



Waverley Council



Message from the Mayor



I was delighted to join the Hon Gabrielle Upton, Member for Vaucluse and Councillor Bill Mouroukas, in celebrating Chinese New Year at Bondi Public School on Friday.

The children were so excited to see the dragon dance and of course they enjoyed the opportunity to borrow the drums and castanets to make a big noise.

Thank you to the school's Principal Michael Jones and P&C President Rozy Dorizas-Crosson, for your kind invitation.

Last year, Bondi Public School's Years' 2 to 6 students began kitchen and garden classes – growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing food from their own garden. After a single year of pottering in the garden, the school has now published their own cookbook – *A Year in the Kitchen Garden* – this is such a wonderful achievement and is filled with recipes compiled by the students. The cookbook's release is a great fundraising source for the school. I would encourage anyone to buy a copy to support such an exciting project. To purchase a book, you can email bondi-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

The school's kitchen garden is part of Stephanie Alexander's Kitchen Garden Program, which is about engaging primary school children with positive food experiences that leads to a lifetime of healthy eating. The school's principal Michael Jones and his teachers have done a wonderful job integrating this program into the school's curriculum.

Thank you to all friends and colleagues of Priscilla Felice who gathered at Coogee Diggers to rally behind her recovery after doctors recently discovered she had a hole in her heart and needed a double lung transplant. Priscilla is one of Council's apprentice gardeners at Bronte. The fundraiser was a success and a fantastic example of how a community pulls together to help one another.

Council joins with Bronte residents in their disappointment and frustration at the Planning Assessment Commission's recommendation that the proposal on the Bronte RSL site has some strategic merit and should proceed to the Gateway for determination.

Although the PAC acknowledged Council's and the Save Bronte Groups' input the community's wishes have been ignored.

This is not an approval and perhaps we should be pleased that the PAC wanted to see a design scheme, which demonstrates design excellence and provides benefits or improvements to the public domain, which the current scheme obviously does not.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure has written to Council, asking if it wishes to be the relevant planning authority to manage the exhibition process. Council expects to make a decision in the coming weeks on whether it wants to manage the exhibition process or whether the Department of Planning should manage it.

Cr Sally Betts, Mayor of Waverley