Update on Programs/Initiatives at Chifley Public School –October 2014

- In Term 4 2014, Chifley Public School has 49 students who identify as Aboriginal; representing 25% of the school population.
- Aboriginal Education continues to be one of our key priorities in our updated 2014 School Improvement Plan.
- Our two key targets are:
  I. **Cultural awareness** – to show increased evidence of embedding DEC Aboriginal policy cultural awareness strategies in learning programs (K-6).
  II. **Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs)** – to show evidence that at least 99% of Aboriginal students have reached 97% of PLP goals over a 3 year period.
- This term we will be evaluating all students PLP’s that were set earlier in the year. We will be holding a family barbeque following the evaluations.
- Our third **Koori Parent Meeting** was held and was very successful with many issues being discussed.
- **Koori Scripture** will begin next year and resources are being purchased to support this program.
- Louise Stone has been attending the **Aboriginal Health Forums** twice a term. From this we have been able to organise doctors from the Sydney Children’s Hospital to test all the Aboriginal students hearing this term.
- We have nominated one of our senior students for the **Deadly Kids Doing Well Award**.
- Three of our students, Jayden ES1, Alana Stg2 and Jamie-Lee Stg 3, were very successful with winning the Chifley School Public Speaking Competition for their stage and were wonderful at the **Sydney Region Public Speaking Competition** earlier this term.
- Two Aboriginal **sand circles** for our outdoor learning area have been completed. Australian native flowers and Bush tucker trees have been planted.
- **Planter boxes** at the entrance to the school will be painted by Pauline and students with the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian flags.
- **Koori Art Expressions.** Mrs Jane Tovey has been working with community members and students to complete our artwork for the Koori Art Expressions. See attached for more information about this great project.
- **South Cares** will continue in 2015 to send volunteers to work with Stage 3 students for Literacy.
- We have continued to employ an **Aboriginal Support Worker** to assist us in engaging our Aboriginal students in the classroom and to ensure that we work together with the Aboriginal team and external agencies as appropriate to focus on improving educational opportunities and learning outcomes for all our Aboriginal students.
• School continues to purchase new literacy resources. The most recent being Aboriginal based interactive whiteboard activities with teacher notes.
• Anthony Galluzzo Aboriginal Education and Engagement Officer based at Arncliffe continues to work closely with our school to support students with their transition to High School and to improve student attendance.
• Youth Haven is also supporting students at school and at home.
• Kool Kids are providing wonderful activities for selected students after school.
• We will continue to prioritise collaborative, positive, transparent relationships with our Aboriginal families as the key to ongoing educational success for all our Aboriginal students.

Kathryn Harris and Maria Kaloudis  
( Aboriginal Education Team Leaders)  

Pauline Beller  
( Aboriginal Support )  

Louise Stone  
( Principal )
Koori Art Expressions 2014

Koori Art Expressions is a Public Schools NSW visual arts program. The exhibition will run from November 2014 to February 2015 at the Powerhouse Museum. All schools are encouraged to participate in this program.

The theme for this year’s expedition is Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond, which gives students the opportunity to express their understanding and appreciation of the NAIDOC Week topic in 2014. ‘NAIDOC’ originally stood for:

‘National Aboriginal and Islander Observance Committee’.

This committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself.

Our artwork has been a collaborative project and has involved all Aboriginal students at Chifley Public school from K-6. Support has been provided local Aboriginal Art Maxine, Chifley’s Aboriginal Educational Support Workers Pauline and Tyrone.

The artwork has medals that represent the Indigenous Servicemen and women that have served and currently serve in the armed forces. The hands represent our children remembering the past and reaching into the future. The hands have shells on them as well to represent our coastal location. The colours represent country from the blue (water) through the forests, deserts, outback and red (Uluru).