

# St George School Newsletter

Diana Murphy, Principal

20 February 2017



## Key Dates:

### Intensive Swimming

20 – 24 February:  
Primary classes

### P&C Meeting

Thursday 2 March  
2017

### Primary Easter Hat Parade

6 April 2017

### Anzac day Assembly

6 April 2017

### Royal Easter Show whole school excursion

7 April 2017

### End of first term

7 April 2017

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Class programs are well underway. Special education is a collaborative process and your child's teacher will work closely with you in identifying goals for your child. Your child's teacher/s will contact you regarding a meeting. This meeting (PLP meeting) assists class staff to develop and implement a personalised learning plan. The meeting also assists the teacher/s in updating health care plans and to discuss any therapy needs. Therapists and other professionals are welcome to attend this meeting.

## School Goals for 2017

We are entering the third and final year of our three year school plan (School Plan 2015 -2017). A number of our goals are in partnership with families. In our first Strategic Direction, *Students are engaged and successful in their learning, attain increasing independence and have a voice*, we have three specific focus areas:

- Promotion of student ability and celebration of successes
- Consolidation of learning and practice of skills across setting
- Effective use of communication tools and strategies

To support the celebration of ability, we acknowledge student achievements in our fortnightly assembly and promote these achievements in our newsletter. We also engage our students in a variety of initiatives external to the school. Last year our students participated in the Schools Spectacular for the second time, the annual Boccia inter-school competition and the Koori Art Expressions Program.

Auditions for participation in the 2017 Schools Spectacular will be held this month. Ana Mowle is coordinating Schools Spectacular at St George School and will select students following parent response from the expression of interest forwarded to families earlier this month.

Our participation in the Koori Art Expressions was very successful last year culminating in an exhibition at the Maritime Museum in December and over the school holidays.

Last year we also held a Visual Arts curriculum day where all students were engaged in a self portrait using a specific art genre. The student works were displayed in the foyer and are currently still on display.

At the end of the year we will be consulting with families regarding targets for our next three year plan, 2018 – 2020. More information on this proves will occur later in the year. The current plan is located on the school's website:

<http://www.stgeorge-s.schools.nsw.edu.au/>





## January and February Birthdays

### Happy birthday to.....

Kate Beardsley – turned 18 on 21 January  
 Nicholas Threlfo – turned 11 on 27 January  
 Jaxon Crittendon – turned 6 on 4 February  
 Bella-Rose Thiel – turned 6 on 11 February

## Procedures for late arrivals and early leavers

Parents are asked **to sign their child in and out** if there is partial attendance for the day. Attendance at school is a legislative requirement and accurate record keeping is necessary for the daily roll-marking. The sign on/out sheet is located in the foyer of the office.

## P&C Notice

Venue: Staffroom  
 Time: 11.30am  
 Date: TBA

## Coffee & Chat



Friday 31 March 2017 – Coffee & Chat provides an opportunity for families to get together – we usually try to get a guest speaker. More details later.

## Celebrating Ability.....

### Student Assembly Awards

Our first assembly was held on Tuesday 7 February 2017.

Congratulations to our award winners:



- Josephine Fishwick, Oscar Young, Charlie Cash, Edith Gilmore and Tahlia Chigioni for settling in to 'big school' and their new class, Primary 1.
- Jaxon Crittendon, Matteo Farinaro and Shafia Diab for settling in to 'big school' and their new class, Primary 2.
- Eva Giatsios for independent brush movements in art class
- Oliver Mai for great adjustment to his new class, new peers.
- Aggie Szyszkowska having a happy and busy week in Middle 1.
- Ashleigh Kelly for following instructions in class activity.
- Matthew Chiotis for using his eye gaze to follow objects and symbols.
- Brett Houdek for settling into class routines well and listening to instructions.
- Jordan Hunt for showing enthusiasm in his School Captain role and growing maturity.
- Lachlan Guiotto received the Middle Sports award for excellent relaxing in Yoga class.
- Bella-Rose Thiel received the Primary Sports award for standing and holding a cricket bat and hitting the ball.
- Samuel Sirio received a Library award for sitting and being engaged during the whole library lesson



## Therapists working at school during school hours.

Our focus at school is wholistic. We support student needs during the school day. The typical school day includes personal care, implementation of feeding schedules and health care procedures. As educators, learning time is valued and precious. We are obliged to deliver education in accordance with the Education Act, NESA Teaching Standards and the Disability Standards for Education. The Disability Standards guide the delivery of education to students with disabilities and outline legislative responsibilities.

We welcome therapists working with students during the day. They provide consultative support to teachers and direct support to students. In order to optimize learning time and minimize disruptions, the best time for therapists to work with students needs to be negotiated with teachers. Teachers can be contacted before 8.45am and after 3.15pm or during their RFF time.



## Curriculum Focus

### Themes in Literacy and Music this term

*Music of the Dreamtime* is the focus this term in music lessons. Students will have the opportunity to learn about traditional Aboriginal instruments and their sounds, traditional Aboriginal songs and dance, desert sounds, sounds of Australia, the celebration of Aboriginal music.

Literacy focus will complement the work that is undertaken in Music. The focus is on Aboriginal stories. The Sensory Theatre has been redesigned to support student engagement in dreamtime stories such as 'The Rainbow Serpent'.

## St George Children with Disabilities Fund

The St George Children with Disabilities Fund provides support to our school. Their support is broader than the school and the Fund supports individual families within and outside the school.

The Fund provides financial support for our visiting musicians, Josh and Daniel. This semester the Fund is also providing support to implement physical management programs. Adam Palmer is engaged on a five day fortnight to support classes with the specific therapy programs based on recommendations from therapists.

Adam's schedule is class support in the morning, eye gaze practice with identified students mid session and gross motor programs in the afternoon. Adam is enthusiastic and organized; we are very appreciative of the work that he is currently doing.

The Fund is holding a Family Day at the end of March. Please see separate flyer for this event. All families are welcome.

## Community Notices:

1. South Eastern Sydney NDIS readiness Events – families should ensure attendance at one NDIS readiness event
2. St George Children with Disabilities Family Fun day event on Sunday 26 March 2017
3. Civic Disability Services – respite services
4. FYI - Mobile Speech Pathologists

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Website: <http://www.stgeorge-s.schools.nsw.edu.au/>  
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Email: [stgeorge-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:stgeorge-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au)







# SUNDAY LUNCH MARCH 26TH CHAT, EAT, RELAX AND ENJOY !

Come along and enjoy the opportunity to talk, meet old and new friends, laugh, share ideas, and learn or ask questions from **a guest speaker** or two about the NDIS, transitioning and other relevant topics



The St. George Children  
with Disabilities Fund

Aiding Children in Need

All the kids will get to enjoy a variety of activities available, roam around on the indoor courts and participate in some great games

**Where:**

**CBC Indoor Sports  
Centre**

**74-76 Captain  
Cook Drive  
Caringbah**



**Time: 1-4pm**



**Lunch and drinks  
supplied**



**Just bring  
yourself and the  
whole family!**

**ST GEORGE CHILDREN  
WITH DISABILITIES  
FUND**

[stgeorgefund.com.au](http://stgeorgefund.com.au)

**Phone: 02 9583 2285**

**RSVP: Wednesday  
22nd March to**

[garry@stgeorgefund.com.au](mailto:garry@stgeorgefund.com.au)





Date	Event	Target Audience	Location	Registrations
23 Feb & 2 March (2 days) 09:00- 2:30	Jeder Institute: NDIS Pathway to a Good Life Workshop	People with disability and their families and carers \$5 donation for lunch requested.	Stapleton Ave Community Centre, hall 1, 3a Stapleton Ave Sutherland	To register Email: <a href="mailto:Michaela@jeder.com.au">Michaela@jeder.com.au</a> Tel: 0409 646 665
1 March 10:30 – 12:30	NDIS Provider Forum	New NDIS Providers.	Hurstville, Club Central 2 Crofts Ave Hurstville	For more information: Email : <a href="mailto:nsw.sydney.engagement@ndis.gov.au">nsw.sydney.engagement@ndis.gov.au</a> Places limited
6 March 10:30 – 12:30 or 18:00 – 20:00	NDIS Community Information Session	People with disability their families and carers. (includes Auslan Interpreter)	Jubilee Community Centre, Carlton. NSW 2218	To register: Email : <a href="mailto:nsw.sydney.engagement@ndis.gov.au">nsw.sydney.engagement@ndis.gov.au</a>
7 March 18:30 – 20:00	Plumtree: NDIS – The Basics	People with disability their families and carers	Plumtree Yabsey Ave, Marrickville	To register: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ndis-the-basics-an-introductory-session-registration-30284275082">https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ndis-the-basics-an-introductory-session-registration-30284275082</a>



Date	Event	Target Audience	Location	Registrations
7 March 09:30 – 12 noon	My Choice Matters: Get More Skills	People with disability their families and carers Bring an Ipad if you have one	Level 8, 418A Elizabeth Street Surrey Hills	To register: Email: <a href="mailto:info@mychoicematters.org.au">info@mychoicematters.org.au</a> Tel: 1800 144 653
9 March 10:00- 12: Noon or 13:00 – 15:00	My Choice Matters: My Learning Matters	People with disability and their families and carers Bring an Ipad if you have one	Sutherland Club on East, 7 East Parade.	To register: Email: <a href="mailto:info@mychoicematters.org.au">info@mychoicematters.org.au</a> Tel: 1800 144 653
16 March 09:00 – 12:30	3 Bridges: The NDIS De-mystified	Volunteers and Staff working in disability services	Carss Park Community Centre, 72 Carss Park Rd	To register: Email: <a href="mailto:training@3bridges.org.au">training@3bridges.org.au</a> Tel: 1300 327 434 <a href="http://www.3bridges.org.au">www.3bridges.org.au</a>
21 Mar & 28 Mar (2 days) 09:00- 2:30	Jeder Institute: NDIS Pathway to a Good Life Workshop	People with disability and their families and carers \$5 donation for lunch requested	Kogarah Community Services 49 English Street, Kogarah	To register: Email: <a href="mailto:Michaela@jeder.com.au">Michaela@jeder.com.au</a> Tel: 0409 646 665



## Our Partnerships

We partner with Government, charities, health funds, schools, preschools, daycare providers, corporate groups and community groups to provide high quality and accessible speech therapy for our clients.

We offer the following services to our partners:

- teacher and parent awareness training
- large-scale screening programs
- bespoke group programs for adults and children
- screening, assessment and therapy for at-risk children and teenagers
- 1:1 assessment and therapy for clients at multiple locations

## Our point of difference

We differentiate ourselves from other Speech Pathology practices through the quality of our offering, our highly trained staff, value for money services, reliability and unique vision.

We are mobile speech pathology experts with a tried and tested approach to speech therapy that ensures excellent outcomes for those under our care.

Our team of highly experienced therapists with their wealth of knowledge always strive to go above and beyond for our clients.

We are on the Federal Government's provider panel for the Helping Children with Autism and Better Start! Initiative programs. We are also able to provide therapy under Medicare's Enhanced Primary Care Plan for those with chronic conditions.

## Rebates and Funding

There are various rebates available for speech pathology services through Medicare, Private Health Funds, government funding schemes and the Department of Veteran Affairs. Communicate therapists are registered providers with Medicare. Private Health funds and the NDIS. We also work closely with schools and charitable organisations to provide affordable therapy programs. Please visit our website, phone or email us for further information about eligibility for rebates.

## Our Vision

"To enrich the lives of all adults and children in our community through the recognition and development of their abilities. To enable all clients to access the therapy best suited to their needs and to engage and inspire our community to support them in this endeavour."



**communicate**  
speech pathology

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