Showcasing Learning

Learning is celebrated by showcasing the achieved outcomes from the Project Based Learning model. Students have the opportunity to develop their independent learning skills and achieve Australian Curriculum learning outcomes through integrated topics of study over a number of weeks. Previous showcases this year have included a musical based on The Lorax and a study on forests of the world.
Science – children engaged enthusiastically with the professional speakers and the hands on experiments in our intensive science master classes.

Visitors -

Stirling District Kindy on a bush walk

Education Minister & DECD staff visit

The first science master class at Upper Sturt Primary was very successful. Experts such as the environmental scientist, Dr. Lorimer from Victoria, David Doherty from Arbury Park and our own “Professor Bartel”
Your Governing Council has strived to improve your child’s learning environment in partnership with our wonderful teaching staff. We are fortunate to have such an engaged school community to help us make this happen.

In 2014 the improvements to our grounds are evident everywhere. Contributions from our school families at and outside of Working Bees are substantial and reflect the strength of commitment in our community. In 2014 we had some amazing new spaces for the children to explore, imagine and learn. These include:

- Mud kitchen
- Food forest
- Mandala garden
- Storytelling at Koala Cove
- Corroboree Corner
- Colonial Cubby
- Fire pit

The new Teapot will be a gateway for the broader community to purchase foods and crafts created by the children. We have also recognised the need to provide a Wifi-free environment as a healthy alternative to other educational providers.

Our Kookaburra Tree gives younger and older children a special place to explore their creative side whilst the new administrative area provides a functional and welcoming space to families and visitors to the school. Lots of volunteer days during the school holidays from families and staff made these spaces possible.

Playgroup is great fun and is an opportunity to meet other local families and experience our school difference. Our OSHC facilities continue to provide flexibility to working families.

Governing Council actively welcomes new families and strengthens existing friendships through planned social activities such as dinners, morning and afternoon teas as well as our fun fundraising events.

2014 was a very busy year, a big thank-you to our current GC members; all of whom work very hard to make the school a better place.

Melinda Chapman
Governing Council Chair 2014
Back-to-Front Maths
Problem solving

Extra Curricula Activities
Guitar – band

Private Guitar Lessons proved even a greater benefit with the first performance by the Upper Sturt Rockers
2014 Site Improvement Plan Review

Building a PERMA culture ~

Positive Emotions
Engagement
Relationships
Meaning
Achievement

With consistent emphasis our latest wellbeing survey indicated a marked decrease in any type of bullying and a satisfaction of feeling safe.

Individual Learning Plans ~

When each child is engaged in what interests them we are able to provide learning opportunities to meet individual needs.

This coincides with quality assessments to ascertain gaps and explicit teaching to ensure gaps are closed.

Bio-Learning ~ Nature Play
Connecting with our cultural heritage.....
2014 School Data Analysis

Teacher Qualifications
Quality Professional Development is a priority and all staff gained valuable learning from the Hawker Brownlow conference for a second year. Teachers implemented their new learning throughout the year.

Workforce Composition
During 2014, staff consisted of the Principal, two classroom teachers, 2 administration staff, 1 Pastoral Care Worker and 2 support staff.

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<th>Qualification Level</th>
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<tr>
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Communication
Families continue to appreciate the daily Koala Smiles email with news of learning, events and happenings throughout the day.

Student Achievement
Student data was collected in term 1 and again in Term 4 to assess progress. Data results informed teaching decisions around individual need for student progression.

Student Attendance
Analysis of student attendance data has shown a decrease in percentage at some year levels, mainly due to lateness. This has an impact on some children feeling comfortable to start the school day.

Parents at school

Playgroup run by parent ECW

Teaching guitar

The wonderful commitment of Family and Friends at Upper Sturt continued with parents sharing their expertise in many different ways. Working Bees became enjoyable social gatherings plus the great clean-up jobs that always seem to be there.
Photo by year 6 student Noah Siwes

Kangaroos in our bush