What beautiful weather we had for our cross-country. I was stationed out on the course marking the numbers of laps and then sending students down the sprint to the finish. It was a day when it was easy to reflect how lucky we are at Tower Street Public School. I spent many years teaching at a big crowded school where the cross-country had to be run down some stairs, through a car park and then weaved along a veranda, so it is easy for me to appreciate how lucky we are with our huge grassy grounds. We are lucky, too, in our always supportive community. There were parents and grandparents who came along to help with the set-up, who handed out the iceblocks – donated by the P&C – and who cheered, encouraged and took photos. Thank you – you add so much to our special days. Above all, we are lucky in our students. I saw good sportsmanship, good humour and determination aplenty. Special mention should be made of Ella who pushed Ahmed around the course, with the two of them definitely setting a new wheeled record! Then there were the senior students who ran with our kindergarteners and guided and encouraged them. Two small friends were a hit when they decided the finish line was somewhere in the middle of the crowd seating and ran determinedly that way until Mrs Murphy fielded them. My favourite memory, though, is the three boys who were running at the back of their age group. When the first one received his second lap mark and was turned to run to the finish line he paused and waited for his two friends. “Come on,” said the middle one, encouraging his slower friend, “this is a team effort!” They then all ran to the finish line together. Perhaps they will never win a gold medal for distance running, but they’ve already learned some very important lessons about friendship and kindness.

Thank you to Mrs Kearney for organising such a well-run carnival and to Mrs Collins who was busy...
behind the scenes sharing her years of experience of running this carnival.

As mentioned the Tower Street P&C kindly donated iceblocks for every child who took part. They were a lovely cooling treat for the students after their great efforts in running. Thank you to Cassie Jones, Jessica Ryan and Tammy Carmichael who organised and handed out the iceblocks. A special mention should also go to our general assistant, Dave Pearson, who mowed the whole cross-country track with a push mower as we are awaiting a part for our ride-on mower.

K-2 enjoyed their visit from the NSW Government sponsored ‘Responsible Pet Ownership’ program and I’m told have already been teaching little brothers and sisters how to treat animals. Don’t forget that if you would like more information about this their website is at http://www.pets.nsw.gov.au/.

TriSkills gymnastics is off to a flying start – or perhaps that should be a rolling, tumbling, swinging, balancing start! I was able to pop in and watch some of the classes and our students seemed to be having great fun as well as learning gymnastics skills.

Congratulations to Mrs Alcock who coached the East Hills representative girls touch football team to victory for the second year in a row in the Sydney South West competition. It is a very impressive result and a tribute to her hard work.

There was another very well attended P&C meeting on Monday night. It is great to see so many new parents coming along as well as our long-term members. Remember anyone is welcome to come along to a meeting and see what happens. It is a good way to be a part of your child’s school community. The next meeting is at 7pm on 2 June.

I’d like to wish all our mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and even great-great-grandmothers the happiest of Mother’s Days.

Jenny Gallagher
Relieving Principal

APPLICATION FOR OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT IN YEAR 5 IN 2015
Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by 16 May 2014. Online applications are now open and can be made here: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement
Forms are available at the office for those parents unable to apply online.

Opportunity classes are for academically gifted and talented children in Years 5 and 6. Gifted and talented students who would benefit most from enrolment in opportunity classes are those who have superior to very superior academic ability which is matched by exceptionally high classroom performance. Successful students attend the opportunity class full-time for the duration of Years 5 and 6 at the primary school with an opportunity class. It is a two-year placement program.
More information, including links to Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese translations, can be found on our school website here: http://www.towerst-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/learning-extension

BOATING SAFETY
On Friday 23 May our Years 3-6 students will be attending a free presentation at school about staying safe on and around our waterways. This will be presented by NSW Transport, Roads and Maritime Services. The students will be learning about lifejackets and other safety devices. Please let the school know if you do not wish your child to attend.
WINTER UNIFORMS
All students need to be wearing winter uniform by Monday 12 May 2014. The uniform shop is open on Wednesday 8.45-9.15 and order forms are available at the office if you need any items.

OVERDUE CAMP MEDICAL FORMS
Urgent! If your child is going to camp their medical forms **must** be returned to Mrs Collins by Friday 9 May. These forms are an essential part of keeping your child safe at camp. Copies must be sent to the NSW Sport and Recreation staff at the camp several weeks before we attend so they can meet their duty of care. Thank you for your help with this.

SPORTS REPORTS

NETBALL
The Junior A netballers played a game against Picnic Point. Sadly, they lost but they played their best.

The player of the match was: Pele.

The Junior B netballers played against Panania. They lost but played with great team work.

The player of the match was: Mary.

The Senior A netballers played against Picnic Point. They played their hardest and won 8 to 7.

The player of the match was: Amelia.

The Senior B netballers played against Panania. They unfortunately lost but had really great sportsmanship.

The player of the match was: Cynthia.

By Hayley and Rebeca

VALUES EDUCATION

This week and next week we will be focusing on the core value of ‘Respect’. Please take some time to discuss what respect means with your child.

**Respect:**
- Honour the rights of others
- Follow rules
- Display good manners
- Treat others the way you wish to be treated
- Consider others in the class, group or team
- Look after other peoples’ belongings and the school.

Nicola Coughlan
Values Education Coordinator

**Multicultural Public Speaking Competition**

Multicultural Public Speaking is open to students in Years 3- 6. Two representatives will be chosen from Years 3 and 4 and two from Years 5 and 6. Students need to present both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech. The topics for the prepared speech can be found here: [https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/multicultural-perspectives-public-speaking-competition-0](https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/multicultural-perspectives-public-speaking-competition-0)

Students who are interested need to prepare a speech on one of these topics and see Mrs Cutter.

Our selected students will compete at Padstow Park PS on 18 June.
Our annual Mother’s Day stall and breakfast will be on Friday 9 May from 8.00am. Mother’s Day presents are on sale from $2 to $10. Mother’s Day presents will be on sale during the breakfast and from 9.00 to 10.00am. **Volunteers are needed to help with both the stall and the barbeque.** Please contact Belinda Green on greenbel80@yahoo.com.au if you can help with set-up, cooking or selling. Any help would be much appreciated.

**Breakfast Menu**

- Bacon and egg roll: $3.50
- Sausage on a roll: $2.50
- Sausage and egg roll: $3.00
- Poppers/water: $1.00
- Tea/coffee (adults only): $2.00

Thank you for your continued support.

Fundraising Committee
Cross-country
Coffee, conversation – and sight words.

Blue Words

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Thursday 2.30-3.00
8 May 2014
Community Room

Want to find out new ways to help your child learn their sight words? Do you have some ideas you’d like to share? Come and join us and bring your ideas and questions.
Portraits by 1P

1P at gymnastics
FATHERS & SONS

Free Art Workshops

Where: Bankstown Arts Centre
Date: Every Friday between 9/5/14 – 27/6/14
Time: 6 – 8 pm

May 9 – Hybrid Animals
May 16 – Collagraph Printmaking
May 23 – Drawing Class
May 30 – Magazine Collages
June 6 – Box and Recyclables Sculptures
June 13 – Building a Futuristic Landscape
June 20 – Foam Board Drawing and Printmaking
June 27 – Abstract Instructions

If interested, please contact Will de Lima on (02) 8713 7700 / 0406 386 932 or via williaml@creatinglinks.org.au

Creating Links
The Smith Family

Communities for Children is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Social Services and is facilitated in Bankstown by The Smith Family.

The Art Workshop runs in partnership with Bankstown Arts Centre.