On Thursday, October 22nd, the very first IndigiKool community event was held at the Glen Innes Showgrounds. This day was organised by a dedicated team of teachers and principals from the Glen Innes Community of Schools. It was a huge success, with approximately 150 students and 250 community members attending.

IndigiKool was designed to help families become more aware of different local organisations that are available to help them and their children prepare for ‘big’ school. It was also a great way to celebrate Aboriginal history and culture and to let families know that the doors at our schools are always open.

We know it is crucial to work with parents and carers to educate their children, so each and every one of them can achieve and reach their full-potential while recognising and celebrating their culture.

On the day, children had fun throwing boomerangs, learning traditional Aboriginal dances and how to play the digeridoo, fossicking, colouring, playing with play dough, getting their faces painted and completing obstacle courses. They were also lucky enough to see a fire truck up close, as well as a fantastic display from National Parks, and Mrs Bryant’s rabbits and lamb. At the end of the day, everyone got to join Al in doing the emu and kangaroo dances. Some very impressive dance skills were displayed!

A few very lucky children also went home with colouring books and pencils, which were lucky door prizes. The artwork that Nick Levy kindly donated on the day went to a very shocked, but happy attendee. All of the wonderful food prepared on the day was also very well-received by all who attended, whether it was the fruit platters, bush tucker inspired finger food or BBQ kindly put on by the Men’s Shed.

This day was made possible by funding secured by Glen Innes Public School, but could not have happened without the support and help provided by all the other schools, and the community members and organisations who were keen to get involved. It was a fantastic day and we are very lucky to live in such a supportive community.

We are now looking to see next year’s GIPS kindergarten students receive their transition packs on Wednesday. These will further help to prepare them for big school next year.

Leonie Pettit
IndigiKool Coordinator
Principals Report

This week I get the opportunity to meet the parents of our new Kindergarten students starting in 2016. The current kindergarten teachers have provided the pre-schoolers with an excellent transition program, preparing them for Big School. I have always enjoyed speaking to families about education. A child’s education is a shared experience with teacher, parent and the whole school community. It is so important to develop relationships early with the school. Getting involved in your child’s education is a very rewarding experience. I look forward to catching up with parents this week.

Mr Balchin has made a new sandpit for the infants area and he is in the process of making another sandpit for the Primary area as well. Sand pits are a great way for children of all ages to interact with each other. Thank you to Mr Balchin for his efforts. Both sand pits will be covered each evening.

Last Friday our students and staff supported the ‘Day for Daniel,’ Campaign and it was an overwhelming success. It is so important to inform young people about stranger danger and give them the skills to be able to stay safe. One simple way of ensuring that your child is safe is to contact the school office and inform us of any changes in your child’s regular routine to and from school.

Road Safety Tips

Helmet and Safety on Wheels

Your child must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place, it's the law.

Your child's helmet must comply with the Australian and New Zealand Standards. It must be securely fitted and fastened on their head. Check that your child wears a bicycle helmet whenever playing or riding on wheels - bikes, scooters, rollerskates, skateboards or rollerblades. The helmet should be firmly buckled so it fits without wobbling or slipping to the sides. It must protect the forehead. Although children quickly learn to pedal, steer and brake, they are not ready to cycle near traffic or on the road. Children under 12 and adult riders accompanying and supervising them may ride on the footpath.

Stage 2 Washpool Excursion

The stage 2 washpool excursion has been postponed due to the current weather and slippery conditions. A new date to be advised.