attendance, etc. In each class one student will also receive a medallion and the opportunity to choose a special book from a selection in the library. The new school leaders and special Honour Board Prize winners are announced and our Junior and Senior Dance groups and choir will also be performing.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend the assembly. Students who are receiving awards have had a letter posted home inviting the parents to attend.

This assembly starts at 9.30am and is held in the St Clair High School Hall. All of our students will be seated before the doors open for parents to enter.

After the assembly the 2015 and 2016 school leaders, medallion winners and their families are invited back to our school library for morning tea.

Planning for 2016

We are about to organise classes for 2016. To assist in this organisation could any parent whose child will be leaving St Clair PS to attend another primary school in 2016 please notify the office.

Long Family Holiday

We realise that some families need to take holidays outside school holidays. If your child is going on holidays early or returning after 28th January 2016 (first day for students), please notify the office in writing. If your holiday is longer than 15 days please complete an Attendance Exemption Form (available from Mrs Healey) and return to school at least 5 days prior to your holiday.

St Marys RSL Sub Branch Library Donation

On Tuesday Mrs Burke and the School Captains attended a special presentation morning tea. The St Marys RSL Sub-branch has very kindly donated $500 towards the purchase of books for our library. We would like to say thank you and the money will go towards some brand new books for the students to borrow.

Judy Loader
Principal

Calendar

Friday 27 November
2016 Kindy Orientation
Thursday 3rd December
2016 Year 7 High School Orientation
Friday 4 December
Presentation Assembly
Monday 7 December
Library closed
Please return all books
Last Assembly 2015
Wednesday 9 December
Parent Helpers Morning Tea
Year 6 Farewell
Friday 11 December
Semester 2 Reports go home
Monday 14 December
Party Day
Tuesday 15 December
SC Factor
Wednesday 16 December
Last day for students
Thursday 17 & Friday 18 December
Staff Development Day
Monday 21 December 2015 to Wednesday 27th January 2016
School Holidays
Principal's Awards

Congratulations:
Jordan Williamson, Seb Santos x 2, Craig Black, Joshua Lane, Julieus Kalepo, Ashton Wasley, Muqeet Nisar, Rabeet Nisar, Hayley Spagnol, Chelsey Savill, Faith Gravina, Kyle Pollard, Kayley Mitrovic, Hailey Shaw,

For trading 5 Mini Merit Awards

Craig Black, Tyrese Coban, Luis Contreras, Lucas Anderson x 2, Ethan Anderson x 3, Phillip Nguyen x 2, Flynn Dalrymple, Liam Ommundson, Steven Nguyen, Jonalyn Dizon, Chelsey Savill, Aarran Robertson, Muqeet Nisar, Jessica Banguis, Ceiran Wells, Sarah Roser, Jonalyn Dizon, Zahra Mehdi, Cooper Huffadine, Sharni Hayes, Riley Fazekas, Muqeet Nisar, Brodie Zeall, Nathaniel Coban, Rabeet Nisar, Ayah Jebri x 2, Kayla Fairweather, Bryce Fairweather, Sarah Chavez x 4, Will Taylor, Ralph Lozada, Koleby Thompson, Kyle Pollard

Mrs Watchman presented a very informative parent workshop on Wednesday 18th November to a small group of parents. They learnt about the strategies the students are learning to use for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, so they can help their child at home develop the correct strategies and mathematical language.
School Award
Congratulations
Craig Black
Craig picked a Super Shot handball from the prize cupboard

School Award
Congratulations
Bianca Gravina
Bianca picked a soccer ball from the prize cupboard

Panthers Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Ruben Hughes, Bowen Gurney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Jenny Alexandrou, Aarran Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Jasmine Pajarin, Matilda Vorhauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Faith Gravina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Scarlett Bell, Sarah Chavez, Caitlyn O’Brien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Chloe Giddy, Luron Patea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Riki Minaca, Kadeesha King</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assembly Item
Class 5 presented a fantastic mimed item ‘The Amazing Wall’ at last Monday’s Assembly. Well done Class 5!
**Book Report**  
By Taylah. Class 6.  
**Title:** The Stone Elephant  
**Author:** Liliana Starford  
**Rating:** ***** I gave this book this rating because it was very sad at the start but then it got very happy and it touched my heart so I had to give it that rating.  
**Description:** The story was about a stone elephant who has been in the ground for a long time. Elephants live in the valley while the stone elephant was in the ground. People made the valley their home and the people think the elephants are greedy. A boy named Eli thinks the stone elephant knows many things. The elephant was dreaming before the people came of when the elephants roamed the valleys, further or back when the water and mountains began. Eli is full of the elephants loses. Eli planted a sapling and transplanted the sapling in the sun, and waters it every day. The sapling grew and Eli found fruit and more. The people were surprised and picked some fruit, and Eli called the elephants. They came and ate the fruits.

**Premier’s Sporting Challenge Encouragement & Achievement Award Recipients**

On Tuesday the Captains, Judyann & Jasmin received a Coo-ee March Commemorative coin from Penrith City Council and St Marys RSL. This coin will help us remember the many Australian soldiers who fought in World War 1.
Year 6 Fun Day
Year 6 Fun Day

Even Teachers had fun!
P&C News

Position Vacant: The position of P&C Secretary has become vacant and we are looking for someone to fill this position. The Secretary’s role includes taking of minutes at our meetings and the AGM (held annually), typing the minutes and presenting at the next meeting as well as compiling the occasional correspondence. The role also involves assisting out where possible with our fundraising events. If you are interested in this role, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Rutledge (President) or Mandy Vorhauer (Treasurer) through the school office.

Fundraising

All P&C fundraising this year will be going towards assisting our school purchase iPads. Your help makes a huge difference to our school.

Christmas Disco – Our Christmas Disco last night was a huge success with over 140 students attending – a MASSIVE THANK YOU to Miss Gilbert for being our DJ – there were lots of games & prizes and we hope all the kids had lots of fun!!! We would also like to send a special thank you to the following teachers who spent time away from their own families to help us. You are all truly amazing – Mrs Loader, Miss Gilbert, Mrs Goodwin, Mrs Ireton, Mrs Peachey, Miss Smith, Ms Young, Mrs Burke, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Burnett, Miss Johnstone, Mrs Clunes, Mrs Minard, Ms Solomon and Mrs Condie!! Photos page 8.

The disco was our last fundraiser for this year and we are hoping to plan some amazing, fun fundraisers for next year.

Canteen

Important Notice: As the end of the year is fast approaching, the canteen will be running down the current stock so it is not sitting in the freezer or cupboard over the holidays. In the last week or so, there may be times when ordered items are not available, however, should this happen, your child will be offered an alternative item. This will also apply to items such as ice creams and ice blocks. We hope that this does not cause too much inconvenience.

With the recent bout of hot weather, our canteen has been selling lots and lots of ice blocks and ice creams so we hope this is cooling down the kids on the hot days.

Please note the canteen will remain operational until the last day of the year with the exception of Monday 14th December which is Picnic Day.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th February 2016, 7.00pm in the staffroom – everyone is welcome to attend

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday Activities @ Your Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penrith City Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Holiday Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hula Hoop Dance Workshop</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>Tuesday 12 Jan</td>
<td>5 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once Upon A Time Puppet show</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Wednesday 13 Jan</td>
<td>Whole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Workshop</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>Thursday 14 Jan</td>
<td>5 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picture Book Writing Workshop</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 Jan</td>
<td>7 to 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comedy Magic Show</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Wednesday 20 Jan</td>
<td>Whole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Life Science workshop</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Thursday 21 Jan</td>
<td>5 to 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Tickets:ph 4732 7891 or visit Penrith Library

Art Club - After School Activity Term 1 2016  4.15 to 5.15pm Thursday 4 Feb to 7 April

St Clair Library -

Digging Dinosaurs Workshop          | Free | Saturday 17 Jan    | 5 to 12   |

STORT TIME                         | Thursday 4 Feb | for 0-6 year olds  |

---
P&C Disco

Look at them groove to the sounds of Miss Gilbert!
Dear Parent,

Please find below information about an exciting new cricket program starting in your area in Term One, 2016.

MILO T20 Blast gives 7-12 year old boys and girls the opportunity to play fun games of cricket in an active and social setting. Delivered by accredited coaches, everyone gets a go at batting, bowling and fielding each week, with all equipment supplied. All games last up to 90 minutes and are played at a single venue, to create an exciting atmosphere complete with music and dancing just like the Big Bash League. Plus all kids receive a bonus player pack when they register!

What your child will learn:
- Judge, respond and hit a moving ball
- Run between wickets with calling
- Bowl over 15m with a straight arm
- Catch and throw over 15m
- Game sense
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Sportsmanship

When: Monday February 1st 2016 to Monday April 4th 2016
Time: 5 – 6.30pm
Venue: Cook & Banks Reserve, St Clair, NSW 2759
Ages: Boys and Girls 7-12 years
Cost: $99
To Register: Visit www.playcricket.com.au (enter postcode 2759)
Contact: Jarred Hodges (M): 0419 334 415 (E): stciehrhawssc@bigpond.com

www.playcricket.com.au
Welcome the world into your home in 2016 and become a WEP Host Family!
Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures!
For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au

WSU PENRITH OBSERVATORY
University Western Sydney
Great Western Highway, Werrington North
Building AO

Astronomy Night
Saturday 28 November (8pm – 10pm)
TElescopes for CHRISTmas
The evening will include a presentation from WSAAG members who will look at some of the different types of telescopes you could buy for your families and friends, a 3D astronomy movie and stargazing through the University’s computerised telescopes (weather permitting).
Cost: $18 adult, $12 child/concession and $50 family
Bookings are essential: Book and pay online: www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@westernsydney.edu.au

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au

Welcome the world into your home in 2016 and become a WEP Host Family!
Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures!
For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au

Welcome the world into your home in 2016 and become a WEP Host Family!
Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures!
For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au

Welcome the world into your home in 2016 and become a WEP Host Family!
Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures!
For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au

Welcome the world into your home in 2016 and become a WEP Host Family!
Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures!
For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, www.wep.org.au, email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!

Art Classes for kids opening in 2016!
Using a range of materials and inspired by art history, students will make 2D and 3D artworks.
$140/$120 for 8 weeks during school term. Various locations around Emu Plains. Tue morning Tots (3-5 years old with a carer), Wed afternoon (5-10 years old) and Sat morning (5-10 years old).

Contact:
Na’ama Atzmon-Simon
0413-694-030
naama@reach4stars.com.au
www.reach4stars.com.au
receive a $20 VOUCHER
when you spend $100 or more in-store*
COME & TRY NETBALL

Friday 4th December 5pm - 7pm.
Meet on the forecourt from 4.45pm to register your name.

This day is open to all junior players that have NOT played at club level previously. It is designed to give girls a chance to experience netball before registering with a club.

For further information please contact
Penrith District Netball Association office
(02) 47 214 319.

PENRITH Christmas Lights

A Christmas lights experience for everyone!
Come and see the amazing lights with a special Aussie themed display and a great night for the whole family!
This is a FREE event with food available for purchase
Proceeds will go to local charity WestCare.

OPEN FROM 7.30PM
LIGHTS ON FROM 8.30PM – 11.30PM

Over two weekends
Friday, Saturday & Sunday Nights

11-13 & 18-20 DECEMBER

At imagineNations Church
Cnr of The Northern Rd & the M4
inchurch.com.au 4738 3000

CHRISTMAS UNDER THE STARS 2015

Autumnleaf Neighbourhood Centre
1 Autumnleaf Parade, St. Clair
9834 2708

Saturday 5th December

FREE MOVIE NIGHT

Gates open 6pm

SAUSAGE SIZZLE
Funds raised will go towards our Youth Camp

2 Billion presents delivered in 1 night.

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS

It takes a family.

Community Junction Inc. gratefully appreciates support from Penrith City Council

www.communityjunction.org.au
The simplest way
...to disguise vegetables.

Can't get the kids to go near the greens? Disguise is a great way to get them eating veg, without the protests!

Here's how:

Grate vegies into meat dishes: carrot, zucchini, capsicum and celery work well in bolognese sauce, meat patties, meatballs, shepherd's pie and tacos.

Add chopped vegies: to quiches or omelettes – try mushroom, tomato, capsicum or zucchini.

Blend vegies in to sauces: puree sweet potato, pumpkin or cauliflower.

Add extra vegies: mushrooms, capsicum and pineapple are great on pizzas.

Add in other veg to mashed potato: pumpkin and sweet potato are favourites.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well & School Health Program.

The simplest way
...to add veg to a barbecue.

The weather is warming up and so are the backyard barbecues. But it need not be an entirely meat affair. Here are some ideas for adding healthy veg to the barbeque:

Kebabs - capsicum, zucchini, eggplant and mushrooms work well. Add to pork, chicken or lamb.

Chips - slice potato or sweet potato, and grill on the hotplate.

Salad – grab some green leaves and toss in tomato, cucumber, carrot, beans, capsicum or whatever takes your fancy!

Vegetable sticks and dip – chop up carrot, cucumber, and celery sticks to dip in yummy hummus, or an eggplant or beetroot dip.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well & School Health Program.

The simplest way
...to make tasty summer rolls.

Go for something different in the lunchbox and wrap a sandwich for a summer roll. These little morsels also make great after school snacks.

Ingredients
The options are endless! A combination containing a few veg (grated carrot, finely sliced cucumber, avocado, snow peas) + noodles (vermicelli, rice stick) + meat (prawns, chicken, pork) + herbs (coriander, mint) works well, wrapped up in rice paper.

Method
Prepare filling
Soak the rice paper in warm water until just softened. Remove from the bowl and place on a plate.

Divide filling and add each portion of rice paper.
Fold over rice paper and roll up, pressing edge to seal. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

Cut rolls in half and serve with sweet chili sauce.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well & School Health Program.

The simplest way
...to get your vitamin D!

Did you know:

• Our bodies make vitamin D when skin is exposed to sunlight?
• We need vitamin D as well as calcium to maintain good health, in particular to keep our bones and muscles fit and strong?
• Sun protection is required when UV levels are 3 and above?

Does sunscreen stop vitamin D?

• Sunscreen filters out most, but not all UV radiation.
• People who use sunscreen regularly (when UV levels are 3 and above) don’t have lower vitamin D levels than people who do not use sunscreen.

To help keep your kids safe, check your schools SunSmart status by visiting www.sunsafetoday.com.au

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well & School Health Program.
Got It! Tip of the Week

Making time to play with your child is one of the most important things you can do together. The time you spend playing together builds your connection. It also helps your child build confidence, develop social and communication skills, and a sense of feeling loved, happy and safe. Sometimes you might just sit with your child and watch them play, other times it might be fun to get involved and follow your child’s lead with a game. Play can involve many things like Lego, board games, card games, dance and music, imaginative games and reading stories.

WEBSITE An Australian resource for parenting newborns to teens
www.raisingchildren.net.au

Got It! Tip of the Week

Reading feelings books will help you to teach and support your child to learn about emotions.

While reading different books, you may ask your child questions that get them to think about different emotions and help them learn how to recognise feelings. For example, you might ask, “How do you think she is feeling?”, “How do you know that he is feeling sad?”, “What is his face doing that lets us know he is angry?” and “What is her body doing to let us know she is excited?” You can also start asking your child how they might feel if they were in the same situation as the character in the book.

BOOK When I’m Feeling… Boxed Set 8 feelings by Trace Moroney

Got It! Tip of the Week

Slow things down and tune in to how your child is feeling. You might need to use your ears to listen to what she is saying; your eyes to notice her face, her body language, and what is going on around her; your imagination to put yourself in her shoes; your words to reflect back what you hear and notice; and your heart, to feel what she is feeling. Let her know that you understand and accept her feelings, and that all feelings are OK. For example, you might say, “I think I would feel sad too if I lost my favourite toy”.

(Book Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child: The Heart of Parenting by John Gottman)

Got It! Tip of the Week

Emotional moments can be an opportunity to build your relationship and teach your child. One way to do this is spending a few minutes each day talking with your child about emotional events happening in their life. This quality time might happen after school, after dinner, or at bedtime. Not all children will want to talk openly about feelings. Be patient and try talking when you are doing something together, like driving or doing household tasks. But if they don’t want to talk, it is important not to pressure them. This is not the time to discipline; it is just a time for listening and reflecting your child’s emotions.

Over time this will build your child’s trust in you and help them to feel more comfortable to share their feelings.

GROUP PARENTING PROGRAM
Helping children learn to understand and regulate their emotions.
www.tuningintokids.org.au

BOOK How To Be The Parent You Always Wanted To Be by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish

Tuning in to Kids

A lot of great things were happening in the kitchen garden recently. Juanita’s been very busy in the garden and planting plenty of different varieties of fruit and vegetables for next year. Most of the vegetables left in the garden were harvested last week and that will give way to new vegetable seedlings to be planted. I really enjoyed helping out in the garden by taking out plants that needed to be removed. We also harvested all our parsnip and purple cabbages - Perfect for my up-coming recipes. Of course, the garden plays a big part of this wonderful program, so thank you so much to all students and to Juanita for doing such a great job!

Year 5 and 6 made Gözleme using kale instead of the silver-beet. We made this dish so many times so I got them to take over the cooking and they were fantastic! Mrs Solomon donated a big bag of zucchinis last week and I decided to bake for our famous Baked Zucchini Slice. We also made a refreshing Mint Lemon and Lime Lemonade. No doubt that class cannot wait for next week's cooking class! Our purple cabbages were our main ingredient in our salad, along with kale and nasturtium flowers. It really made our salad super colourful, super healthy and definitely super delicious!

Hommus with Beetroot was also a hit. It was "scary" for some to see this beautiful dip because of the bright pink colour. Of course students devoured it and were asking for more!

Yes, we have enjoyed EATING OUR COLOURS for the past few weeks and we cannot wait for some more. Thank you to all who donated lemons, zucchinis and bread this week. If you would like to donate food or kitchen supplies for the kitchen, we would really appreciate it. I thank everyone for putting their effort and hard work into this program.

**Happy Cooking! Cazendra**

Thank you parents for contributing items we need for this program. Our Kitchen Garden program is always in need of further assistance from the parents, community and local businesses.

**If you are wishing to donate items we need a continuous supply of:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White sugar</th>
<th>Brown sugar</th>
<th>Butter (unsalted)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>Olive Oil</td>
<td>Vegetable Oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also needed are jars with metal lids—to be used for preserves and jams.
Summer has arrived early! Last week’s 43 degree day was horrendous all over Sydney, but the garden survived really well, thanks mostly to the shade cloth. Making sure there is mulch over the garden and mixing the compost into the soil has also ensured moisture is retained near the plant’s roots. The warmer weather means the plants are growing almost before my eyes - look at the zucchini plant and the size of its leaves!! The kids have already been harvesting and cooking zucchinis with lots more to go. We’re also trying to use up the vegetables that won’t last the summer out, so lots of beetroot, kale, celery, chard, potatoes, cabbage, fennel and the first of the tomatoes have been used in cooking some great dishes. Our first bunch of bananas has been harvested and more than half of the bananas are now ripe and ready to use. Because they began growing over winter, they’re fairly small but we’re hoping the other bunch that’s still on the tree will yield larger ones next year.

I’m still hard at work changing over boxes that have reached the end of their usefulness. It’s a matter of safety that the boxes get replaced, and I am constantly thinking of ways to extend their lifespan, including wrapping the top of the boxes in plastic to prevent water damage from the top down, and now sourcing more substantial boxes from our good friends at Austas. I’m also going to trial painting the new boxes with the marine varnish used to paint Moolissa to see if that will make the boxes last longer.

The chickens give us numerous wonderful eggs, they clean up the food scraps and they’re a source of interest, learning and occasionally amusement. The kids working in the garden on Monday were amazed to watch the rooster and some hens dust bathing and it was a great opportunity for learning about pests and how creatures find innovative ways to rid themselves of them!

As usual, the kids have been great in the garden, helping empty the boxes, cut back the overgrown plants, chop plants up for the compost, taking rubbish to the skip, putting tree bark down to control grass and weeds, weeding and cleaning the chicken coop. Thank you to all those wonderful kids for their hard work, sensible attitude and willingness to do the jobs.

Your help makes all the difference in keeping the garden producing lots of delicious, nutritious food for you to cook with.

Our grape vines have had a huge growth spurt, so much so that I’ve had to add another wire line for them to grow on and we will probably be using the leaves next week to do some Greek dishes. The bunches of grapes are looking luscious, but aren’t yet ripe and they will probably need to be netted soon to prevent the thieving birds from eating them before we do!

It’s been lots of hard work this term but the garden is looking lush and everything is growing well. Putting chopped up compost material in the bottom of each new bed ensures that by the time the plants’ roots get down that far, they have plenty of broken down plant nutrients to use. It’s also quicker than using compost bays and attracts worms to the garden bed - a perfect win/win solution!

Until next time, happy gardening.   Juanita