



The Scoop

The news that matters from the
Smith Street Unit

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

Volume 3 Issue 6 August 2016



From the desk of Dale-Myree



With great sadness, we announce that we have lost our counsellor Sue Bromham due to a change in time allocation and personnel. Sue has worked at the unit for 2 years and built a great rapport with the staff and the students. She was a dedicated counsellor who worked relentlessly

to ensure the best possible outcome for the students.

Students, Parents and Staff will miss you!!!



SOUND WAVES

Your whole school phonemic approach to spelling

We wish to thank Dianne Sutherland, Education Consultant for Firefly Education. Dianne presented a professional development session on the "Sound Waves Program". Sound Waves is based on the phonemic approach to teach spelling and reading. The unit staff wish to thank Firefly for their generosity and for giving the unit free resources and charts to support our program. The unit staff also found the session informative and learnt new strategies to assist us with implementing the program that Loretta Smith coordinates.



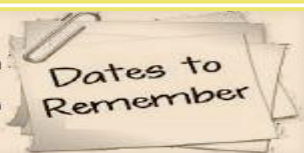
Sincere thanks!!!

Inside this issue:

Important Dates	Pg 1
Sound Waves	Pg 1
SSU Building Site	Pg 2
Art	Pg 2
Dragons Appreciation Day	Pg 2
Welcome	Pg 2
Staffroom news	Pg 3
Training	Pg 3
Links to Learning	Pg 3
SSU Garden	Pg 4
Work experience	Pg 4
Students' work	Pg 4



Mark Your Calendar



BBQ Construction Day Debbie Lowe visit (Director of Public Schools)	Monday, 22 August	Students are bricklayers for a day!
Last Day of Term 3	Friday, 23 September	Enjoy the holiday!
First Day of Term 4	Monday, 10 October	Welcome Back!

RESPECT

SAFETY

LEARNING

Arts, crafts and creativity



At the Smith Street Unit, we have been busy making mini-beasts. Since most of our students are fascinated with spiders and insects, Dale-Myree's art lessons incorporated the processes of colouring and making the models. The students enjoyed the activity!!! **Wow!!!**

SSU Building Site



We are very happy to announce that we have a new **picket fence**. The fence is painted white and the unit looks so bright and inviting. The fence was funded from School to Work program coordinated by **Julie Tolley** to support the students in their transition from school to training and employment.



The unit staff also wish to thank **Brendan Cole** from **Australian Brick & Blocklaying Training Foundation Ltd ABBTF** for assisting in organising a trainer to build the Smith Street Unit BBQ area. The students are excited to work alongside the trainer and to have the opportunity to learn about the bricklaying trade.

The slab is ready and we look forward to the 22nd of August!!



Employers Appreciation Day

On Thursday August 4th, the Smith Street Unit staff were invited to attend the Dragons' annual **Appreciation**

Day. The day acknowledges the schools that have embraced the "Teachers Aide" program involving the players from the Dragons Holden Cup squad. The unit staff wish to thank **Scott Stewart**, Education and Welfare Officer for the St George Illawarra Dragons, for supplying the unit with 4 tickets for the game Dragons vs Broncos.



The staff and students would like to welcome a new student at the unit Dylan Clegg from Warrawong High School. Dylan is settling at the unit and participated in sports and tennis lessons.



Welcome to SSU!!!



Congratulations to Joshua Thompson for participating in the Links to Learning Program at Bellambi Neighbourhood Centre. Joshua's goals include obtaining WHS induction White Card, Barista certificate and First Aid certificate. The unit staff wish to thank Grahame Glover, coordinator of Links to Learning for providing our students with opportunities to learn new skills.

According to Joshua **"All Bellambi is proud of me!!!"**
We definitely are proud of you!



INTERVIEW IN PROGRESS



Merryl Bennett assisted Dryden Jack with his application for Traineeship with Wollongong Council.

Dryden made it to the second stage and had his interview on the 16th of August. Merryl ran a Mock Interview workshop with the students in Years 10 & 11 to practise interview skills.

Thanks to **Di** from the **Disability Trust** and **Jenny Clancy** from Wollongong for giving Dryden a mock interview practice as well. We are proud of Dryden and thankful for Merryl's support to facilitate the best possible outcome for our students.

Staffroom News

- Kieren Hill changed his travel destination and moved to Canada for 6 months.
- Louise Warren replaced Cyndy when Cyndy travelled around Europe. She is a great teacher and the students and staff loved her energetic nature.
- Caroline Haselden is an enthusiastic, happy and hard working teacher. She is at the unit every Wednesday for the remainder of the year.
- Andrew Jago joined the SSU team as an SLSO on Thursdays and Fridays in Term 3. He has built a positive rapport with the senior students.
- Pam Hurley has been a valued casual teacher at SSU. The students and staff appreciate her calm nature to balance our busy workplace.

Betty the Ewe

Daniel the sheep has been reunited with Betty the Ewe. Ziik will start working on the frame for the Ram to join the flock!!

Thanks to David Hermann for choosing the names Betty for the ewe and Bill for the ram.

Betty looks very sheepish!!!



Petrina completed her Mental Health First Aid Training.
Congratulations Petrina!!!

Accreditation and NDIS Sessions

On Thursday the 13th of August, SSU hosted a staff development workshop after school. The workshop included 2 sessions: John Black, our Federation Organiser presented a session on Maintenance of accreditation and Merryl Bennett- Transition Support Teacher- presented a session on NDIS and Post School Programs. We were joined by our colleagues from Flametree- Annexe of Figtree High and from Auburn Street Unit Annexe of Coniston Public School.

The staff found the sessions informative and indicated interest in a session on teachers' salary and entitlement in the near future.

We wish to thank **John Black** for his continual support and **Merryl Bennett** for facilitating the update on NDIS.



As part of my course "Digital Animation" at West Wollongong TAFE, I completed one-week work experience at Workplace Learning Illawarra.

I formatted documents, compiled an entire Term list and I updated the website. I worked so efficiently that I finished all the tasks assigned quickly. I really enjoyed it!!



By Jack Mitchell



On Wednesday 10th of August, we found this positive message from Fun Club based Wollongong Primary School to express their appreciation of our Minion. **What a lovely Surprise!!!**



Joshua worked hard in HSIE learning about the Industrial Revolution. He really enjoyed the learning and created a poster about the work conditions.

Industrial Revolution



A woman's work was double because they also worked at home.

Children worked at the age of 6 and worked with large heavy objects.



Working conditions were very dangerous and unsanitary.

Children worked up to nineteen hours a day.

Joshua Thompson

Well done!!!



Dylan Hart was successful in gaining full time employment at "Elite Products Helensburgh". The **Australian Community Support Organisation ASCO** assisted and supported Dylan in the search for suitable open employment. In January 2016, Access Community Group joined with Australian Community Support Organisation ASCO. Their mission is to "engage people with opportunities, in education, employment and their community". (<http://acg.com.au/employment/>) **We wish Dylan a bright future!!!**



The Smith Street unit is a service of the New South Wales Department of Education providing specialised support in a unique environment. Students are provided with individualised learning programs to meet the educational needs.

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

The Smith Street Unit

53 Smith Street

Wollongong 2500

Phone: 42288884

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

Fax: 42264052

Website:

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