

Primary entry #10: Kotara South Public School



# K.S.P.S. XPRESS



Yarn bombing at Kotara South Public. Picture: Mirabelle Rawe

## Adding pearls of colour to Kotara South

By PIA SHEARMAN and  
CHELSEA BUTLER

KOTARA South Public School has started a yarn bombing frenzy for anyone and everyone to get involved in. It has made the school bright and colourful and everyone thinks it offers a more friendly and inviting approach to the school.

Yarn bombing is a knitted or crocheted art that is placed in unique spots around an area. At Kotara South Public School the yarn bombing consists of tree and pole warmers, as well as little creatures that pop up every now and then.

Susie Lewer, the organiser of the yarn bombing committee, thought the school needed some colour.

"I looked up garden colour on Google images and some pictures of yarn bombing caught my eye. So I started knitting to make the school brighter," Ms Lewer said.

"I think it makes people smile and a happy school is a good school."

Kotara South has also started a Gardens and Grounds Group. Many people are already actively involved and have achieved amazing results through worm farms, delicious vegetable gardens and a compost area.

Matt Playdon, the head of the Gardens and Grounds Group, said "Currently we have eggplants, tomatoes, lettuce and a variety of herbs including basil and oregano. There are also some flowering plants for colour. The produce is used in our school canteen."

By ELISE COWPERTHWAITTE  
and GRACE LOVE

ANZAC Day is a very special day both in Australia and New Zealand. The 100 year anniversary of Anzac Day is one of Australia's most important national occasions.

It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australia and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

Forces landed at Gallipoli on April 25, 1915 and this has become the day Australians and New Zealanders remember the sacrifice of soldiers who have died in service and those who have served their country.

April 25, 2015 marked the 100th anniversary of Anzac Day. At Gallipoli, thousands of people traditionally attend Anzac Day, and this year Turkey had record crowds at the Anzac Day dawn services.

A combined dawn service was held at Anzac Cove, followed by the New Zealand Service at Chunuk Bair and an Australian Service at Lone Pine.

On the Aegean side of the Gallipoli Peninsula there is a small cove which is now called Anzac Cove. This was where the Anzacs landed in the battle of Gallipoli during World War 1.

They held this land for over eight months and lost many lives. The majority of Anzacs landed in the



Kotara South Public students at the Anzac service.

Picture: Elise Cowperthwaite

darkness and were surrounded by enormous cliffs. The Anzacs expected beach and gentle slopes instead of steep cliffs.

When they landed they were met by a lot more Turkish army soldiers than was first believed. Because the Turks held the high ground, Anzac Cove was the most difficult and unexpected place for landing.

Three battalions of 1500 soldiers had landed on a front that was only 100 metres long.

This year a special assembly which invited students, teachers and members of the wider community, was held at Kotara South Public School in honour of 100 years of the Anzac tradition.

This ceremony had veterans

from past and present wars, in uniform, and some of the veterans spoke about how special Anzac Day continues to be.

Every student in Kotara South Public School made a presentation to show at the assembly.

Anzac Day is an important tradition in the history of Australia. Let's not forget.



Kotara South Public student Samantha Payne with tree damage in Rae Crescent. Picture: Bailey Morgan

## Storm hits the Hunter with force

By BAILEY MORGAN  
and JASMIN BLISSETT

ON April 21, the Hunter region was hit with flash floods, cyclonic winds and consistent heavy rain. At one point the winds were reaching 135km/h.

Over the next few days more than 120 public schools in NSW ceased operations and some didn't reopen for days due to floods, damage,

debris or loss of services such as power.

The East Coast low weather event affected students at Kotara South Public. Some households did not have electricity for several days. Not only were the students affected by the storm but one of the teachers had her shed roof taken off by the cyclonic winds.

The local club, Kotara Bowling Club, was also dam-

aged when the car park was flooded as well as the lower levels of the club.

Residents were cut off until the flood water receded. The storm was at its worst during the first 48 hours.

Kotara was a lot more fortunate than other places such as Dungog, Wallsend and Maitland. Thoughts are with those who may have lost loved ones and who are still repairing their homes.



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