



The Scoop

The news that matters from
Smith Street Unit

Vol 2, Issue 2

March, 2015



From the desk of Dale-Myree

For this newsletter I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the amazing work being done by the support staff at Smith Street.

Jay Gallagher - assisting Cyndy Starr in the PD/D/PE program, encouraging our boys in their personal endeavours and providing a positive, professional young male role model.

Catherine Jack - for the amazing job she does in organising this newsletter and taking up the challenge of getting the Smith Street Unit Webpage up and running.

Kim Johnston - Kim is an excellent home chef and has taken charge of the

SSU healthy eating canteen, this has proven to be a hit with staff, students and visitors. The success is reflected in the improved behaviour of our students as they enjoy a variety of healthy eating options.

Ziik Savu - Ziik the SSU clerical officer is also keen to continue working with our white card students, have a look at how good the physical environment in which we work is looking.

Dale-Myree



Have you seen our latest Indigenous inspired art works ?



Inside this issue:

Smith St Sports Snippets	2
Lets hear from Sue	2
Assembly News	2
Chahla's Cooking Corner	3
Harmony Day 2015	3
Parenting Ideas	3
Happy Holidays	4

Transition to work

Congratulation to Jack, Sam, and Dryden who will be participating in the Workers of Wollongong Program (WOW). The nominated students will participate in an induction course on Fridays 13th, 20th, 27th of March at TAFE from 10:30 to 12:00. The dates and activities planned for next Term will be published at a later date. Well done !!!

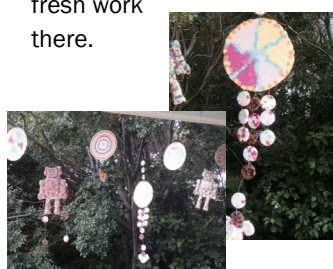
Chahala

Stars of Smith Street

The Smith Street Unit's Art Space moved... to the veranda.

Normally, we'd suggest you come inside to have a look at the student's latest offerings, but this month they've produced colourful sun catchers to brighten up the outside of the building. Now, passers-by can have their spirits lifted by our happy building too.

Of course, we'd love you to come inside too. We have a collection of sunny toucans temporarily filling the Art Space. It won't be long before our creative students are displaying fresh work there.



Special points of interest:

- Lots of new colour and movement on the outside of the building
- Students moving toward careers beyond school
- Harmony Day Highlights
- So many achievements
- Check out the link to our web page. We're excited.

Smith Street Unit Sport Snippets

This term has seen our sports program offer a variety activities to tempt even the least sporty kid. Sport is a compulsory part of every student's educational program, so our goal at the Smith Street Unit has been to find ways to involve everyone. We've learned how to play bocce with a senior citizen ninja – sounds scary when the boys describe his throwing arm! We've rolled, tumbled and twisted our way through the gymnastics program at PCYC. The highlight of the last visit to

PCYC was the foam pit. We've worked on strength and endurance at the Wollongong High School gym. We have been assisted by two of their students, Geng Hiranlai and Hassan Haddara, who are studying Sport Science for their HSC. Thanks Geng and Hassan. It's great to see our students interacting with the activities and community. They're fabulous representatives for the Smith Street Unit.

We finish the term on a high, bouncing an afternoon away at Flipout, War-

rawong. Next term's sport program is going to be just as packed with a variety of fun-filled action.

Cyndy



Let's hear from Sue, the Smith Street Unit Counsellor

The Smith Street Unit has an on-site counsellor available every Tuesday. Appointments can be made for parents to meet Sue, for a confidential chat. Your child is also free to make an appointment to speak with Sue.

At other times, Sue suggests contacting the:

Parent Line

Call 1300 1300 52 for personalised advice

FREE Professional help for parents and carers of children 0 - 18 in NSW.

Call to speak to a professional counsellor for personalised advice.

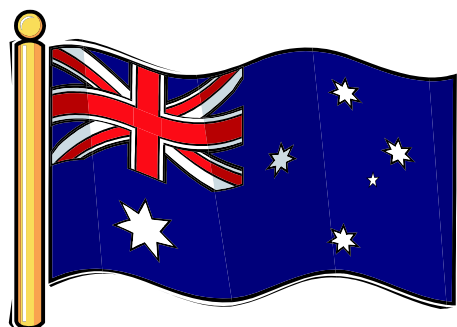
Monday - Friday 9am to 9pm

Saturday - Sunday 4pm to 9pm

Or go online: www.parentline.org.au



The Smith Street Unit Assemblies

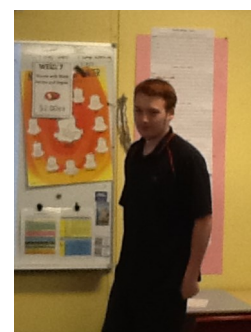


Both assemblies went well again. Thank you very much to Jack Mitchell for chairing each assembly and Dryden Jack for reading the 'Acknowledgement to Country'. Our 'Students of the Fortnight' were Mehrten Puruto for his outstanding attendance and effort at school and Jaemee Clarke for com-

pleting a huge amount of school work. Well done Mehrten and Jaemee, keep up the good work. The Smith Street Unit student of the fortnight receives a free lunch-worth winning. The 'Staff Award' was awarded to Kim Johnston for providing our school with a fantastic, healthy and yummy canteen. Cathe-

rine Jack received the award at the following assembly for building our webpage. Stay tuned for next time!!

Danna



The Smith Street Unit offers the students the opportunity to gain life skills essential for independent living through the teaching of the subject of "Food Technology". The units planned for 2015 include "Food Down Under", "Food for Everyone", "What's on the Label?" and "Smith Street Unit Master Chef". The cooking lessons include a theoretical part and a practical. In week 8 the students will be making traditional food "Lamingtons" and in week 9, we are going to visit the

native garden in the Botanical gardens of Wollongong. Exciting...

Chahala



Weary arms from beating batter, sticky fingers from chocolate dipping, delicious smells wafting from the Smith Street Unit kitchen produced the yummiest lamingtons we've tasted. Jack is boasting that they were so fabulous, he might have gobbled 90% of them!

Harmony Day 2015 at the Smith Street Unit

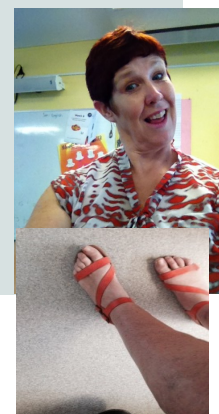
On Monday, 23rd March the Smith Street Unit staff and students joined in Harmony Day celebrations. Harmony Day is a federal government initiative to remind us all of the wonderfully culturally diverse society that is modern Australia. It is timed to coincide with the UN's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The Smith Street Unit is thrilled to boast staff and students

from Finland, New Zealand, Lebanon, Scotland, and many proud Indigenous people.

We went to the Wollongong Botanic Gardens for an exploration of local bush tucker. Our thanks go to Wollongong Council for their generous waiving of entry fees.

Orange is the Harmony Day colour and is worn to remind us that we all belong. Here are some of us

wearing orange; shoes, nail polish, bunny ears as well as entire outfits. Great effort everyone.



Parenting Ideas

Bullying knows no bounds

When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she'd done differently. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using. <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/when-cyberbullying-hits-home>

Have you checked out our website?

Bookmark www.smithst-s.schools.nsw.edu.au for all the latest news and info from the Smith Street Unit. You'll find heaps of resources we think you'll find helpful and even more photos in our Gallery than we could hope to include here. We look forward to hearing what you think.



Contact us

The Smith Street Unit
53 Smith St
Wollongong 2500

P: 4228 8884

E: dale.dalsanto@det.nsw.edu.au

W: www.smithst-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

The Smith Street Unit is a service of the NSW Department of Education, providing specialised support in a unique environment. Students are provided with individualised learning programs to meet their educational needs.

The Unit has served the students of the Illawarra for over a quarter of a century with the key mission of providing a nurturing environment where students can grow into mature young men and women. Its always exciting to see a graduate come back to share their success stories.



Dale-Myree and the staff of the Smith Street Unit would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and safe Easter break. We trust that your holidays are relaxing.

The students have put in a big term; completing a great deal of work, some starting TAFE studies as they journey towards a post school career. The staff have been pleased to see the students using

their rewards point from the new program to achieve their personal goals-some have enjoyed a delicious hot lunch while others have saved points to claim vouchers.

The staff will have a Professional Development Day on Monday, 20th April. We look forward to seeing all the students back here on, Tuesday 21st April.

Harmony Day 2015

