

# St George School Newsletter

Diana Murphy Principal

3 June 2015



## Key Dates:

### 19 June/22 June

Parent teacher interviews and mid years reports go home.

### Wednesday 24 June

Interactive sibling workshop – after school

### Friday 26 June

End of term

Wednesday 22 July

### Superhero Dress-Up Day

### Wednesday 29 July –

Education Week 'Celebrating Local Heroes'

### Friday 7 August

Inter-school Boccia competition

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

We trust that as the weather cools that you and your family keep well .

In the coming week, advice will be forwarded home regarding your choice of time for parent-teacher interviews which will be held on Friday 19 June and Monday 22 June.

Accompanying this newsletter is a survey on well being to support the implementation of Mind Matters across the school.

## Mothers Day Stall

The Mothers Day Stall was a resounding success. Just over \$534.00 was raised.



Special thanks to Anna Dalianis for her tireless effort in obtaining goods, coordinating the process and 'manning' the stall. Special thanks also to Sarah Parratt for assisting Anna on the day.

## Many happy returns to our June Birthdays



Joshua Sale turned 15 on 1 June  
Alysia Dalianis turned 10 on 2 June  
Sophie Groll turning 5 on 4 June  
Lara Palmer turning 7 on 4 June  
Matthew Chiotis turning 11 on 10 June  
Joshua Welch turning 5 on 16 June  
Oliver Mai turning 8 on 16 June  
Ismail Flewellen turning 6 on 26 June

## Schools Spectacular

We received advice over the weekend that 5 students from St George School were successful in their audition for participation in the 2015 Schools Spectacular, a prestigious and highly competitive event.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in and represent St George School.

Schools Spectacular is held at the end of November and has been televised in recent years.

Special thanks to Ana Mowle, Janne Kelly and Janelle Ferguson for coordinating the audition including support from families and submitting the audition.



## Congratulations to our award recipients at our most recent assembly

St George School aims to provide a stimulating learning environment that has high expectations for all students, focuses on the abilities of students and promotes and celebrates student successes (School Plan Strategic Direction 1).

It is with immense pride that we celebrate our students' achievements this term, as we did last term. Congratulations to our award recipients in **week 6**:

**Primary classes:** Bella-Rose Thiel, Mouemin Hammoud, Dominic Cheuk

**Middle classes:** Dean Parratt, Ruby Balkwell

**Secondary classes:** Natalie Tassone, Elliot Austin, Liam McManus, Jim Chen

**Sport awards:** Vanessa Gazal

**Library awards:** Oliver Mai, Matthew Chiotis, Aaron Mosel, Vanessa Gazal, Nasya Hazali

**Environment Award:** Primary 1 class



## Mind Matters update

As you are aware from previous newsletters, St George School is implementing a whole school strategy to support student mental health and wellbeing. To commence the process it will be necessary to **gather baseline data** about where we are now. Your support in this process will be appreciated.

We will be using the parent survey from Kids Matter. Mind Matters (secondary focus) and Kids Matters (primary focus) are the same program with different focus areas. We are implementing Mind Matters and also using material from Kids Matter. At our last P&C meeting the parents recommended that the Kids Matter survey be used as it is more suitable for our students at St George School.

Separate to this newsletter I have provided an information sheet and a hard copy of the survey. It would be appreciated if you could complete the survey and return this term. You may wish to do it online using the following link:

[https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/sites/default/files/public/KidsMatter\\_Parent\\_Survey.pdf](https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/sites/default/files/public/KidsMatter_Parent_Survey.pdf)

## Beach Wheelchair

Last term, the Kogarah Rotary Club donated a wheelchair specifically designed for the water and sand.

Although the weather may be too cold in Sydney for the upcoming holidays, families planning a holiday in warmer parts of Australia may wish to borrow the chair. If so, please contact the school office.

### P&C Notice

#### Next P&C Meeting

**Thursday  
6 August 2015**

**in the staffroom  
at 11.30am**

**All welcome**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### P&C Fundraiser

**InnQUIZitive Trivia  
Thursday night**

**3 September 2015  
at Beverly Park Golf  
Club  
7.00pm – 9.30pm**

## Celebrating National Reconciliation Week

Last week we were fortunate to have the support of Aunty Grace, an Aboriginal elder, from Nowra, to assist us with a smoking ceremony on Thursday. It was a truly memorable experience. Special thanks to Madison Shakespeare for coordinating the event for St George School. Special thanks also to the families that attended the ceremony.

On Friday, students experienced a very sensory Aboriginal art workshop supported by some remarkable young boys from James Cook Boys Technology High school. Special thanks to Madison Shakespeare for coordinating the event and to Mark Marciniak, Principal, James Cook Boys THS for supporting our program.

## P&C Report

Congratulations to our new executive of the P&C following the AGM on 21 May 2015:

- Fay Chiotis continues as President
- Dianne McManus continues as Vice-President
- Ayesha Farooq our newly appointed Secretary

The position of Treasurer remains unfilled.

---

On behalf of the school, I would like to take thank Fay, Di and Ayesha for their support of the P&C.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of our exiting Treasurer Anna Dalianis and exiting Secretary Melissa Scanlan and thank them for their time and commitment as executive members of the P&C.

We would love to fill the Treasurer position so please nominate yourself if you are interested.

The minutes for the meeting have been added to this newsletter, for your information. In accordance with the request of the P&C, the minutes of meetings will be emailed to the families who have supplied email addresses.

## Community Notices

- **Christmas in July dinner – the St George Children with Disabilities Fund** will keep in trust money raised by any family for their child and will match dollar for dollar. This function is on Thursday night in the first week of third term.
- **Therapies for Kids** – Private therapists
- **Circus Quirkus** – Free event



- **Superhero day** – we will be celebrating this event on 22 July to support Bear Cottage program which has provided support to a number of families at St George School.
- Nominations for the 2015 **ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards**

## School Contact Details

Phone: 9588 2400

Fax: 9588 5008

Email: [stgeorge-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:stgeorge-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.stgeorge-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stgeorge-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)



Janelle and Rehan shared the fun of the Aboriginal art workshop during National Reconciliation Week.

Allegra enjoyed some of the sensory objects and displays during National reconciliation Week





## Superhero Dean

For families like the Parratt family ...

being able to spend time together at Bear Cottage has been a lifeline.

Suffering from a number of life-limiting conditions, nine year old Dean requires around-the-clock care and, although he is the centre of their world, life is not always easy for this courageous family.



Dean's mum Sarah says that although they feel lucky that Dean is such a happy and easy-going child, nine years of caring for him has left them exhausted and having Bear Cottage available to them for support enables them to focus on the important things, such as spending quality time together as a family and making every moment count. "Bear Cottage is about the whole family, which is so important to us. We can all come and do as much or as little as we like. We don't need to cook or do any house work – we can just enjoy time together without having to worry and I can relax knowing that the wonderful nurses are there to take care of Dean when needed."

For Dean's younger brother and sister, Todd and Yvette, they "love it all" and with so many fun activities to choose from it's easy to see why. They can enjoy music, art, playing with assistance dog, Frankie, making friends with other siblings or day trips to the beach – which Dad, Scott, particularly enjoys as he gets the chance to go surfing!

Dean loves listening to music and having stories read to him by the wonderful volunteers – swinging on the wheelchair swing in the beautiful garden is also definitely a highlight. Bear Cottage provides Dean with a safe and happy home away from home that he can enjoy both with his family and unaccompanied.

"On our last visit driving to Bear Cottage we told Dean where we were going. He laughed and smiled the whole way," Sarah said.

Dean and his family are true heroes and with your help, Bear Cottage can continue to support them and other families in their time of greatest need.

## bear cottage SUPERHERO WEEK



**Superhero Week 20-24 July 2015**

**Just like Superheroes, Bear Cottage  
is there for children and families  
who need us most**



The Sydney children's Hospitals Network  
care, advocacy, research, education





### Each Course to be Served Alternately

## Entrée

## Soft Shell Crab Rissoles with Asparagus Veloute

## Roast Pear and Prosciutto Salad with Goat's Chevre

## Main Course

## Pork Cutlet with Crackling, Chestnut Stuffing and Sauteed Apple

## Seared Lamb Medallions, rosemary, Cumin and Eggplant Tapenade with Mint Yoghurt

### Mains accompanied by Traditional Roasted Vegetables

## Desert

## Steamed Christmas Pudding with Fig and Praline Ice Cream and Brandy Anglaise

## Baked Lemon Meringue Tart with Fruit Coulis and Fresh Berries

**Bread Rolls with whipped Butter, Freshly Brewed Coffee and After Dinner Mints**

No of Guests \_\_\_\_\_ Payment by Cheque ☐ Cash ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐

Card No: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

## Direct Debit St George Children with Disabilities Fund

BSB 704 865 Acc No: 7207573



# Therapies for Kids

37 Nelson Street  
Annandale NSW 2038  
Phone (02) 9519 0966 Fax (02) 9519 3766  
[www.therapiesforkids.com.au](http://www.therapiesforkids.com.au)  
ABN 38 311 305 805

## *Would you like your child to be visited at school by one of our Physiotherapists?*

One of our Physiotherapists at Therapies for Kids visits children at St George's School fortnightly. Treatments are individualised to each child to help maintain muscle flexibility and joint range of movement for comfort and ease of positioning and care, to maintain and improve muscle strength, and to develop gross motor skills, balance and endurance. We can discuss specific goals for your child with you to work towards improving their functional ability. We are also able to assist with assessment and gaining charity funding for walking aids. If you would like to arrange regular school visits for your child, discuss our service or what funding options may be available for your child, please contact us on **0295190966**. More information can be found on our website and Facebook page:

[www.therapiesforkids.com.au](http://www.therapiesforkids.com.au)

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Therapies-For-Kids/148300502013387>



*Here is one of our Physiotherapists, Carolyn, with Angel-Rose working very hard on her ability to lift her head up and push up through her arms on her tummy. It provides an excellent opportunity for her to stretch and move, whilst having time out of her wheelchair; to maintain flexibility in her arms, legs and trunk.*

Our Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Speech Therapists are based at our purpose built clinic in Annandale.



[enquiries@therapiesforkids.com.au](mailto:enquiries@therapiesforkids.com.au)





*Funding options that you may be able to access:*

- **Therapies for Kids** is an approved provider to utilise **FaHCSIA, Better Start, Carers Allowance, Chronic Disease Management Plans, Focus Psychological Strategies, HICAPS and NDIS funding.**
- **Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) Package:** HCWA provides early intervention funding to children registered before the age of 6 years old with Autism Spectrum Disorder including, Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder/Syndrome, Rett's Disorder, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified.
- **The Better Start for Children with a Disability (Better Start) initiative:** This provides early intervention for children registered before the age of 6 years old who have a confirmed diagnosis (thresholds apply) of: Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Fragile X syndrome, Deafblindness, Vision impairment, Hearing impairment, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Williams Syndrome, Angelman Syndrome, Kabuki Syndrome, Smith-Magenis Syndrome, CHARGE Syndrome, Cornelia de Lange Syndrome, Cri du Chat Syndrome or Microcephaly.
- If your child has one of the eligible conditions for **HCWA or Better Start funding** and is over 7 years of age, you may be eligible for **20 visits subsidised by Medicare** to use before they turn 15.
- **Medicare Rebates:** Once funds have run out, other Medicare based funding options are available including the **Chronic Disease Management Plan**, which enables 5 therapy sessions to be rebated by Medicare within one calendar year and **Focused Psychological Strategies Plan (for Occupational Therapy)**. Your GP will be able to help organise a referral for either one, or both of these plans.



# LIONESS CLUB of SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Proudly Presents...



**A FREE Event for the Special Needs & Disadvantaged Kids!**

[www.circusquirkus.com.au](http://www.circusquirkus.com.au)

**CIRCUS QUIRKUS** is a contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past.

It is an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts brought to you from all over the world.

Internationally renowned Clowns, Jugglers, Acrobats, and more deliver funny, hugely engaging and sometimes death-defying acts of unbelievable skill.

The show has been created to engage the special needs kids of Australia, & is suitable for audiences of all ages, big and small. All our venues will accommodate wheelchairs, & Circus Quirkus does not use animals in its performances.

## WHERE & WHEN!

**SUTHERLAND ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE**  
**30 ETON STREET, SUTHERLAND NSW 2232**  
**MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2015**  
**10.00am / 1.00pm / 5.00pm**  
**(Show Duration 90 Minutes including Interval)**

This FREE Show is complimentary of the Lioness Club of Sutherland Shire and would not be possible without the Sponsorship & Support of the Local Business Community.

For all enquiries please contact MEREDITH NEWMAN.  
Please send TICKET ORDERS via EMAIL or FAX

PH: 1800 727 857 (Free Call)  
(03) 9417-3654 (Direct)

FX: 1800 823 287  
E: [sutherlandshire@sponsorship.net.au](mailto:sutherlandshire@sponsorship.net.au)

☺FROM ALL OF US INVOLVED, PLEASE ENJOY THE SHOW☺

# SUTHERLAND SHIRE CIRCUS QUIRKUS 2015 TICKET ORDER FORM

**\*Important Information below, please read carefully\***

- **ONE BULK ORDER PER ORGANISATION / SCHOOL**  
– No Individual orders if possible please.

***We encourage schools with Disability & Learning Support classes to attend the Morning or Afternoon Shows.***

- **ONE TICKET PER PERSON IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY**  
- Example: 5 children & 1 adult = 6 TICKETS TOTAL REQUIRED
- When you have reached a **FINAL NUMBER** of tickets required, please **FAX** or **EMAIL** your order through to us (**Contact Details Below**)

## TICKET ORDERS DUE:

- **WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015**

<i>SHOW DATES 2015</i>	<i>SHOW TIMES</i>	<i>TICKETS REQUIRED</i>
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> AUGUST	10.00 AM	
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> AUGUST	1.00 PM	
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> AUGUST	5.00 PM	

**\*\* TO ENSURE WE HAVE ALL THE CORRECT DETAILS PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

CONTACT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANISATION NAME \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE

PH: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**For all enquiries please contact MEREDITH NEWMAN.**

**Please send TICKET ORDERS via EMAIL or FAX**

**PH: 1800 727 857 (Free Call)**  
**(03) 9417-3654 (Direct)**

**FX: 1800 823 287**

**E: [sutherlandshire@sponsorship.net.au](mailto:sutherlandshire@sponsorship.net.au)**

☺FROM ALL OF US INVOLVED, PLEASE ENJOY THE SHOW☺



Dear President of the Parent Association

## Nominations now open for the 2015 ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards

Teachers make a vital contribution to the lives of our young people and help shape the future of our country. Yet there are few opportunities to recognise and acknowledge their outstanding commitment to the community.

The ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) is the only independent national awards program where school and early childhood communities—individual parents, school councils, committees of management, parent associations, secondary student councils, and community organisations—can publicly recognise and encourage inspirational teachers, directors, and principals who contribute excellence.

### Benefits of participating in the NEiTA program

#### For teachers, directors and principals

- Teachers, directors and principals will see that their work is valued, and their contribution to the school and wider community is recognised and appreciated
- All approved nominees receive a *NEiTA Certificate of Nomination*
- Award recipients receive awards and monetary prizes, recognising their contributions.

#### For students and parents

- The awards provide an opportunity to say a special 'thank you' to inspirational teachers, directors and principals who demonstrate effectiveness, innovation, and excellence in their profession.

#### For your school or centre

- Nominating a teacher, director or principal raises teacher, student and school/centre morale
- Nominations provide an opportunity to gain grants and publicity for the school/centre
- The awards enable the whole school/centre to celebrate its achievements and contribution to the community.

### Nominating is easy

This pack includes posters and postcards to promote the awards within your school community. An article in your school/centre newsletter is a great way for parents to find out more about this unique opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate their children's special teachers. All nominations can be made online at [www.asg.com.au/nominate](http://www.asg.com.au/nominate)

### Nominations close on 31 July 2015

Don't miss out on the opportunity to have your outstanding teachers and leaders nominated this year. Many parent groups report that the process of selection and nomination is an empowering one, promoting constructive discussion, and resulting in strong nominations.

We encourage your participation. If you need more assistance, advice or answers, please call us on **1800 624 487** or visit [www.asg.com.au/neita](http://www.asg.com.au/neita).

Kind regards



**Allen Blewitt**  
ASG NEiTA Chairman