One of the things I love about our school is its feeling of community. There is an African proverb that it takes a whole village to raise a child and at Tower Street Public School our children are living in that village. This was very clear at our Mother’s Day breakfast and stall on Friday. There were mothers, fathers and grandmothers cooking bacon and eggs, mixing up hot drinks and pouring maple syrup on to pancakes. Little brothers and sisters played in the hall under the watchful eyes of big brothers and sisters while some of our past students were there looking very grown up in their high school uniforms. Around the tables mixed groups of children from our big twelve year olds down to toddlers sitting in strollers chatted over their breakfasts. Up on the stage big decisions were being made – would mum like a coffee mug or maybe some lacy coat hangers? What about the picture frame for grandma – or would some lovely smelly soap be better? Patient Year 6 students helped small friends while fathers made suggestions and the ladies behind the counter passed on hints. It was a lovely finish to our week and a big thank you to the P&C and all the other helpers for all their work. Thank you to Belinda Green, Jasmine Selby, Amanda Buggy, Mary Bruce, Christine Fogerty, Rodney Bryce, Kay Saville, Paul Bayley, Leanne Bayley, Lauren Dulihanty, Betty Priovolos, Leesa Littler and Stephen Fulton – and to everyone else who stepped in as needed, but whose name we didn’t get down.

Our Year 3 and 5 students will be sitting NAPLAN tests this week. Over Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday they are tested on language skills (spelling, punctuation and grammar), numeracy, reading and writing. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class. More information can be found at: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/naplan/info-for-parents.html.

Every Thursday at 2.30pm you are encouraged to drop into our community room for a coffee and a chat with other parents. This is a P&C initiative. There are toys available for your preschoolers to play with and it is a great way to get to know other members of our school community. Last Thursday I ran a workshop during this time for any parents interested in knowing more about helping their children learning sight words at home. A small, but interested group of parents attended and we swapped ideas and strategies. In my role as learning support teacher I would be happy to run some further workshops, if there is interest.
Some suggestions would be: *strategies for helping your child with their home reading, spelling, fine motor skills activities, practising maths at home and phonemic awareness.* If you would like to see a particular topic covered please e-mail me at jenny.gallagher1@det.nsw.edu.au. Perhaps you'd like to volunteer to host a discussion on something such as *healthy lunches or screen time.*

Just a reminder – Crunch and Sip© is a great way to increase your child’s intake of fruit and vegetables. We’ve been a Crunch and Sip© school for nearly five years now. Every class has a daily Crunch and Sip© time when the children can *crunch* some fresh fruit and vegetables – or dried fruit or tinned fruit in juice – and *sip* some water. There are lots of ideas for both Crunch and Sip© and healthy lunches at [http://healthy-kids.com.au/crunchsip-healthy-snack-ideas/](http://healthy-kids.com.au/crunchsip-healthy-snack-ideas/) and [http://www.crunchandsip.com.au/](http://www.crunchandsip.com.au/). The canteen is now selling little tubs of fruit and/or vegetables for 50c and a Crunch and Sip pack – tub of fruit/vegetables and a bottle of water – for $2.

Congratulations to our junior and senior boys touch football teams and to their coach, Mrs Alcock – we’ve made the semi-finals! Well done, boys!

If you haven’t visited our website lately - [http://www.towerst-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.towerst-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/) - please drop by some time. It’s been undergoing a bit of a renovation and several new galleries of photos are now up. Don’t forget, if you are missing a note or a copy of Tower Talk they are posted on the website. Even if you can’t print them out at home it is a good way to keep up to date and to know if there is a note you have missed. In ‘Latest News and Features’ you’ll find information about the Multicultural Public Speaking competition and opportunity class placement as well as articles from the Department of Education and Communities.

Jenny Gallagher
Relieving Principal

**BOATING SAFETY**

On Friday 23 May our Years 3-6 students will be attending a free presentation 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**

Everyone should now be in winter uniform and we appreciate your help in ensuring that your child is wearing correct uniform. The uniform shop is open on Wednesday 8.45-9.15 and order forms are available at the office if you need any items.

**Girls Winter Uniform**
- tartan tunic or navy slacks
- white blouse - short or long sleeved - or skivvy with neck
- red sloppy joe with school logo
- black school shoes and socks or grey/navy tights (no socks to be worn over tights)
- school hat
- school winterweight jacket (optional)

**Boys Winter Uniform**
- long grey trousers or shorts (not track pants)
- white shirt as above – short or long sleeved - or skivvy with neck
- red sloppy joe with school logo
- grey socks and black school shoes (no joggers)
- school winterweight jacket (optional)
- school hat

The school blue scarf can be worn and school blue beany can be worn in the mornings – both are available from the uniform shop.

**STAGE THREE CAMP**

Final payments need to be made by Friday 23 May 2014. Thank you everyone who has now returned their medical forms.
STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE
Stewart House provides holidays for almost 2000 needy students every year from NSW public schools. It is supported, in large part, by donations from NSW public schools’ teachers and students. Every child has received a Stewart House envelope this week as part of this year’s fundraising. Place $2 (or more) in the envelope, fill in your details on the back and as well as helping children in need you will go into a draw to win a $4,000 holiday. Envelope must be returned to the school by Monday 19 May 2014.

REFORMS TO P&C FEDERATION
The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department’s website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php.

VALUES EDUCATION
This week we have continued our focus on ‘Respect’. Please take some time to discuss this 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

P&C NEWS

Unfortunately, we didn’t receive enough orders for Billy G cookie dough to enable this fundraiser to go ahead. The money will be refunded to anyone who placed an order.

Thank you for your support of the Mother’s Day breakfast and stall.

Tower Street P&C now has a Facebook page! If you would like to keep up to date with activities and events of the P&C then like us on Facebook. Simply search for ‘Tower Street Public School P&C’.

Thank you
Fundraising Committee

Don’t forget Crunch&Sip®

Don’t forget Crunch&Sip® in the school bag every day...

CRUNCH:
✓ Easy-to-eat seasonal fruit such as a small apple, a container with hulled strawberries, a mandarin or banana OR
✓ Canned fruit in natural juice with a spoon OR
✓ Vegetables such as carrot or celery sticks, cherry tomatoes or snow peas

AND SIP:
✓ A clean, clear water bottle filled with plain water

Crunch&Sip® is a set break for your child to eat fruit or salad vegetables and drink water in the classroom.

www.crunchandsip.com.au

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government. It is supported by the Department of Health Western Australia and Cancer Council WA.
Awards

Silver Award
Meri
Nazek
Alexia
Musa
Xinlan
Caleb
Grace
Amy
Darsh
Lukas
Zachary
Gracie
Jasleen
Abdoulaye
Ezekiel
Breanna
Jasmine
Beau
Keisha
Kane
Sejal
Anelise
Rihanna
Mia
Annastasia

Gold Award
Meri
Brandon
Jasmine
Walid
Alec

Platinum Award
Dylan
Andy
Alec
Families Together invites mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers to a

Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)

Belinda Bathis
Family Support Coordinator
The Cubby House, Green Valley Public School
Accredited Triple P Trainer

Triple P is a parenting program for all families that provides practical answers to everyday parenting concerns.

These seminars are for all families with children aged 3-8 years.

Topics include:
- The power of positive parenting - creating a safe, interesting and positive learning environment, using assertive discipline, having realistic expectations and taking care of yourself as a parent.

- Raising Confident, Competent Children - building blocks for success, showing respect to others, being considerate, having good communication and social skills, having healthy self esteem, becoming a good problem solver and becoming independent.

Bookings are essential and places are limited. Please call 0407 708 626 to book your place.

Families Together is for parents.
Children’s services workers, teachers, family support workers and other professionals will not be given a place. Families Together is for families living in the local government areas of Fairfield, Liverpool and Bankstown.

DATE: Thursday 17 July 2014
Thursday 24 July 2014

TIME: 6.30 – 8.30pm

PLACE: The Revesby Uniting Church
219 The River Road Revesby
(Parking is available on the opposite side of the street after 6pm)

CHILD MINDING is not available for this course. Please make alternative arrangements.

Families Together is funded by the Department of Education and Communities and sponsored by Fairfield City Council.
Families Together invites mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers to a free seminar.

RAISING KIDS THAT COPE
BUILDING AN OPTIMISTIC MINDSET IN CHILDREN

DATE: Thursday 19 June 2014
TIME: 6.30 - 8.30pm
LOCATION: Edensor Room, St Johns Park Bowling Club, 3 Edensor Road, St Johns Park

CONTACT: Families Together 0407 708 626.
Families Together is for mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers of children up to 12 years living in the local government areas of Fairfield, Liverpool & Bankstown

COST - Free No childminding available
(Children’s services workers, teachers, family support workers and other professionals will not be given a place)

About the presenter...
Cay Camden has an extensive background across a range of health and welfare areas and with Education Offices in the NSW school system. Cay has presented workshops to staff, education professionals, parents and community members around Australia and loves sharing practical strategies and useful tips for parents and carers.

Find out more about Cay at our website www.theresiliencedoughnut.com.au

Research has found that an optimistic thinking style is associated with higher levels of well-being.
Optimism also helps to protect people from developing depression or anxiety during times of adversity.

This seminar will:
- examine the key aspects of optimistic thinking
- look at some practical ways that we can foster optimism in children
- consider how the language we use can have a powerful effect in helping children to see a way forward through their difficulties

"Families Together is funded by Department of Education and Communities and sponsored by Fairfield City Council."