



# NEWSLETTER

No. 8 Date: 04/09/2018 Week 7 Term 3

Dear St Thomas Aquinas Families,

The last couple of weeks have been incredibly fulfilling and exciting for our students and school community.

## Captivate 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Performances

On Tuesday and Wednesday, 21 and 22 August, 70 of our students joined over 1800 other students from across our Diocese at the Homebush Sports Centre. These two evening performances provided a wonderful way to celebrate the creative and performing arts.

The Captivate 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Showcase featured a wide variety of genres including drama, musical (both solo and ensemble) and choir featuring students from across all primary and high schools. The students participating from STA were outstanding in choir, band ensemble and spoken word choir.

Opportunities such as these not only provide students with a chance to further their skills in the creative and performing arts, but also to strengthen their interpersonal skills and their ability to commit and work as part of a larger team. The skills and lessons learnt from experiences such as Captivate will remain with these students and serve as an important touchstone of their time at school.

Our congratulations to each student for your contribution and to parents for your commitment in enabling this experience for your child. Our congratulations and thanks also to the dedicated school team comprising Leigha Wills (STA Music teacher and Choir teacher), Cassie Wotherspoon (4W & Spoken Word Choir teacher), Jade Tinkler and Andrew Neal (CEDP Band tutors at STA).

Thank you to the Captivate Team for your efforts in making the Captivate 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Performances such a high-quality production.

## Grandparents Day/Book Week 2018/Drought Appeal

On Friday 24 August we held a day dedicated to grandparents, grandparent figures and special family members. Commencing with a beautiful and inclusive outdoor liturgy featuring our students offering prayer, song and written tribute to their grandparents. This was followed by performances from our band and choir. A special Book Week presentation and student award ceremony came next. After this, staff presented a very humorous and engaging reader's theatre presentation entitled "Treasure Island". Open classes and an outdoor family picnic followed the pantomime allowing families to simply be with each other and share a meal together in a relaxed way.

The day also featured an opportunity to pray for and support the plight of farmers living with the effects of drought. Our school community raised \$4800 in support of the "Fiver for a Farmer Appeal" – a fantastic outcome. Particular gratitude to the many who travelled great distances – from various places across the Sydney metropolitan area, interstate and various country areas to be with their grandchildren for the day.

(Continued over.)



## Staff Development/Pupil Free Day - Monday 10 September, 2018

A Staff Development Day (**pupil free**) is planned for NEXT MONDAY, 10 September (**Week 8 of Term 3**). This day will be used for all teachers at the school to participate in curriculum planning and professional learning. The scheduling of this date has been dependant on our facilitators for the day.

Due to this change, our **Week 8 School Assembly will now take place on Tuesday 11 September at 12.30pm**, featuring Class K6A presentation.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support.

*love one another*



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL – cont'd

Grandparents Day is an important celebration that connects children at a very human level with their past, present and future. It's a day that is defined by joy, love and respect exemplified in the children and their relationship with their nans and pops. It's a day where we give thanks for all grandparents as well as a day where grandparents have an opportunity to show their love and affection for their children's children. We give thanks to them for giving their unconditional love, kindness, patience, humour, wisdom and presence in the life of grandchildren.

Thank you to the team who led our day and in support of the students including Virginia Fortunat, Karen Bousfield and Leigha Wills, and also Jade Tinkler and Andrew Neal (STA Band tutors) for their shepherding of our wonderful Grandparents Day/Book Week and Drought Appeal Day. To our wonderful administration staff who worked tirelessly and to all teachers for the hospitality extended to the many visitors entering the learning spaces on the day - THANK YOU!



Until next time,

*Sergio Rosato*

Sergio Rosato  
Principal

## Principal's Morning Tea for Effort in Learning

On Wednesday 15 August we hosted our first Principal's Morning Tea for Term 3. Invitations were sent to two students from each class who were nominated by their teacher. These morning teas are a way to celebrate and acknowledge students who strive diligently to improve their learning – often the quiet achievers. During the morning tea students are asked to share an area of their personal learning journey with each other. Congratulations to the following students for their hard work and dedication to their learning:



Oliver Ashtyn-Smith  
James Babbage  
Madeline Blacklock  
Asher Bogg  
Lucas Brown  
Olivia Byrnes  
Alannah Collins  
Ashton Cooper  
Amelia Crouch  
Ella Danks

Ava Huxley  
Evelyn Iles  
Emily Jones  
Harry Kitching  
Scarlett Lia  
Angela Lin  
William Lister  
Ryder Lopez

Seth Loughton  
Maddison Machon  
Summer Mamo  
Keyuri Naidoo  
Bethany Paul  
Luke Pospischil  
Ari-Kai Rawlings  
Arabella Stewart-Rowley

Spencer Thomas  
Nicholas Towell  
Frankie Turner  
Tyson Verriere  
Aiden Wade-Ferrell  
Tia White  
Lachlan Williamson  
William Wright



Charlotte DeBono  
Lachlan Dempsey  
Benjamin Devitt  
Luca Dewhurst  
Luke Doorey  
Joshua Duck  
Mischa Evans  
Ezra Forsyth  
Emilia Gosling  
Blake Gough  
Amy Harvey  
Lara Heyman  
James Hicks  
Audrey Hodgins  
Ella Holdsworth



*love one another*

## Student Awards

**Congratulations** to the following students, who received Merit Awards at the School Assemblies listed below. Well done on your efforts everyone – keep up the good work!



### Week 4

Larissa An U  
Ethan Ashtyn-Smith  
Abbigail Ballard  
Eden Batcock  
Nathan Broadhead  
Dylan Cantwell  
Thomas Chapple  
Brianna Collins  
Stella Dean  
Erin DeBono  
Dominique Dewhurst

Thomas Harris  
Cameron Hickey  
Ella Hoppe  
Pepper Hughes  
Harrison Iles  
Liam Keogh  
Bridie Le Breton  
Alex Lopez  
Ryder Lopez  
Arlo Luchetti  
Imogen Mathew

Samuel Moore  
Elizabeth Mulhall  
Lucas Murphy  
Gabriella Owen  
Zoe Papatotiriou  
Erin Phelan  
Jacob Pospischil  
Cameron Purcell  
James Rafter  
Charlie Reid

Jessie Reynolds  
Layla Sawyer  
Patrick Seymour  
Bridie Shingles  
Helena Syпка  
Leonardo Tan  
Frankie Turner  
Gabriel Valle  
Zachary Van Meeuwen  
James Watson

### Week 5

Lani Abraham  
Myles Albury  
James Babbage  
Ethan Banks  
Jordan Banks  
Carys Beaton  
Lily Boersma  
Elysia Burchall  
Olivia Byrnes  
Cindy Cantrell  
Riley Carpenter  
Lucas Claudino  
Luke Clunes  
Ashton Cooper

Mark D'Alessio  
Cem Damarguc  
Charlotte DeBono  
Annabelle Duck  
Katelyn Ellis  
Summer Galea  
Cooper Golby  
Lily Grant  
Peter Hogan  
Kayden Jeffers  
Poppy Jenkins  
Alexander Kerkham  
Sophie Kerrison

Koby Kime  
Nicholas Koulouris  
Sam Lister  
Ronan Loughton  
Summer Mamo  
Alana Mathew  
Brendan McMaster  
Ryan Mills  
Isaac Osinga-Minter  
Felicity Paul  
Maria Pochukaeva  
Benjamin Prior  
Ari-Kai Rawlings

Grace Ryan  
Mackenzie Seymour  
Jamie Sharp  
Ruby Steward  
Maddison Syme  
Jacob Tan  
Antonio Todarello  
Nicholas Towell  
Lia Trounce  
Delilah Valle  
Lachlan Waters  
Heidi Willingham  
William Wright

### Week 6

Alina Ascencio  
Isaac Bailey  
Noah Barr  
Annalise Blattman  
Skye Boyden  
Lucas Brown  
Ruby Butler  
Alyssa Cantwell  
Ysobel Challice  
Ruanni Claudino  
Xanthe Connell-Badics  
Mia Cooper

Jacob Danks  
Shaelee Davies  
Patrick Dawson  
Noah Francia  
Arabella Fuge  
Jessica Gomez  
Mathew Hall  
Ruby Hammond  
Zachary Heaven  
Noah Hicks  
Benjamin Hinley  
Jack Hoppe

Talyka Kime  
Jack Leahey  
Joseph Mahns  
Brydan McLeod  
Poppy Milroy  
Taya Moore  
Gabriel Muradian  
Ava Murphy  
Elke Okladnikov  
Adrian Perez-Eaton  
Dmitry Pochukaev  
Anneke Prineas

Jose Ramires  
Will Rayner  
Taiyana Rondo  
Oliver Savage  
Archer Sproule  
Angus St Claire  
Ryan Sykes  
Romilly Wade-Ferrell  
Mia Watson  
Mia Withers  
Daniel Woods

### Week 7

Jemima Barnham  
Cameron Barr  
Jack Blattman  
Cisco Borbely  
Lillian Borg  
Kael Brown  
Enrique Caraballo  
Thomas Chapple  
Bentley Colburn  
Alfie Cook  
Patrick Dawson  
Emilie Dempsey

Joshua Duck  
Levi Friedland-Jaccoud  
Leah Garvin  
Matilda Gauci  
Sam Graham  
Georgia Hammond  
Mariella Hill  
Will Jones  
Bella Kamnoetboon  
Erin Kenn  
Taj Leathers  
Amber Lovric

Jessica Mace  
Maddison Machon  
Vanessa Maloney  
Sienna Mathew  
Finn McCaffery  
Alice McCallum  
Mikayla Mercieca  
Macklin Miall  
Ava Murphy  
Robbie O'Brien  
Florencia Perez-Eaton

Lilly Phuntsok  
Abigail Power  
Olivia Prior  
Owen Riddell  
Casey Ryan  
Ryan Sykes  
Eve Talbot  
Sienna Verriere  
Tyler Walker  
Rhys Walton  
Lachlan Williams

## Bus Matters & School Opal Card Reminders

All students who travel by bus to/from school are reminded to bring your School Opal card to school EVERY day and **tap on and off each time** you get on and off the bus.

This process enables student numbers on each bus to be recorded to establish which bus routes may need to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> bus. Travel to/from school by bus is free for students in Kindergarten to Year 2 and also for students in Year 3 to 6 depending on distance from school (for primary school children).

So that correct numbers will be recorded accurately, the school now has a process in place for the afternoon bus lines where students with School Opal cards will be put on the bus first so that they can tap on. Then those without cards will be allowed to get on so that these students can be counted and added onto the numbers recorded for each bus.

If your child has lost their School Opal card or to update your details, please go online to [www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students).



## Zone Athletics

STA students were very successful at the 2018 Zone Athletics carnival on 10 August. The following results highlight some of the wonderful efforts of our students: Savannah Buss (6F) and Makayla Crouch (6C) - **Senior Girls Age Champion Runners Up**; Zachary Gonzalez (6F) – **Senior Boys Age Champion Runner Up**; our Senior Boys Relay Team **broke the Zone record**. All our relay teams made it through to the next level (Diocesan). An amazing 45 students went on to compete at the Diocesan Athletics held on 23 August.

The following students will now go on to compete at the MacKillop Athletics Track & Field Championships on 24 September:

Savannah Buss	Zachary Gonzalez	Elizabeth Kerkham	Liam Murphy
Makayla Crouch	Peter Hogan	Joseph Kitching	Amelia Peake
Claire Debien	Jessica Kennedy	Melissa Lee	Benjamin Synnott
Lani Gleeson	Alexander Kerkham	Taya Moore	Gabriel Vall

Congratulations and well done to you all!

## Diocesan Athletics Carnival

On Thursday 23 August a large contingent of students (as mentioned above) participated in the Diocesan Athletics Carnival as part of the STA team. The entire group of students comprising the team conducted themselves with great sportsmanship on the day. Our gratitude to Karen Bousfield and Ann Gippel (Team Managers) and David Conroy for their work in preparing and supervising STA team.

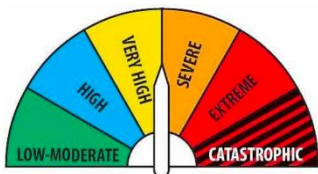
## Hawkesbury Eisteddfod

On Saturday 11 August two of our STA band students, Georgia Hammond (6C) and Mackenzie Carey (5N) competed at the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod in Windsor, both on French Horn. They both performed amazingly and did our Band teachers and the school proud. They performed a duet together in the 12 and Under section where they gained 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Mackenzie then played two solos in the 10 and Under's, taking home a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 1<sup>st</sup> place. Georgia then performed three solos in 12 and Under's achieving two 2<sup>nd</sup>'s and a 1<sup>st</sup> place. This was the first time both girls performed a solo, let alone within a competition setting. I think we can expect big things from both these girls in future! **Andrew Neal, STA Band Tutor**



## Year 6 Bridge Excursion

A walk from the 1860's to the present day! This is what Year 6 students did on Friday 17 August on their excursion to Knapsack Viaduct at Lapstone, and the new pedestrian bridge across the Nepean River at Emu Plains. Students were investigating the design elements of various bridges as part of their Science unit this term, 'Bridges and Structures'. A big 'THANK YOU' to all the parents that generously gave up their time to drive the students on the day. **Year 6 Teachers**



## Recent Bushfire Practice Drills

In order to prepare for the upcoming Bush fire season our school recently conducted two practice drills. The drill in Week 5 was our third practice bushfire drill this year and was conducted under the supervision of a CEDP WHS officer. The feedback received was very positive and also allowed us to make small changes to some of the processes employed including the use of an App that allows us to communicate via text with each person that signs into the school using the iPad

located in the front foyer. We also have the capability to communicate with parents by text messaging using the TIMS system. Our fire practice drill gathering was timed at just over 6 ½ minutes. The WHS officer was very impressed with our students and the way they conducted themselves during the evacuation drill.

## School Visitor Electronic Sign-in Now Operating

Our school office electronic sign-in system for parents and visitors is now operating. When **using the system for the first time** it may take you up to 10 minutes to **register your details** and **a photo of you will be taken by the machine**. Information and photo will be printed onto a sticker for you to wear while on premises. All parents and visitors will still need to sign-out when leaving. **Please remember to allow extra time for this process when visiting the school for any reason.**

## Walk4 Hope - Huntington's NSW Appeal

Huntington's Disease is a little known and serious disease affecting families in our community. A Walk 4 Hope Appeal will take place on Sunday 9 September, 2018 at Parramatta Park. One of our families comprising Lee and Kirsty Dickens will be participating in this fundraiser. Lee's family has been touched by this condition over many generations including Lee's mother Mary.

For information on Huntington's Disease go to [www.huntingtonsnsw.org.au](http://www.huntingtonsnsw.org.au). Anyone wishing to make a donation to the family's contribution to the Walk 4 Hope can do so by going to <http://walkforhope2018.everydayhero.com/au/kirsty>



## Naplan Online Practice Test

During the next fortnight our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be undergoing a practice NAPLAN test conducted online. The objective of conducting this mandatory practice test is to test our IT system for its robustness and to allow teachers in these grades an opportunity to become familiar with the new processes of administering this test online in readiness for 2019. Student results from these online practice tests will not be fed back to families.

We have also been notified that NAPLAN student reports for Year 3 and 5, as a result of official NAPLAN testing earlier this year, will be made available to families and schools in mid-September.

## Mullen Mini Olympics – 13 September 2018

This major school fundraiser for the year was launched recently at our Assembly with information and the singing of a specially written song (see below). We look forward to this community day as a way of remembering and celebrating Robert Mullen's legacy of fun, fitness and fairness and in support of the school community he loved so much.

- The Mullen Mini Olympics will take place on our school grounds on **Thursday 13 September, 2018**.
- **All students** in Grades K-2 will participate in 10 circuit-based activities, whilst students in Grades 3-6 will participate in 13 activities.
- Each student has now been issued a **sponsorship card** and is encouraged to gain sponsorship from family, friends, businesses or neighbours for a nominated amount per activity. (Additional cards will be available from the school office when necessary).
- Parents will be invited to assist on the day with activities and catering.



There are a number of incentive prizes for students able to raise the most sponsorship and a special pizza lunch with Mrs Clark and Mr Rosato for the class able to raise the highest averaged total amount.

Robert's wife, Kath as well as Robert's mother and sister will officially open the Mullen Mini Olympics. The opening ceremony will be preceded by a Parade of Nations (by each class) and the singing of the MMO 2018 theme song:

## Mullen Mini Olympics (Theme Song) (Tune Lennon/McCartney – Lyrics STA 2018)

Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up Mullen Olympics

Roll up - **That's an invitation**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up - **to make a reservation!**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics

The Mullen Olympics is coming to S...T...A  
Is coming to S...T...A

Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up Mullen Olympics

Roll up - **they've got everything you need**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up - **fitness guaranteed!**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics

The Mullen Olympics is coming to S... T...A  
Coming to S... T...A

Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up Mullen Olympics

Roll up - **make a dedication**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics  
Roll up - **it's a celebration!**  
Roll up Mullen Olympics  
The Mullen Olympics is coming to S...T... A  
Coming to S...T... A

The Mullen Olympics is coming to S... T...A  
Is coming to S...T... A  
S...T... A

## ST THOMAS AQUINAS PRIMARY SPRINGWOOD



WE CELEBRATE THE UNIQUENESS OF EACH CHILD AND  
PREPARE THEM FOR TOMORROW'S WORLD.

# Enrolling now for 2019

For more information or to book a school learning tour please call  
47233800 or email [stthomas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stthomas@parra.catholic.edu.au)

No child will be refused enrolment because of a family's inability to pay fees



St Thomas Aquinas Primary 168 Hawkesbury Road Springwood  
P: 4723 3800 [www.stspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stspringwood.catholic.edu.au)

*love one another*

## Staff News

### Mary Clark

We warmly welcome back Mary from her short time away visiting family in the UK. We trust that Mary's time visiting family overseas was a precious time for all. Welcome back Mary, it's great to have you back!

### Sister Monica

Many may be aware that Sister Monica will be travelling to Kiribati on 5 September as part of a visitation to this South Pacific community. The Sisters of the Good Samaritan first began a ministry placement in Kiribati in 1991. After more than 27 years of Good Samaritan Sisters living in community in Kiribati this number has steadily grown to encompass half a dozen Sisters with other local women being called to a vocation as a Good Samaritan. A number of these native-born Sisters have undertaken their training at the Samaritan House in Lawson with Monica and the community.

Seeking God and being a neighbour are finding new expression in this tiny nation, whose coral atolls are so vulnerable to climate change, but whose beautiful people are both resilient and resourceful.

The Early childhood centre run by the Good Sam's at Abaokoro provides children with good educational grounding before they start school. The Sisters are also involved in numerous other ministries of outreach and compassion - teacher education and pastoral work among people with mental illness, a disability or in prison. Some would remember Sister Kakare s.g.s. spending time at Winmalee Preschool a few years ago whilst she was in Australia.



Like Monica is with our STA community, the Sisters in Kiribati are close to the people and respond simply as neighbour or friend. We wish Monica every blessing for a safe and fruitful journey, which will entail travel by jet and canoe. Sister Monica will remain firmly in our prayers during this time and we look forward to welcoming her back to the Mountains with many new inspiring stories. Take care Monica



**SISTERS OF THE  
Good Samaritan**  
of the Order of St Benedict

### Sergio Rosato

Will be on long service leave from 27 August until the end of Term 3. During this time Sergio will be visiting family overseas. Mary Clark has been appointed Acting Assistant Principal during this absence.

## Fathers' Day Stall

Thank you to the wonderful parents who coordinated our school Fathers' Day Stall under the leadership of Kristie Loughton, Linda Fletcher and ably assisted by a number of generous volunteers. We wish all fathers, grandfathers and father figures, including those who are no longer with us, our prayer of thanks and blessing for last Sunday.

## Change of Date – Year 3 Parish Mass

Due to the cancellation of Parish Mass on Wednesday 22 August, **Year 3 students** will now be attending mass at the Parish Church on **Wednesday 12 September** (Week 8).

## Lost Property Reminder

Please check the lost property box if your child has lost any items at the school recently. The Lost Property Box is located at the bottom of the carpet ramp outside KD classroom. Unfortunately, items often have no names on them so cannot be returned to their owner/s, so please remember to mark all your child's items clearly with their name. Please note, very small lost items handed in are usually kept at the Office until collected.



## Clothing Pool – Helpers Required!

Our school Clothing Pool is normally open on Monday mornings at 9-9.30am, Tuesday afternoons at 3-3.30pm and Friday mornings at 9-9.30am. Due to other commitments our parent helpers are unable to continue on Tuesdays and Fridays. Operating the Clothing Pool involves assisting parents with their selections, dealing with clothing donations and tidying and arranging the stock in the Clothing Pool cupboard ready for sale. All sales are dealt with at the Office. If you would like to help on Tuesdays or Fridays or on a day other than the abovementioned times for half an hour, please contact the school Office on 4723 3800. We are very grateful to all our past and present helpers who have made this popular service available to our parent community. Thank you for your consideration.



## School Photos

2018 School Photos were sent home with students earlier in the term. Parents who requested their photos be kept at the office are reminded there are still a few waiting for collection.

## STA Representative Sports Shirts and Socks

There are still a few STA representative sports shirts and socks outstanding by students who borrowed these during the term. If you have any of these items at home, could you please return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Book Club 2018

The second Book Club for Term 3 2018 (Issue 6) has been given out to the students. Orders need to be finalised online no later than Tuesday 11 September. Please check that order forms are filled out correctly including both the child's name and class. Credit card payments must be made online first and the receipt number needs to be recorded on the order form.



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Raising Grandchildren – A Support Group

Springwood Neighbourhood Centre has a new support group for grandparents who care for their grandchildren known as Raising Grandchildren. The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month during school terms. Come along to meet other grandparents who are the primary carers of their grandchildren. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5 September from 10.00am to 12.00pm** at **Tanderra OOSH, 14 Raymond Road, Springwood**. For more information and to RSVP please call **Jenny 0450 001 393**.

### Younger Widowed Support Group

Catholic Care Solo Parent Services' YWSG is held on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month**. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age with or without children. **Venue:** 13 Buller Street, North Parramatta. **Time:** 7pm-9pm. **Cost:** \$5.00. **To register phone:** Rita on **(02) 8843 2530** or **Email:** [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

### Stepping Beyond: Support for Those Separated or Divorced

This support group is held on the **last Tuesday of each month** for those struggling through a separation or divorce. **Venue:** 13 Buller Street, North Parramatta. **Time:** 7pm-9pm. **Cost:** \$5.00. **To register phone:** Rita on **(02) 8843 2530** or **email:** [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

### What's on at Penrith Observatory in September

**Public Astronomy Night: Working and Observing at the Largest Telescopes in the World: Saturday 8 September.** Speaker – Dr Caroline Foster. A personal story of my experience working and observing at some of the largest optical facilities in the world. I will discuss my time observing at the Keck, Subaru and Gemini telescopes on Mauna Kea, the Magellan telescopes on Las Campanas, Gemini on Cerro Pachon and the Very Large Telescope on Paranal in Chile; and ours truly (as well as a personal favourite), the Anglo Australian Telescope in Coonabarabran. I look forward to telling you what it's like having spent hundreds of sleepless nights under some of the most pristine skies, at brain numbing altitudes with lunar landscapes! Includes presentation, short 3D movie, tour of the dome and viewing of the night sky through a range of telescopes (weather permitting). **Cost:** \$18.00 Adult, \$12.00 Child/Concession, \$50.00 Family (2 adults + 2 children), Children under 3 years of age free. **BOOKINGS VIA OUR WEBSITE ESSENTIAL.** **Time:** 7pm – 9pm. **Venue Address:** Penrith Observatory (Building AO), Western Sydney University, Werrington North campus, Great Western Highway, Werrington 2747.

**Astronomy Night: From Chaos to Cosmos: How the Ancient Greeks saw the Universe: Saturday 22 September.** Speaker – Dr Chris Matthew. Every ancient culture gazed up into the night sky and tried to understand what they were seeing. Yet despite this widespread form of enquiry across history, the foundations of modern astronomy are predominantly Greek in origin. Even the very word 'astronomy' is Greek. This presentation examines what some of the ancient Greeks did to not only understand what they observed in the heavens, but also the ways in which some of the conclusions reached by the ancient Greeks are very 'modern' in terms of understanding our place in the universe. Includes presentation, short 3D movie, tour of the dome and viewing of the night sky through a range of telescopes (weather permitting). **Cost:** \$18.00 Adult, \$12.00 Child/Concession, \$50.00 Family (2 adults + 2 children), Children under 3 years of age free. **BOOKINGS VIA OUR WEBSITE ESSENTIAL.** **Time:** 7pm – 9pm. **Venue Address:** Penrith Observatory (Building AO), Western Sydney University, Werrington North campus, Great Western Highway, Werrington.

**Contact phone or website for public enquiries and bookings:**

[https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatorypenrith/penrith\\_observatory/whats\\_on](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatorypenrith/penrith_observatory/whats_on)

**Facebook Event:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/2084528331809690/>

### Springwood Community Garden – Worm Farm Workshop

Come along to our Worm Farm Workshop on **Sunday 30 September at 11.00am** at **168 Hawkesbury Road** (drive along St Columba's Catholic College driveway until you see the garden on the right-hand side, just before the College gates). **Workshop is FREE for members** (you can join as a member on the day) or **\$10 for visitors**. Learn how to set up and maintain a worm farm. Light refreshments provided, including free kombucha (fermented tea drink) tasting. Bring a picnic lunch for after the workshop. Children welcome to attend. For more information **phone Rose on 0405 680 621**.

### Festival of Children's Literature

On **15 and 16 September 2018** WestWords are running the Festival of Children's Literature in partnership with the National Trust, at the **Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge**. WestWords is a literature development organisation in NSW with a particular focus on young people in western Sydney and beyond.

The festival will feature some of the country's best authors, including 2018/19 Children's Laureate Morris Gleitzman, best-selling author Jacqueline Harvey, Libby Gleeson, Matt Cosgrove, Oliver Phommavahn, James Roy, Mardi McConnochie, Jack Heath, Emily Rodda and Deborah Abela. Illustrations by Owen Swan. **The gallery is located at 14 Norman Lindsay Crescent, Faulconbridge.** **Tickets:** 1 Day Pass: Adults \$55, Concession/Nat Trust members \$45, Child \$30, Group of 4 \$150. Weekend Pass: Adults \$95, Concession/Nat Trust members \$80, Child \$45, Group of 4 \$220. **Enquiries for tickets and full program visit:** [www.westwords.com.au](http://www.westwords.com.au) Phone WestWords: 8677 4815, Norman Lindsay Gallery: 4751 1067. Advance ticket booking: \$5 discount.

### Spirituality Reflection Morning in the Blue Mountains – The Creative Nature of God

This reflection morning will focus on the creative nature of God, the source of all life (John 1:1-4) who "makes all things new" (Rev. 21.5). Set within the beginning of the season of spring as it bursts forth in the beautiful Blue Mountains, we will explore the generative nature of our self-renewing environment. The morning will be supported by some brief input sessions, readings which relate to the theme, time for personal reflection and an invitation for conversation. Held on **Saturday 15 September from 9.30am – 12.30pm** at **Santa Maria Hall, Lawson**. Parking at Lawson Catholic Church, Great Western Highway (enter by Somers Street) or Kitchener Street, Lawson. For railway travellers to Lawson: exit station on the southern side, then go east along the Great Western Highway. Turn right at Orient Street, left into Mary Street. Walk to the end (15 minute walk). Entry by donation. Morning tea provided, no need to book. For more information contact Carol Teodori on 4758 7549 or visit the website at [www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au](http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au)

## FREE Kids Bike Skills Workshops

These fun workshops will improve kids' practical riding skills and confidence facilitated by a fully qualified AustCycle trainer. Parents and kids will also learn how to do a helmet and bike check. Kids need to be able to ride unassisted and have a helmet and working bike and be wearing closed shoes. Kids also need to be accompanied by a parent or carer. Sausage sizzle, showbags and bike maintenance available on the day. **When: Saturday 22 September, 2018. 5-8 year olds:** 10.00am-12.00noon; **9-12 year olds:** 12.30pm – 2.30pm. **Where:** Blackheath Public School. **Bookings:** Be quick as numbers are limited! **Bookings are essential.** **Contact** BMCC Road Safety Coordinator on **Ph: 4780 5000.** *If raining event will be cancelled.*

## Mountains Youth Band Open Rehearsal

Do you play a musical instrument? Are you 10 to 19 years old? You are invited to Mountains Youth Band Open Rehearsal on **Tuesday 11 September** at **Uniting Church Hall, Lucasville Road, Glenbrook** from **5.15pm to 7.00pm.** Come along with your instrument and play some music with our band. All music and stands will be provided. Bring a friend! For more information contact Germaine on 0431 953 217 or email [mountainsyouthband@gmail.com](mailto:mountainsyouthband@gmail.com)

## DIARY DATES

<b>2018</b> <b>TERM 3</b> <b>Week 7</b>	<b>Wednesday 5 September</b>	8.30am Staff Briefing 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 1 attending 9.00 – 11.00am Year 6 Voice of Youth Excursion
	<b>6</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer 9.00am – 1.00pm School Band 3.30-4.30pm Spirit In Action Student Session 2 – selected students
	<b>7</b>	8.30am – 3.05pm School Band Stage 2 Touch Football Competition – selected students
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Monday 10 September</b>	<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – Pupil Free</b>
	<b>11</b>	12.30pm Assembly – K6A presenting 3.40pm Staff Meeting
	<b>12</b>	8.30am Staff Briefing 9.20am Parish Mass – Years 2 & 3 attending
	<b>13</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer 9.00am – 1.00pm School Band
	<b>14</b>	8.30am – 3.05pm School Band Year 6 Pilgrimage Excursion
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Monday 17 September</b>	12.30pm Assembly – KD presenting 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	<b>18</b>	3.40pm Staff Meeting 7.00pm STA Parish Confirmation
	<b>19</b>	8.30am Staff Briefing 9:20am Parish Mass – Kindergarten attending
	<b>20</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer 9.00am – 1.00pm School Band 3.30-4.30pm Spirit In Action Parent & Student Celebration
	<b>21</b>	8.30am – 3.05pm School Band Stage 3 Touch Football Competition – selected students
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Monday 24 September</b>	MacKillop Athletics Carnival at Homebush – selected students 12.30pm Assembly – 4W presenting 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	<b>25</b>	3.40pm Staff Meeting
	<b>26</b>	8.30am Staff Briefing 11.05am Principal's Morning Tea – selected students
	<b>27</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer 9.00am – 1.00pm School Band
	<b>28</b>	8.30am – 3.05pm School Band <b>Term 3 Concludes</b>

### Sent Home Recently:

- Parvovirus (Slapped Cheek Disease) Notice (*sky blue*)
- Year 6 Bridges Excursion Permission Note
- Grandparents Day Cake Stall Note (*gold*)
- Rugby League Trials Invitation – selected students
- Term 3 Spirit in Action Note to Years 5 & 6 (*jade green*)
- Chicken Pox Alert
- Head Lice Note to Year 2 (*cream*)
- Voice of Youth Excursion Note to Year 6
- Mullen Mini Olympics Note and Sponsor Card (*white & orange*)
- Royce Simmons & Greg Alexander Rugby Permission Note – selected students
- Captivate Showcase Permission Note – selected students
- Gospel Reading Note to Year 3 (*salmon*)
- Grandparents Day/Staff Development Day Note (*pale blue*)
- Change of Mass Day Notes to Kindergarten & Year 3
- Reminder Fathers' Day Note (*lime green*)
- Mullen Mini Olympics Helpers Request (*orange*)
- Year 5 Canberra Excursion 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment Note (*pale blue*)
- Stage 2 Touch Football Permission Note – selected students
- Gospel Reading Notes to Years 1 & 2 (*purple & pink*)

