THINKING OF OTHERS

ROOM TO READ VISIT

In 2013 Nicholson St Public School students adopted Room to Read as their whole school service learning focus. Room to Read is an organisation that supports the building of libraries and schools and the development of literature in language in developing nations. They also have a huge focus on girls education. At Nicho the students are trying to raise $5000 to build a library.

Room to Read was to be hosting a Cambodian teacher in March and they were going to be visiting Nicholson St Public School on the 19th March. Unfortunately this event has been postponed due to some challenges with entry visas.

The 3/4 Browne assembly will still take place as will the visit from the local media.

BEANIEFEST

This year at Nicho we are running a BeanieFest. This event will be in support of Indigenous Literacy. The theme for the the Beanie Fest this year is ‘Out of this World’. For the event students decorate beanies with that theme in mind.

A Beanie Parade will run on the morning of Friday 11th April and parents and the community are invited. The Tali Gallery will also be displaying students beanies in the windows of the Tali Gallery in the lead up to NAIDOC week.

A selection of beanies for decoration are available from the front office for $5 - These have been sourced from the Friends of Balmain Hospital - all proceeds from the sale of the beanies go back to the hospital. It’s a neat cycle - supporting local!
WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

As you may be aware each year Nicho students participate in the World’s Greatest Shave. Before you start to worry we don’t cut anyone’s hair. For a gold coin donation students can have their hair sprayed in various colours of hair spray. This event will take place on Wednesday 12th March. Our year 6 students will be letting students know in the next few weeks.

Additionally this year Ms Rawson has signed up for a shave. If you would like to donate to her campaign visit http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/becrawson.

KIDS MEET

On the 9th April we will be running the first ever KidsMeet. The KidsMeet idea was born after some conversations had with principals in my personal learning network as we were discussing the need for our students to develop cross cultural understandings and also be given an authentic audience to discuss their learning. We based KidsMeet on the TeachMeet concept, which has gained popularity in recent years.

On the day year 1 and 2 students from Mount Lewis Infants and Canley Vale Public School will be coming down to Nicholson St. During the day students will engage in sessions that range from getting to know each other, to stretching their creativity as well as sharing the terms learning with each other.

WORDS THEIR WAY - SPELLING @ NICHO

Nicholson St Public School has adopted the ‘Words their Way’ approach to teaching spelling. With this approach students are assessed to clearly identify each student’s spelling stage. Activities are then tailored to improve the student’s spelling knowledge.

Words Their Way is a teacher-directed, student-centred approach to vocabulary growth and spelling development. Students engage in a variety of sound, pattern and meaning activities, sorting pictures and words. It caters for differentiated learning in the classroom, rather than a one-size fits all solution.

This approach is different to the traditional spelling list and have proven to teach and strengthen students spelling strategies as opposed to rote learning words in a list, the spelling of which may or may not be transferred to other forms of student writing.

For more information on the Words their Way approach feel free to ask Mr Davies, Ms Norrish or myself.

BOOK SWAP FOR INDIGENOUS LITERACY

INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION BOOK STALL
11 APRIL 2014

Nicho is holding a book stall on the last day of School for term 1. The stall will be open in the morning, lunchtime and the afternoon.

All money raised will go to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, who provide books and literacy resources for indigenous kids and families in remote communities.

So start bringing in books to donate to the stall. Books can be left near the lost property area.

Contact Sophie Cottier (mum of Ingo and Oban) if you have any questions or want to help out.

P&C NEWS

It was wonderful to have some new faces at the first P&C meeting of the year! Funding was approved for an Ipad synching dock, library update and organising, the Leader in Me program and the P&C Welcome and thank you BBQ. We also discussed the school working with Tali Gallery on our Indigenous learning, looking at an Open space learning classroom and Nicho Flicko - which will see our budding Soderbergh’s and Coppola’s (Sophia of course) and Allen’s back in the movie industry in early Term 2. I would also like to thank those parents who have come on board as Class Parents 2014 and the P&C are looking forward to seeing all the Nicho families at the BBQ on Friday March 14th.

The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 11th March starting at 730pm in the first demountable.

Nicole Sorby
P&C President
MUSIC NEWS

The 2014 Music Program has begun!

Welcome to another exciting and busy year of music at Nicho! Our bands, recorder group, guitar ensembles and senior choir are already rehearsing. We are hoping to start our strings groups in the next few weeks and Ian Watson returns in Term 2 to lead his trash percussion group.

Training Band with Freddie Hill
It is not too late to join the Training Band. We would love to have players on flute, clarinet, trombone and sax. The school still has some instruments available to hire. Come on, have a go!

Strings Program at Nicho
We are hoping to start our strings program in the next few weeks. Maddie Cowell, our wonderful choir teacher and an accomplished violinist, is seeking expressions of interest to run small group lessons with a view to forming a larger string ensemble later in the year. We will be contacting all of those families who filled out an expression of interest form at our Try an Instrument session.

Nicho Choir with Maddie Cowell
Our lovely choir rehearses every Thursday morning at 8am and is open to all singers in Years 3-6, no audition necessary. We would love to tempt some more boys to join our choir – come on boys, it is great fun.

Trash Percussion Group
Ian Watson will return to Nicho in Term 2 fresh from his adventures in West Africa. The Trash Percussion Group makes amazing rhythms from – TRASH – and is open to Years K-6. An expression of interest for this group will be in the next newsletter.

If you would like any more information on any of our music groups, please contact Kathryn Reynolds on Kathryn@combsaw.com.au

Thanks and congratulations from 2013....

Congratulations to our 2013 Band Award winners Jack Reynolds and Adam Cooper – wishing you great music making in Concert Band Adam!

Sincere thanks to the Loader family for their very generous donation of an upright piano to the school, a wonderful addition to the school’s instrument collection.

Thanks also to the Cooper family for their kind donation of a mouth piece puller – every mother of a brass player will know how valuable this little contraption will be to the music program.

Congratulations to the successful Concert Band auditionees. 2013 was the first time in many years that everyone who auditioned made it through to Concert Band on their first attempt – a tribute to their hard work and their conductor, Freddie Hill.

Kathryn Reynolds

Nicho Extracurricular Music Program Parent Contact

WALKING BUS

Each term on the Friday of Week 4 the Nicho Walking Bus begins it’s journey to school. It was a lovely walk on such a glorious morning!
SPORTS REPORT

2014 House Captains

JOHNSON
C - Max and Annabelle
VC - Sienna and Dylan

DARLING
C - Jude and Nimeesha
VC - Kurt and Maddie

MORT
C - Jordan and Robyn
VC - Marlon and Ellie

Congratulations to our students!

Swimming Carnival
We had a very successful swimming carnival this term. Thanks to our hard-working teachers and parent helpers. Everyone worked well as a team, and as a result, the kids had a great day and were able to share in each others’ successes.

Congratulations to everyone who competed. Special congratulations to our school champions!

Junior Boy Champion – Felix Carroll
Junior Girl Champion – Anna Sundquist
Senior Boy Champions – Joe Reynolds and Gwyn Watterson
Senior Girl Champion – Nimeesha Bates

The Zone Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 4 March. The behaviour and sportsmanship of Nicho students were exemplary. What a great day, full of exciting races!

We look forward to our school Cross Country and Athletics carnivals, to be held next term.

PE

This year, Nicho is taking on the Live Life Well program. Live Life Well is designed to teach students fundamental movement skills explicitly, in order to prepare and equip them to participate successfully in a variety of sports. There are 12 fundamental movement skills, namely static balance, sprint run, vertical jump, catch, hop, side gallop, skip, overarm throw, leap, kick, two-hand strike and dodge. Students from Kindergarten through to Year 6 will be working on mastery of these skills, as these skills form the basis of most sports.

PSSA

The format for PSSA interschool sport is still being finalised. More details as to Nicho participation will be available shortly.

Tennis

This term, students have been participating in tennis coaching. Mike from Leichhardt Tennis Academy has worked with Nicho students previously. Students have had a great time so far, and we look forward to seeing big improvements in their skill set.

AASC

The Active After School Communities program is designed for students who are interested in sport out of school hours. There are two sessions each week – one for K-2 students and one for 3-6 students. This term we are engaging in Basketball (K-2) and Baseball (3-6). This is a great initiative, designed to promote healthy eating and healthy lifestyles. It is also designed to expose students to new and different sports, as well as raise their awareness about teams and competitions in the local community. Early next term there will be a new set of sports to be taken up, so watch this space!

THE NICHO APP

In order to better our ability to communicate we are trialling a school app. The app is only available on iPhone at the moment but will soon be available on Android also. You can download the app from the iTunes store by searching Nicholson Street.
Welcome to the Library

Term 1 is the establishment phase of the school year. The focus is setting up a vibrant and interesting learning place. Students are learning how to use the library to promote their own areas of interest and reading.

Students return and borrow and engage in formal and informal learning experiences that are related to curriculum as well as personal learning.

Displays

Our Reasons for Reading display looks awesome.

‘Reading takes me to another world where I feel the emotion of the character. It shows me another life.’ ~Annabelle 5/6 Jennings

‘Reading is healthy for your brain’ ~Finn 4/5 Tan

‘Reading makes me relaxed and helps me get better and better. Right now I’m reading Percy Jackson and the battle of the Labyrinth ~Michael 3/4 Browne

What’s New?

Ask our paper Fortune Tellers to tell your library fortune.

Library Club

Our Year 6 leaders for the club are:

Annabelle O’Reilly, Robyn Burns and Nimeesha Bates

Our library club members are:

Lili Digweed, Amelia Velasco,
Zoe Abicht, Emily Fitzgerald,
Masie Burns, Issy Gudgin and Huan Huan Morton.

Our library helpers are:

Samantha Bailey, Kwong Weng Mah, and Misha hall

What’s On?

The 2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) runs from 3 March to 22 August.

This challenge is a great way to encourage your children to read from a wide variety of quality texts,

Participating in the Challenge is easy. Information, rules and book lists can be found on the Premier’s Reading Challenge Website and the students’ DEC Portals.

BOOK COVERING

The contact has arrived. If you are able to help us with covering library books please see Karen at the front desk.
NEW ADDITION TO THE NICHO FAMILY...

WHO AM I
I live in water.
I breathe through feather like gills.
I have 4 legs and a tail.
I come in different colours.
I do not have scales.
I am not a fish I am an amphibian.

FRANKLIN!!!
I am an Axolotl!!!!!!!!!!!!
I am also known as The Mexican Walking Fish!

DIET
I am a carnivore, which means I eat meat!
I like to eat every 2-3 days, my favourite foods are tadpoles, small fish, insects and worms I like pelleted food as well it is best to feed me in the evening when I am most active.

TANK
I like to live in a tank that is at least 60 cm long and 20 cm deep.
The water temperature should be 14-20 C.
The gravel should be bigger then my head otherwise I will be in danger because I might choke.
I like plants so that I can hide if I feel like it.

My eyes are sensitive so please keep my home away from the sun and windows.
The water should be filtered.
There should at least be one dark hiding place.

RULES WHEN VISITING FRANKY
Change my water every 6 weeks.
Always keep me in my tank.
Please don’t bang on my home.
Keep your hands out of my home.
Only 3 visitors at a time.

INVITATION TO SEE FRANKLIN AFTER SCHOOL
If you wish to see Franklin after school then come to the 4/5 Tan room to see the axolotl, for your safety please ask Miss Rawson for permission.

by Anna, Lia and Sophia 4/5 Tan-

THE BIG MOVE
On Monday I went to the shooting of a short movie for my Mum’s work. It is called The BIG MOVE.

It was very cool. There was lots of interesting stuff including massive cameras and lighting screens to dim the light. If they just shone the ordinary light it would be too bright so they needed a special screen to make it just the right thing.

They had a big camera with lots of settings and two big handles to hold with two hands. It had handles so they could steer it around. There were actually three cameras all different sizes and to do different things.

I interviewed the Director. The interview was to help with my PIP! I also took some photos. My PIP is on movie making so the interview with the Director answered a lot of my questions and gave me a better understanding of movie making.

I reckon Ms Constanti was right in saying it was a great opportunity for learning.

If you want to see the finished movie for my Mums work you will need to look at www.thebigmove.org.au after 2 March.

by Thomas 3/4 Browne
USEFUL WEBSITES


SCHOOL BANKING

The Nicho School Bank is open outside the school library every Friday morning before school. If your child would like to bank at school all they need to do is open a Youth Saver account at the Commonwealth Bank and bring their filled deposit slip and deposit to school on a Friday morning.

Nicho’s participation in the Commonwealth School Banking Program helps kids develop good saving habits and gives them the confidence and independence to make sound financial decisions. With hands-on learning experiences, we can help children grow into financially savvy adults. Every time your child makes a deposit into their savings account at school they receive a silver Dollarmites token. The tokens can then be redeemed for a range of great Dollarmites reward items. Every year there is an exciting range of rewards to choose from – scented pencils or a handball, for example. The rewards vary, ask the Nicho Bank “Tellers” for a reward card to see what’s currently available.

We are always looking for parent volunteers to help take money on a Friday morning. If you are interested, please add your name to the roster on the school notice board. We are also looking for parent volunteers to become School Banking Coordinators, please contact Cathy Cooper (Adam’s mum) or Jane Morgan (James O’s mum) for more details.

School Banking Competition

To kick off the year our friends at Commonwealth Bank School Banking are running a “Stay Cool at School” promotion throughout Term 1.

This competition is exclusive to schools in our area which means we have an even better chance of winning than in the usual national or statewide competitions.

On offer are four 3m x 3m marquees which can be used at school fêtes, sports events, BBQs etc. Each marquee is valued at $400. They store away easily and would be a great asset for Nicho.

The school with the highest percentage of active students at the end of Term 1 will win a marquee.

There are also two $50.00 prizes for 2 lucky bankers to be deposited into their Youthsaver account.

To be a part of this competition student bankers must make 3 deposits into their Youthsaver account through School Banking between 28 January and 11 April and they will be automatically entered into the draw.

So, come on Nicho bankers, lets give this our best shot. We have 59 active bankers at our school and we hope to see all 59 of you at the school banking desk each Friday this term.

If you have any questions come along and see us on Friday morning.

Happy Banking!

Cathy, Diane and Jane.
Ways a Parent Can Help with READING

1. Let your child see you reading!
   - Have magazines and books in your home.

2. Help your child find appropriate word & reading games on the computer.
   - Keep a dictionary on hand. Help your child look up new words they read or hear.

3. Read mysteries with your child and try to figure out the clues together.

4. Movie version coming out?
   - Read the book together first, then talk about which you each liked better.

5. Set aside a time and place for your child to read -
   - like a comfy chair and a reading light in a quiet place

   - Look for and read together the books that were your favorites when you were a kid.

7. Encourage your child to write -
   - letters, thank you notes, emails, journals, lists, stories about their own trips, events, and daily life

8. Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading, such as:
   - What is the story about?
   - Who are the important characters in the story?
   - Where does the story take place?
   - Why do you think the character made that choice?
   - Why did that happen?
   - How did you know about...?
   - Would you recommend this book to your friends?

9. Ask your child to draw a comic strip about what happens in the story.
   - Provide word searches, crossword and other word games and puzzles, or help your child make his/her own

Share with your child about what you’re reading... and encourage your child to do the same
Entry of Students

Year 7, Year 11
2015
Dance, Drama and Music Selection Procedures

To the Principal

Students currently in Year 6 or Year 10 2014 enrolled in public or non-government schools who are seeking entrance into Year 7 or Year 11 in 2015 in Dance, Drama or Music at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, must participate in audition workshops.

Year 7 Audition Dates: Friday 20th June – Thursday 26th June 2014
Year 11 Audition Dates: Wednesday 16th June – Friday 20th June 2014

Please Note: To be eligible to apply, candidates must be Australian Citizens or holders of a visa granting permanent resident status in Australia on the day of their audition.

Initial registration for an audition is required online via our website

www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au

Closing date for registration is 1st May 2014

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts provides specialist education at the highest level to students having outstanding potential and/or achievement in, and commitment to, Dance, Drama or Music.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Gray
Principal

Conditions:

Each audition is assessed on its own merits. The examiner’s decision is final and no appeal can be made except on procedure. Information on individual student’s performance in their audition will not be given. The purpose of the auditions is for the school to select the top students as assessed by the examiner. Those are the conditions under which students and parents/careers must agree to when applying to audition.

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Leichhardt Wanderers Season 2014

The season is about to start but it’s not too late to join your local club and be part of the greatest game of all.

Leichhardt Wanderers Junior Rugby League Club is currently looking for players to join the Club for our 2014 season in the Balmain District, teams start from under 6’s to A Grade, so if you are interested in playing Rugby league and joining this great Club then contact the club on the following details:

Contact David Foster @ david.foster1@optusnet.com.au or 0418 114 532 for further information on how to register.

Registration will be taken on training days at Blackmore Oval, Canal Road Leichhardt (off Darley). Registration fees include a jersey, shorts, socks and NRL game pass. New players need to bring down proof of age (birth certificate or passport).

Fees: Under 6’s - free, 7’s to 19’s - $90, family discounts available 3+ players $240.
Gold Telethon Volunteer Form – Monday 9th June

Gold Telethon is the major annual fundraising event for Sydney Children’s Hospital, Randwick. The support of the community helps to raise funds to purchase life-saving equipment, fund research and deliver vital services to help our young patients.

All activities lead up to the grand finale of an all-day live Telethon broadcast on Channel Nine, featuring Channel Nine personalities, inspiring stories from Hospital families and staff, a live studio audience and performances by some of Australia’s top music acts.

If you wish to confirm your involvement please complete the following details:

Full Name: _____________________________________________________________

Postal Address: _________________________________________________________

Mobile Number: _________________________________________________________

Email Address: _________________________________________________________

Emergency Contact Details (name & number): ________________________________

For this position we require volunteers to be 18 years of age or over, do you declare that you are 18 years of age or over?

Yes □ No □

When are you available on Monday 9th June?

(Please note: there will be 3 or 4 shift times on the day of the telethon however these have not been confirmed yet. We will be in touch within the next 3 weeks to advise you of the shift times)

I am available all day □ I am only available between ______________________ □

Please return this completed form by Wednesday 16th April to Sam at samantha.holt@schf.org.au. You’ll receive a reply within 2 business days confirming your volunteer registration.

Important information:

• Due to the requirement to communicate clearly on the telephone, fluent in English is a requirement for this volunteer position
• Due to the requirement to enter data into a computer form, the ability to confidently use a computer is also a requirement for this volunteer position
• You will be emailed additional information and have a volunteer briefing on the day of the event to provide you with all the information on the position

www.goldtelethon.org.au