



NSW P&C  
VOLUNTEER  
OF THE  
YEAR  
2018

Nominate a  
volunteer in your  
P&C Association  
that is deserving  
of the title

## A Fair Go for All Children

P10

Fred Hollows p9

Healthy School Canteens

p19

Parent Resources and

News p22

# PARENT & CITIZEN



# EASY TO USE, FUN, COLOURFUL SCHOOL SPORTING HOUSE BANNERS



"The banners have arrived and they look fantastic.

We are very happy with them."

- Crookwell Public School

## YOUR CHOICE OF:

COLOURS  
DESIGN  
SIZE &  
SHAPE

## P&C Journal SPECIAL

**Set of 4  
Small Windfree  
'House Banners'**  
+ FREE Ground Spikes  
+ FREE Carry Bags  
+ FREE Design Service

**ONLY \$980**

+del +gst

**OFFER AVAILABLE THIS TERM  
- ORDER TODAY!**

"They're fantastic!

One staff member wants to carry them around to all the classrooms so the children can see it."

- Culcairn Public School



**Various shapes & sizes available!**

**1000x1500mm Hanging Banners are also popular House Banners**

[www.schoolbanners.com.au](http://www.schoolbanners.com.au)

**Contact Us Today**

[info@schoolbanners.com.au](mailto:info@schoolbanners.com.au)





**14**



**10**

### **Parent and Citizen Journal**

The Journal of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales

**T:** 1300 885 982

**F:** 1800 655 866

**E:** [journal@pandc.org.au](mailto:journal@pandc.org.au)

**W:** [www.pandc.org.au](http://www.pandc.org.au)

### **Share Your Story with Us**

The P&C Journal is published once a Term and is a great way to showcase what your P&C Association and school community is up to. If your School, Students or P&C Association is doing something special this year, share your story and photos with us and fellow school communities.

Contributions and feedback to:

**journal@pandc.org.au**

### **Advertising**

**E:** [journal@pandc.org.au](mailto:journal@pandc.org.au)

**T:** 1300 885 982

Follow us on Facebook & Twitter



The views expressed in the journal are not necessarily those of the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales

# **CONTENTS**

President's Message	<b>4</b>
P&C Federation Conference 2019	<b>5</b>
Secretary NSW Department of Education – Mark Scott	<b>6</b>
CEO NSW Education Standards Authority – David de Carvalho	<b>7</b>
Reminder! Insurance Renewal due July 31st.	<b>8</b>
Fred Hollows	<b>9</b>
Fair Funding Now!	<b>10-11</b>
Jilliby Public School story for Journal Mar 2018	<b>12-13</b>
Taren Point Public School Students Care Package Initiative for Anzac Day	<b>14-15</b>
School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW)	<b>16</b>
Public school students the 'agents of change'	<b>18</b>
Healthy School Canteens	<b>19</b>
A vote of confidence in NSW public schools	<b>20</b>
What's On	<b>21</b>
Parent Resources and News	<b>22</b>
Esafety	<b>23</b>

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Susie Boyd

**A**s the P&C Federation Annual General Meeting approaches, it is worth looking back on what the 2016-2018 Board has achieved and what our priorities are going forward. Our job is to be the voice of parents in all policies that effect public education in our state, and to help every P&C Association reach their full potential in making a positive difference to their school community.

The 2016-2018 period has been a tumultuous one for public education, from the Commonwealth's decision to renege on the Gonski agreement signed in 2013 and replace it with a discriminative model that favours private schools, to the State Government announcing the first comprehensive review of the entire curriculum in nearly thirty years. Developments like these bring both enormous challenges and opportunities, and it's important to always remember the value to New South Wales of an equitable public education system.

**ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL, EACH VOLUNTEER CAN ENSURE THEY ARE PERSONALLY IN THE BEST PLACE TO MAKE THEIR SCHOOL A BETTER PLACE FOR THEIR CHILDREN.**

With State and Federal Elections approaching in 2019, it is the best possible time for you to learn where your local representatives stand in regards to your children's education. We encourage all our members to ask their representatives:

- Do they value the public education system?
- Are they aware the majority of public schools are below the Minimum Resource Standard?

- Are they concerned that the majority of public schools will not reach the Minimum resource Standard within 10 years?

**IT IS ALSO CRUCIAL THAT EACH P&C ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY.**

As critical as it is for schools and parent communities to engage with their elected representatives, it is also crucial that each P&C Association contribute to their school communities in the best possible way. Parent engagement, when correctly incorporated into a school community, can have significant uplifting results for students, parents and staff members of the school. Parents have multiple opportunities to engage in their school through classroom, fundraising and advisory activities. To take just one example, Merit Selection Panels formed for the important task of hiring school staff must include a P&C Association representative, and any member of the P&C Association can be nominated to sit on a panel. We also encourage parents to get involved in their school's finance committee.

On an individual level, each volunteer can ensure they are personally in the best place to make their school a better place for their children. In contributing to their schools, parent volunteers are serving a cause higher than themselves, and they will be prepared to do this if they remember a few principles:

- Accept challenging questions
- Be willing to compromise
- Understand that they will be wrong sometimes
- Recognise that new ideas are not necessarily bad

Parent volunteers should always bear in



P&C Federation President,  
Susie Boyd

mind that volunteering is a collective activity, and P&C Association activities can only exist with a pool of ready and willing parents. When trying to grow your pool of parent volunteers, it's imperative to understand that one method of engagement is not going to work for all parents. For P&C Associations wanting to engage, instead of asking "How do we get more parents to join?" consider asking current members:

- Why did you join?
- Why do you stay?
- If you could do one thing in the P&C - what would it be?
- If you change one thing in schools, what would it be?

At P&C Federation itself, we are all undergoing this kind of introspective process as the 2018 Annual General Meeting approaches in late August and we prepare for a reconfigured Board. I'm delighted that there is both an infusion of new blood and that many of our current councillors and delegates want to continue in the P&C Federation. I look forward to continuing on the P&C Federation Board in any way I can, whether that means continuing as President or in another role. We will continue to advocate for a strong and equitable public education system for students across New South Wales.

# P&C FEDERATION 2019 CONFERENCE

## 1st & 2nd MARCH, 2019

### P&C Federation Awards Dinner: 1st March, 2019

After a successful conference in 2018, P&C Federation would like to announce the P&C Federation 2019 Conference will be held on Friday 1 & Saturday 2 March, 2019 with the announcement of 'NSW P&C Volunteer of the Year 2018' to take place at the awards dinner in the evening on Friday 1 March 2019.

Members who attended 2018's conference provided positive feedback on what a valuable and worthwhile event the 2-day conference was, as it allowed them to add to their knowledge, provided a great networking opportunity with other P&C Associations from across New South Wales, and allowed them to meet with the P&C Federations Councillors and staff.

P&C Federation has been fortunate to again secure Andrew Fuller, clinical psychologist

and author to join us as a guest speaker in 2019. Andrew has a passion for the wellbeing of young people with a quirky interactive way of engaging with his audience. One attendee at this year's conference said, "I would have attended the conference just to hear Andrew speak, he was fantastic!".

P&C Federation's 2019 Conference will offer a range of workshops for members to participate in as well as exhibitors with products and services to peruse during the conference these stalls will operate throughout the two days. The conference will again be in the Parramatta area, but yet to be confirmed please email **Debbie** at [projects@pandc.org.au](mailto:projects@pandc.org.au) for more details.

Save these dates and stay tuned via our website, Facebook and Twitter for more updates #P&CConf2019



Clinical Psychologist  
Andrew Fuller

## NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

### NSW P&C VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2018

#### *Nominations Now Open!*

**Nominate someone your P&C Association believes is deserving of this title.**

For more information and to Submit your P&C Association's Nomination go to our website: [pandc.org.au](http://pandc.org.au) and click on the **members tab**.

#### ***Exhibitors Expression of Interest***

If your business is interested in being an exhibitor at P&C Federation 2019 conference, venue to be in the Parramatta area, but yet to be confirmed, please email **Debbie** at [projects@pandc.org.au](mailto:projects@pandc.org.au) for more details.

# PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT THE KEY TO GREAT SCHOOLS

BY MARK SCOTT

**E**very student is known, valued and cared for – that's the message that everyone who works in NSW public education wants to give to the parents and carers of the 800,000 students in our schools.

This is a central goal of the Department of Education's Strategic Plan, which sets the vision for our 2,200 schools to be the finest education system in Australia and one of the best in the world.

Like everything we do in education, we go to the evidence base to see what works in classrooms and what improves the school experience for our students.

Every year we survey thousands of primary and secondary students, parents and carers, and teachers in the *Tell Them From Me* surveys. Our Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) analyses the information and provides advice to the department, directly to schools and to the wider community on a range of educational issues and practices.

From these surveys we are building an evidence base about the importance of the partnership between the school and the home on student outcomes. This research is helping us ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

We know now that it's not just the teachers or just the home support for learning that improves the school experience for students – it's the combination of support from teachers and support from parents that has the greatest impact on academic achievement, students' sense of belonging and their overall wellbeing.

Another recent research publication from CESE also identifies the role of parents in their children's education as one of the key characteristics of schools that create a culture of excellence, along with strong school leadership and teachers who want to keep learning. Schools identified in the research that excelled in education delivery involved parents in student learning to ensure it continued outside of school.

You can read these research papers and much more on Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation website  
**[www.cese.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.cese.nsw.gov.au/)**

## More support for principals

A core focus of our strategic plan is to ensure that every student, every teacher, every school leader and every school improves every year.

We are improving support for our principals and their schools by increasing (from Term 2) the number of directors who supervise schools and provide shoulder-to-shoulder support. Until recently our directors supported an average of 34 schools, with some having a workload of 40 schools.

We have reframed the role of our Directors, Educational Leadership so they can focus on what's really important. We want to free them up to spend more time with principals, to spend more time in schools – to provide practical support and to develop a deep understanding of the challenges at each location.

The new directors are expert educators and now oversee a more manageable average of 20 schools.



Mark Scott, Secretary  
NSW Department of Education

The creation of the Director, Educational Leadership role, developed as part of our School Leadership Strategy, has a greater focus on educational leadership, stronger collegial support and practical guidance with the day-to-day running of the school. The directors are working with principals to ensure evidence-based decision-making is focused on improving student progress and achievement by improving the quality of teaching and effective school planning.

## Reconciliation Action Plan

This year the Department of Education will create a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to commit us to practical actions that will drive the department's contribution to reconciliation, both within the department and in the communities we are part of. It will also be a strategic document that will support the department's Strategic Plan.

The RAP framework will ensure our department contributes to reconciliation by building and encouraging relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, organisations, and the broader Australian community, embedding respect for the world's longest surviving cultures and communities, and developing opportunities within the Department of Education to improve socioeconomic outcomes for Indigenous people.

# FEDERATION OF P&C ASSOCIATIONS

By David de Carvalho

## NSW CURRICULUM REVIEW

You will no doubt have heard about the Premier and Minister for Education's announcement of the NSW Curriculum Review.

When I spoke to the P&C Federation President ahead of the announcement, I assured Susie of NESA's belief that parents have a core role to play in the review. In addition to teachers, we will be consulting closely with parents at each step of the way.

### So why the review?

The NSW Curriculum Review will be the first review of the overall purpose and structure of the curriculum for 30 years. It will look at the nature, purpose and design of schooling in a world that presents many challenges for students that are different from when we were at school.

It will consider how the curriculum is taught, assessed and reported, including concerns about crowded curriculum. It will also take account of the Gonski 2.0 report and issues such as core knowledge and generic capabilities such as critical thinking, teamwork and critical thinking.

This is different from NESA's regular syllabus review and development process – so we won't look at every dot point and dash point in every syllabus. The NSW Curriculum Review will identify approaches and areas for improvement, to learn from the experience of leading jurisdictions around the world to ensure NSW students are equipped to meet the technological, social and economic challenges of this century.

With over 3,000 schools and one million students in NSW, we have a diverse mix of school communities and students with different learning needs. The curriculum needs to provide quality learning opportunities for everyone, hence this timely review.

### What's next?

We've been working closely with our stakeholders, including further discussions with the P&C Federation Executive, to finalise the Terms of Reference for the Review.

Once the Terms of Reference are released in the second half of 2018, we will be out meeting with teachers, parents and school communities to hear your views. More information will be progressively uploaded to the NESA website about our public consultation and engagement activities, and how you can get involved. I will also be working with Susie and the P&C Federation Executive to explore how we can work together to seek your direct input into the Review.



David de Carvalho, CEO  
NSW Education Standards Authority

- **child protection** – including that all people engaged in child-related work at school have a Working with Children Check clearance
- **student welfare and supervision of students**
- **for schools teaching Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) courses** – policies and procedures to ensure the delivery of the mandatory syllabuses and eligibility requirements for HSC students
- **Mathematics** – records of teaching, learning and assessment and strategies to meet the learning needs of students across a variety of student backgrounds and learning profiles, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

**"WITH OVER 3,000 SCHOOLS AND ONE MILLION STUDENTS IN NSW, WE HAVE A DIVERSE MIX OF SCHOOL COMMUNITIES AND STUDENTS WITH DIFFERENT LEARNING NEEDS."**

### RANDOM SCHOOL INSPECTIONS

Each year, NESA selects schools randomly for inspection. In 2018, the sample includes 18 government schools and eight non-government schools.

This program is to ensure that all schools are meeting the school standards set by the Education Act.

If your child's school is inspected in 2018, NESA will be focussing on a range of requirements selected from the following:





## P&C Association it's renewal time!

### Membership and Insurance is due 1st August 2018.

Information on Membership and Insurances renewals will be issued from Andrews Insurance Services Pty Ltd. by mid to late June your P&C Association should have received an email that will have your P&C Association's renewal email for the 2018-2019 period.

**\*Please note that the increase you will notice is directly relating to the re-introduction of Fire & Emergency Services Levy which is a charge imposed by the NSW Government\***

**One change you will notice is that once your P&C Association has completed the online renewal form, an invoice will be issued for each insurance option chosen. \*Please allow up to 7 working days for your invoice to be issued\* An example of the invoice that will be issued by Andrews Insurance Services Pty Ltd is pictured. A schedule will also be attached detailing the cover.**

Membership of P&C Federation provides your P&C Association with **\$50 Million Public Liability Insurance**.

P&C Federation members are also encouraged to consider other great value insurances to ensure that your business, members and volunteer needs are met.

### Has your P&C Association got adequate insurance cover in place?

Make sure you have all your P&C Association activities covered. Consider insurance to cover your members and volunteers when they are participating in P&C Association events. Have you considered Cash & Property insurance for those P&C Associations who operate activities like Canteens, OOSH Centres Bands or Uniform Shops? Your P&C Association may want to consider in taking up one of the best value Insurance Packages available with top ups of cash and property!

It is recommended all P&C Associations take the time to review their operations to ensure that the adequate insurance cover is in place.

If you have any enquires or anything you would like clarified, please contact Andrews Insurance on 1300 885 982

Option 1 or email [ela@andrewsinsurance.com.au](mailto:ela@andrewsinsurance.com.au) | [insurance@pandc.org.au](mailto:insurance@pandc.org.au)

Ela Comertpay is available at Andrews Insurance Services Pty Ltd to assist you with your insurance needs.



# FRED HOLLOWWS HUMANITY AWARD

## NOMINATIONS OPEN Monday the 23rd of July!

The Fred Hollows Humanity Award recognises Year 6 students who follow in Fred's footsteps by making a positive difference in their community. It celebrates students who show compassion, integrity and kindness in their everyday lives.

The Fred Hollows Foundation is calling for teachers, parents and community members to nominate students for the Fred Hollows Humanity Award.

All nominees will receive a certificate and select nominees will be recognised at a

presentation ceremony in their state in Term 4 where a Junior Ambassador will also be announced. This Ambassador will extend their humanity by allocating \$5000, donated by Specsavers, to a Fred Hollows Foundation program of their choice to help end avoidable blindness.

**To nominate a student, go to [www.hollows.org/humanityaward](http://www.hollows.org/humanityaward)**

**Nominate any Year 6 student who embodies the values of compassion, integrity and kindness**

**Ask about our high density shade cloth in a range of modern colours**



*Create a premium quality shade feature at a competitive price and increase opportunities for outdoor learning*

**Provides -**

- A pleasant and inviting atmosphere for lessons, functions and community gatherings
- Very high UV protection and water resistant
- The breathable canopy allows LIGHT & AIR IN and NOISE OUT

**Perfect for -**

- Sports Courts and Assembly areas
- Fixed play equipment
- Open Play spaces

*Designed by an independent structural engineer to comply with the Building Code of Australia, you can be sure your SUN SHADE structure or sails will be durable and long lasting – built for your specific site conditions.*



PO Box 287  
Avalon NSW 2107  
Tel: 1300 78 44 81  
[www.sunshade.com.au](http://www.sunshade.com.au)

# FAIR FUNDING NOW!

The Australian Education Union's (AEU) new phase of public schools funding campaign – “FairFundingNow!” was launched in Canberra on **27th March, 2018**. This campaign for fair funding for our public schools has garnered support from public school principals, teachers and peak parent bodies from throughout Australia.



## The “FAIR FUNDING NOW!” Solution

Every child has a right to a quality education and the opportunity to learn and fair funding for public schools is the best way to help them get it. We are calling on all political parties to support the following:

- Reverse the \$1.9 billion cut to public schools in 2018 and 2019
- Agreements should be struck between the Commonwealth and the states and territories to ensure every public school is funded to 100% of the schooling resource standard (SRS) by 2023.
- Remove the 20% cap on the Commonwealth share of the SRS from the Australian Education Amendment Act.
- Establish a capital fund for public schools (\$300m in 2018 and increase each year in line with enrolment growth and rising costs) to ensure all students are educated in classrooms and learning spaces where their needs can be met.
- Reverse the cuts to disability funding in five states and territories.

**P&C Federation** extends its support to the “Fair Funding Now!” campaign and encourages parents to join #FairFundingNow! and encourages parents to stand up for our children and let your local politicians know that you are trusting them to advocate and support #FairFundingNow campaign our students and public schools.



XXX; Maurie Mulheron, President NSW Teachers Federation; Susie Boyd, President P&C Federation; XXX



P&C Federation's Susie Boyd & Natalie Walker at Launch of #FairFundingNow

# FAIRFUNDINGNOW!

## FOR QUALITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

BECAUSE THEY ARE OUR FUTURE.

Authorised by Susan Higgood, Federal Secretary, Australian Education Union, 120 Clarendon St, Southbank 3006.



**Our children deserve an equitable public education system** and only a well-resourced system can ensure our young people become effective contributing members of society. Under current funding, government schools in New South Wales by the year 2027 will be funded at just 91% of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS), whereas independent schools will be funded at 107% of the SRS by 2027.

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

1. Please sign and join over one hundred thousand parents, teachers, principals and community members.  
To Sign, visit:  
[http://www.fairfundingnow.org.au/take\\_action](http://www.fairfundingnow.org.au/take_action)
2. You can let your local Member of Parliament know you agree by sending them an email. Template can be found at <https://www.pandc.org.au/satisfaction-lies-in-the-effort/> and more information about your local MP can be found at [https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Members](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members) (select “Members by electorate”)
3. Please share, sign and share again to show your support. You can also share the campaign on your school/P&C Association’s Facebook and Twitter accounts and encourage other parents and community members to join #FairFundingNow
4. Resources can be found at  
<http://www.fairfundingnow.org.au/resources>, Download, print and share our resources with friends, family, colleagues

**“Each one of us can make a difference. Together we can make change.”**

**Our children only get one chance at an education and the political leaders need to hear how important the funding of public schools is to the community.”**

**P&C Federation President, Susie Boyd,** said, “I encourage all Parents in NSW to join the Fair Funding Campaign to push for equitable funding for our public schools.”

Fair Funding Now! campaign information can be found at:  
<http://www.fairfundingnow.org.au>

# **“WE MIGHT BE SMALL, BUT WE ARE QUALITY ALL THE WAY”**

## **JILLIBY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*We all know the advantages of ‘scale’ when dealing with efficiency but there are also advantages of small size and my son’s school is an example of this. With total student numbers of 58, Jilliby would never qualify as a large cohort but they certainly ‘pack a punch’.*



*Jilliby Public School*

**W**e are a strong technology school with a dedicated Robotics group and also very strong in sport, having won the local area Swimming ‘Handicap’ trophy for the past 3 years, among other noteworthy achievements. As a small semi-rural, valley school on the Central Coast a lot of the students are surrounded by their own gardens and livestock, so the food cycle is not academic but a way of life.

At news time, it is often a cow having a calf as much as the latest TV show and when we first returned to the school with a younger sibling the school had a flourishing and successful Equestrian Team, not the norm for most schools. To add to this natural life experience, the school runs the ‘Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden’ (SAKG) program. This is where the value is added to our children’s education most.

Over time, with the support of the P&C, families, teachers and some business sponsors garden beds and fruit orchards have been spread around the school. The children tend to these plots, learning weeding, planting, watering, mulching and soil improvement techniques as they go. They plant, tend and harvest these crops and that in itself has enormous value. There are also chickens kept, some of which were raised from eggs within the classroom to show their life cycle.

Jilliby has a School Parliament and the position of Minister for the Environment is highly sought after as the production of food is taught in structured lessons as well as volunteering at recess and lunch.

Once the food is available the real fun begins. The SAKG program has the students

harvesting the food and using pre-prepared recipes (tweaked to the available produce) to prepare amazing dishes for the children to eat and share.

Not only do the students learn to read recipes, to prepare raw food and to construct the meals as a group working together, they also learn to eat food (99% vegetarian at our school) from different cultures that they may not have been exposed to.

And they learn to clean up! All of them do the washing up at one stage or another!

Every part of the process is supported by a dedicated teacher plus the class teacher and a committed group of parent volunteers. All the parts of the program add value in literacy, straight maths like addition but also measurement/weight etc, HSIE, science and

a multitude of other educational goals. And all this is done as a by-product of the actual fun the children have in preparing meals.

The program has universal support in the school. I am the P&C President and in 5 years I have never heard anyone complain or criticise the SAKG program, which is very unusual in a school environment where parents are often at odds about particular directions of any school program.

I know we all get tired at times, and most us do struggle to grow our volunteer numbers, but just remember how much the kids and your schools appreciate what you do. So, remember to take some time to refresh and recharge because we all need that to keep doing what we do.

The students design, prepare, construct and serve the end of year 'Volunteer thank you' lunch, which we term a feast. And a feast it is. Food from all over the world, made from fresh, organic vegetables either from the school garden or donated from parents from their gardens for such a large group, served with either a shy or cheeky smile by students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The pride on their faces when the Principal explains the menu to come and says which parts were made by which class is heart-warming. They really do have pride in their work!

And we all eat together. The VIPs and the students sit down to a great feast together under the COLA. It is a fabulous time. But this year the school added more to this success. For maybe 3 years, we have been entering produce in our local agricultural shows. A box of produce or some other form of entry of our agricultural production, each time to great success. This year the school decided to go for the big one! The Sydney Royal Easter Show!

Mrs Bowes, our teacher in charge of the program, looked at the produce left after a very long, hot summer and put together the best we could and included a Bunya Pine Cone from our school emblem, the Bunya Bunya Pine, that was planted from a seed brought down from Queensland and put in front of the school buildings by our first teacher when the school was formed in

1889. The tree is still alive and is the first thing you see when entering the school.

So, she entered this into the Maitland Show where it was judged in the Regional section of the Royal Easter Show and we all waited for late March to hurry up and arrive.

The school organised, with the P&C, a whole school excursion to the Royal so we could all see the results together. The P&C funded the big bus and a parent volunteered to drive the local Community bus to ensure that this excursion would be relatively inexpensive and available to all the school families and any parents who wanted to go along as well. In such a small school there are few families that have not been involved in some way or another with the program.

And, on Monday the 26th of March, we all filed in through the entry gates for the first time as a (very excited) school. On the Kinder/Year 1 bus there had been a plaintive comment made just before arriving on the 2-hour bus trip that "...we haven't even had Crunch and Sip time yet!".

We looked at the baby animals, watched milking demonstrations, looked at cattle and working dogs and sailed through the food production area as we already make our own pasta, condiments and bread from scratch at the SAKG so that was nothing new to the students!

We finally made it to the produce area to find...drum roll...we had won FIRST PLACE!

**Jilliby has a School Parliament and the position of Minister for the Environment is highly sought after as the production of food is taught in structured lessons as well as volunteering at recess and lunch.**

A lovely little certificate with Jilliby Public Schools name on it! The children took a while to take it in but then it was smiles all round. The parents and helpers were thrilled.

I would like to think that the founders of our school, the Cedar-getters who utilised and processed the resources of the Watagan Mountains that surround the area would have approved.

They lived and worked in the late 1800's to provide building materials to the newly European settled region and I think they would have been very pleased and proud to know that the little school they built themselves, with materials from the local area (one building of which is still in use as a computer lab) was continuing to teach essential life skills to their descendants after they had passed on.

130 years of continuous education and coming full circle to teaching the skills needed to survive. Quality education does come in small packages. Jilliby Public School might be small, but we are quality all the way.

*As told by Jilliby P&C Association President, Catherine Cole*



# TAREN POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS CARE PACKAGE INITIATIVE FOR ANZAC DAY

Located in the Sutherland Shire of Sydney, Taren Point Public School, is often referred to as a 'country school in a big city'. With 85 students, beautiful green grounds, a veggie patch and the recent arrival of three very cheeky chickens to the school, Taren Point Public School is truly a fine example of a thriving close-knit school community.

Taren Point Public School President, Alana Vanderwoude said, "Being a close-knit school community, projects at the school are run as a whole school and we have found this has had many positive benefits to the students. The school also has a Student Representative Council (SRC) consisting of 10 students, two representatives from each class who meet on a fortnightly basis to discuss fundraising opportunities for the school."

## An idea was born

With ANZAC Day approaching the children were discussing the significance of the national day and why it is important that we remember the people that served and are currently serving our country today.

The SRC meeting in March took on a different path. Inspired by the care package initiative they decided that they would organise their own initiative and send care packages to the Australian Defence Force as a way of showing their appreciation and support for the work they do here and overseas.

## Execution

The SRC consulted with our School Administration Manager and asked her if she could send a request on their behalf to the school community asking for donations. The request received an overwhelming response and they were inundated with offerings. A staple of all Australian homes- Vegemite, Arnott's Shapes, Tim Tams, Lucas's pawpaw cream and Blistex were received for the care package and each class created a card to send with their individual greetings and best wishes.

**"It was important because they are missing home and we sent them a box of some Australian goods, so they can remember what it is like at home..."**



*Taren Point Public School SRC busy putting together the care packages*



Taren Point Public School Captains and SRC attending the Caringbah Dawn ANZAC Service

## STUDENT'S VOICE:

### School Captain/ SRC, Year 6, Ashlee

**Trew said,** "It was important because they are missing home and we sent them a box of some Australian goods, so they can remember what it is like at home. We chose some lovely Australian food and some care products, such as Paw Paw and Blistex. I felt very happy when I sent them over. ANZAC day helps me remember those who protected our country. I am very grateful, and I am so glad we got to send the packages and got to be a part of this. I went to the ANZAC dawn service and got to lay the wreath not only that I also laid a Poppy."

### (SRC, Year 3), Georgia Hatton

**commented,** "In term One, we sent a package to the troops full of things to remember home. While fighting at War, they can eat their goods like vegemite, Blistex and newspaper game. I like the fact that we

**"We are extremely grateful for the work of our defence forces and aim to continue this initiative on an annual basis."**

sent a lot vegemite to the troops. The troops mean a lot to Australia because they have fought for our amazing country since World War I. We are proud citizens of our country because not only had they fought for us all the way from World War I, but also that we can be safe in our surroundings. Also, half of Australian troops died in the first or 12th hour of the day. I'm proud to say that I did go along with the SRC to the dawn service, that was definitely a very long early morning."

Taren Point Public School Principal, Mr Trent Bridgland School Principal commented, "After hearing about the care package initiative, the school SRC and were excited to be involved. Families were asked to send in

items and within a few days, we had lots of donations. Members of the SRC assembled the care packages and each class made and signed cards to include as a personal touch. Not only was it a way of giving back to the broader community, it was also a valuable learning opportunity for our students. We are extremely grateful for the work of our defence forces and aim to continue this initiative on an annual basis."

So, from a conversation between the students at the fortnightly SRC meeting a huge amount of learning around the importance of ANZAC day took place. The students learnt the importance and the history behind ANZAC day and they learnt to show compassion and to think of others in the community. I am certain that when the Defence Force receive the care packages it will give them a boost to know that Australian children are thinking of them and are thankful for all they do protecting Australia.

*As told by Taren Point P&C President, Alana Vanderwoude.*

# SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE NSW (SINSW)

**A**ugust 2017, School Infrastructure NSW was created as a newly formed delivery centre of excellence within the NSW Department of Education tasked with the delivery of the state's record capital investment in NSW schools. SINSW took over the operations of the former Asset Management Directorate from the Corporate Services division. It is responsible for delivering new schools, major upgrades and maintenance strategies that will ensure every school-aged child has access to high-quality education facilities at their local public school.

SINSW is organised into functional units with responsibility for leading the end to end of school infrastructure, from planning and delivery, to asset management, in line with the School Assets Strategic Plan and the Department of Education's strategic plan.

**SINSW is and should be considered as the Centre for excellence for all asset related activities and advice in relation to schools..**

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) is dedicated to supporting schools in all aspects of asset management. With this in mind, in March 2018 we launched an independent review of our approach to how we manage and maintain school facilities. The review is focussed on three key areas;

- Maintenance
- Minor Works, and
- School funded Works (including P&C Association funded works).

A working group was established to oversee the review and includes representation from the P&C Federation. A stakeholder engagement strategy was developed which included initial engagement with Principals followed by further engagement with P&C

Associations across the state. This engagement reflects and recognise the important role P&C Associations play in our schools.

Based primarily on initial engagement with Principals and the Asset Management Units (AMU), an initial findings report was provided by an independent working group in late April 2018. The report identified six initial findings for further investigation. These included;

- Prioritisation and Forward Planning – There is a need for a transparent objective based method of prioritisation for maintenance and minor works which facilitates forward budget planning for each school.
- Skills Enablement – There is a request from asset management and school operations personnel for capability improvement.
- Streamline process & procedures – There is a need to investigate why there is significant concern from Principals of the time it takes to process school funded applications and why approval timeframes are taking up to 8 months to reach delivery phase.
- Building Management System (BMS) Modernisation & Improvement - There is a need for measurement indicators to be introduced to evaluate ongoing performance.
- Adequate Resource Levels – There is a need to establish adequate resource levels for the AMUs to reach a satisfactory level of service expectation from School Operations, improve quality assurance and compliance.
- Performance Indicators – There is a need for measurement indicators to be introduced to evaluate ongoing performance.

The independent consultants (Advisian)



**Education**  
School Infrastructure

group are currently undertaking further stakeholder engagement and data analysis to validate, refine and develop their specific findings. This stage will involve engagement with P&C Associations through participation in surveys as well as face to face meetings. A report outlining the key findings and recommendations will be provided at the end of July.



**Anthony Manning**  
Assets Management Unit Manager

Whilst SINSW is and should be considered as the Centre for excellence for all asset related activities and advice in relation to schools, SINSW recognise it needs to continually improve and demonstrate its value. As such, we are progressing a number of early initiatives (based on the initial findings) to improve asset management. These improvements will include providing a more flexible framework for Schools and School Communities to undertake works in and around schools. Importantly the Primary Principals Association (PPA), Secondary Principals Council (SPC) and P&C Federation will play an active role in refining, implementing and monitoring these improvements to ensure they are practicable, enable more work to be undertaken around schools but most importantly while ensuring the safety of school children and the community remain paramount. The first of these initiatives will commence role out in July this year.

**facebook**  
[www.fb.com/parkequip](http://www.fb.com/parkequip)



Local Government  
PROCUREMENT  
APPROVED CONTRACTOR

• Playgrounds  
• School Seating  
• Shade Structures  
• Tiered Seating  
• Safety Surfacing  
• COLAS  
• Picnic Tables  
• Covered Walkways



**PH 02 9725 5604**

[www.parkequip.com.au](http://www.parkequip.com.au)

NSW Agent for Steel, Post & Rail

Unit 2, 19 Tarlington Place

Smithfield NSW 2164

[info@parkequip.com.au](mailto:info@parkequip.com.au)



**PARK EQUIP**  
*park & play solutions*



# PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS THE 'AGENTS OF CHANGE'

A Student with cerebral palsy who climbed Mount Kosciusko on crutches and the first Aboriginal Australian to graduate from Harvard Law School have paid tribute to the quality of Australia's public education system.

More than 230 NSW public school students, teachers and principals received scholarships valued at more than \$600,000 at the Public Education Foundation's Proudly Public! Celebrating Excellence in Public Schools awards night at Sydney Town Hall in May.

Keynote speaker at the event, Professor Larissa Behrendt, the first Aboriginal person to graduate from Harvard Law School and a former student of Kirrawee High School in Sydney's south, said Australia's public school system was one of the greatest agents of change for the nation.

"What became apparent to me as I was at one of the most elite universities in the world, was that my education through the public school system ... had given me everything I needed to be able to hold my own among the world's best," the Kamilaroi woman told the audience.

"Our public school system is one of the greatest agents of change that we have in

our society and it produces young adults who have in themselves the ability to be agents of enormous positive change.

"So for this reason it remains absolutely essential that we invest heavily in our public education system."

The Department of Education Secretary, Mark Scott, said the Public Education Foundation scholarships were about recognising and rewarding student excellence to encourage high-achieving students to continue to maximise their potential.

"At the same time, the scholarships aim to remove those barriers to achievement created by social and economic disadvantage," Mr Scott said.

Walter and Eliza Trust Scholarship recipient, former Sydney Secondary College student Zarni Tun will use his award to help fund his environmental science degree at the University of Technology, Sydney.

Zarni, who has cerebral palsy, walks with crutches and uses a wheelchair, last year climbed Mount Kosciusko and raised \$11,000 for the Cerebral Palsy Alliance.

He said his public high school gave him the inspiration and encouragement to succeed



Zarni Tun with the NSW Minister for Education, Rob Stokes.

in education.

"The school really evened the playing field. They said 'just ask for help' but they treated me like everyone else and knowing that really encouraged me to study," he said.

Public Education Foundation executive director David Hetherington said the awards night was a celebration of the remarkable learning occurring in the nation's public schools.

"It's a privilege to be able to support students experiencing disadvantage and the outstanding work of their educators," he said.

The NSW P&C Federation is a supporter of the Public Education Foundation awards, which is sponsored by the NSW Teachers Federation, the NSW Department of Education, Teachers Health, First State Super, and Teachers Mutual Bank.



Recipients of the Friends of Zainab Scholarship with Dorothy Hoddinott, in back row, the former principal of Holroyd High School who established the scholarship.

# HEALTHY SCHOOL CANTEENS

**S**tudents deserve the best and that's why the Healthy School Canteens Strategy was introduced last year. There are some great results across the state, with many canteens now meeting the food and drink criteria.

The canteen is an integral part of most schools and many are run by dedicated P&C Association members who do a fantastic job. To help your school make the healthy choice the easy choice for students, the NSW Department of Education and the Ministry of Health have set up a free online resource centre.

The resources guide you through the process and help you assess and adapt your menu and provide tools for promoting and marketing your healthy canteen. Canteen managers can sign up to the 10-step program to help stay on track, access activities and discuss ideas and tips in community forums.



**You can find the resource centre and the 10-step program on the Healthy School Canteens website.**

#### RESOURCE CENTRE

<https://healthyschoolcanteens.nsw.gov.au/canteen-managers/resources>

#### 10 STEP PROGRAM

<https://yoursay.education.nsw.gov.au/healthy-school-canteen>



**SIGNS ARE OUR BUSINESS...  
PARTNERSHIPS ARE OUR STRENGTH.**

At Signpac, we believe in partnerships. Our position as the leading expert in school signs for the past 20 years shows that Australian school leaders trust our company. Each year, Signpac helps over 600 Australian schools to enhance visual impact, which adds flow-on value to their communities. We are proud to be an Australian-owned and operated business, dedicated to providing Australia-wide solutions to primary and secondary schools, public and private plus other institutions including colleges, day care and aged care facilities.

► [www.signpac.com.au](http://www.signpac.com.au) ■ [sales@signpac.com.au](mailto:sales@signpac.com.au) ✉ 1800 140 940



-  5 Year Warranty
-  Great Service
-  Great Design
-  New Technology
-  Best Practice

# A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**S**tudent numbers in NSW public schools increased for the ninth year in a row and secondary school enrolments grew for the first time since 2011, according to the department's 2017 census.

In the past five years NSW public school enrolments have risen by more than 8,500 students a year on average. In 2017 there were 791,040 students in more than 2,200 public schools.

The trends are tracked in 'Schools: in Brief mid-year census 2017', published by the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation.

The Minister for Education, Rob Stokes, said it was encouraging to see sustained growth in public school enrolments.

"It proves that parents are recognising the value of having their children taught at their local government school when they are making choices about their family's future," he said.

"Their confidence in public education is testimony to the professionalism and dedication of the teachers and other staff in our schools."

The census report shows that government school enrolment growth has exceeded that in the non-government sector, with overall enrolment share increasing by 0.1% to 65.5% last year.

The government school apparent retention rate from Year 10 to 12 increased from 73.9% in 2016 to 74.7% in 2017, and has risen by

5.6 percentage points since the new school leaving age was implemented in 2008.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students now account for 7.5% of the public school population, with student numbers rising by 4.7% between 2016 and 2017 to 59,214 students.

**"It proves that parents are recognising the value of having their children taught at their local government school when they are making choices about their family's future"**



## VIP FUNDRAISER SHOPPING NIGHTS



Raise funds  
for your school  
or daycare  
& have a fun  
night out!

Exclusive access  
to the store on  
a night of your  
choosing.

Locations include Sydney, Wollongong, Central Coast, Newcastle/Maitland.

Champagne &  
nibbles for your  
guests & FREE  
gift wrapping.

Flier created for  
you to distribute  
& promote to  
your database.

Your organisation  
receives 20% of  
the total spend as  
a voucher.

Email us to secure your spot now: [vipshopping@caseystoys.com.au](mailto:vipshopping@caseystoys.com.au)  
More info at [caseystoys.com.au/VIP](http://caseystoys.com.au/VIP)

# WHAT'S ON

## The 2018 Patrick White Writing Competition is now open

The competition is open to all Australian Indigenous school students (K-12) in New South Wales Australia. Entry may be individual or for Kindergarten to Year 3, in groups of three or more students one of whom must identify as Australian Indigenous. Each Student is free to enter as many times as they like and submit entries in any one or all three categories. The Individual must be of Aboriginal descent. Entries close September 28.

More information about Individual Entries can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2HqRIAR>

More information about Group Entries (Kindy to Year 3) can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2Djr9Wu>

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARTS FESTIVAL

An annual exhibition for public school students from the Greater Sydney region. The theme for 2018 is Working Together. Public School students from the Greater Sydney region are invited to showcase their creative work during Education Week, providing them with the exciting experience of exhibiting in the gallery and performance spaces of the Addison Road Community Centre – an Inner West cultural hub. The festival is organised with the participation of a Youth Board, made up of students from various schools.

The festival exhibition will run from Saturday 4th August to Friday 10th August, 10am to 3pm.

More information can be found at: <http://www.arcco.org.au/programs/schools-art-sustainability/>

**Ed. week**  
Aug 6 - '18  
Aug 10

Today's schools - creating tomorrow's world

## ABC Education's 'Where I Live Competition' Now Open

Students need to create a 60-second video that describes where they live and what makes it special. They can use their knowledge of local history or geography and combine it with their English and media literacy skills for a chance to win! Entries close 26 November 2018, 5 pm.

More information can be found at: <http://ab.co/2rSNhGG>

## Public Education Foundation Scholarships. There are a few openings in July.

Please visit the website for more information

PRIMARY SCHOLARSHIPS				
CATEGORY	SCHOLARSHIP	CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR	LOCATION	STATUS
General	Vorsay NSW Teachers Federation	Year 1	NSW	Opening July 2018
Indigenous	Una May Smith (primary)	Kindergarten	NSW	Opening July 2018
Indigenous	Camburn Withers	Year 1	NSW	Opening July 2018

# PARENT RESOURCES



The tool aims to help parents and carers of children aged 10-14 keep up-to-date with online safety. It has plenty of tips and practical steps along the way, so you can help your child explore safely and manage online issues should they arise. This is especially important at this age as they strive for independence and peer acceptance.

Parents can find out more by selecting “get started” under the Screen Smart Parent Tour.

**<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>**

## Road Safety Education



Road trauma is a significant health issue for children and young people. Keeping children safe on and around roads is a shared responsibility of everyone. The NSW Department of Education is committed to supporting schools to implement a whole school approach to quality road safety education programs K-12.

Road safety resources, professional learning and support for you and your school can be found at:

**<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/road-safety-education>**

# NEWS

## Public Schools are in for a massive shake-up

The report of the “Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools”, led by Mr David Gonski released on 30th April, 2018 recommends wide-ranging educational reforms.

The report highlights five areas of reform to step-up the level of Australian education and provide an educational system that fosters individual learning needs of every child. Gonski Review Report can be found at: **<https://docs.education.gov.au/node/50516>**

To read P&C Federation’s media release, visit:  
**<https://www.pandc.org.au/media/>**

## Federal Budget 2018-2019

With the revelation of figures of the 2018-2019 Federal Budget, P&C Federation is extremely disappointed that this budget continues to ignore our public schools and does not even take into consideration how the government plans to alleviate the funding gap.

The budget continues the Federal Government’s dismaying pattern of prioritising non-government schools in funding, despite the majority of disadvantaged students being in the public-school sector.

To read P&C Federation’s media release, visit:  
**<https://www.pandc.org.au/media/>**



## the working with children check \*

### Working with Children Check update and changes

DO YOU HOLD A

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK?

You must keep your details up to date - contact details and name changes - or risk a penalty.

Office of the Children's Guardian

GOING ON AN

## OVERNIGHT CAMP FOR KIDS?

You must have a Working With Children Check.

Office of the Children's Guardian

### Do you know just how much time your child is using the internet? Be Aware!

Australian Government | Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

### 8 tips to keep on top of your child's screen time

- Plan screen-free time, like outdoor play, music and sport.
- Lead by example—reduce your own screen time.
- Agree on daily screen time limits. It's not punishment, it's about keeping a balance.
- Start with small reductions to help lessen any resistance.
- Be involved—watch TV and play games together.
- Use tech tools to manage access, such as parental controls.
- Set tech-free zones and times at home—e.g. all screens off in bedrooms after a specified time.
- Resist giving mobile devices to children when going out—take books or toys instead.

[esafety.gov.au/iparent](http://esafety.gov.au/iparent)

Australian Government | Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

### eSafety health check

- Treat your password like your toothbrush—don't share it with anyone and change it regularly.
- Revisit your privacy settings to protect your personal information.
- When cyberbullying gets you down, report it: [esafety.gov.au/reportcyberbullying](http://esafety.gov.au/reportcyberbullying)
- Don't act in the heat of the moment—stay calm and chill.
- What you post online stays online—think about your digital reputation.
- OMG! Nude pics can spread quicker than a virus—reconsider the types of pics you send.

\*explore safely

[esafety.gov.au](http://esafety.gov.au)

3764SB



\$21.85  
inc GST

EVERYDAY

R433IB



REVERSIBLE

\$8.40  
inc GST

SAVE \$1.50  
WAS \$9.90

TRY US ON FOR SIZE  
REQUEST A SAMPLE



57605



\$9.75  
inc GST

SAVE \$1.10  
WAS \$10.85

NEW IN  
COTTON  
BACK

3762SH



\$15.40  
inc GST

EVERYDAY

5760TP



FROM  
\$15.95  
inc GST

EVERYDAY

5766SP



\$12.15  
inc GST

EVERYDAY



5766SH



\$11.50  
inc GST

EVERYDAY



For orders:  
[www.lwreid.com.au](http://www.lwreid.com.au)



For Customer Service:  
Call 1300 LW Reid (1300 59 7343)  
Email [care@lwreid.com.au](mailto:care@lwreid.com.au)



LWReid1922