

St George School Newsletter

Diana Murphy, Principal

2 February 2017



**Welcome to the
2017 School year
journey**

Key Dates:

School Photos

Wed 15 February
2017

Intensive Swimming

13 – 17 Feb: Middle &
Secondary classes
20 – 24 February:
Primary classes

P&C Meeting

Thursday 2 March
2017

Primary Easter Hat Parade

7 April 2017

End of first term

7 April 2017

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We trust that you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and coped well with the extreme temperatures.

In spite of the high 30s temperature on day 1, we started the year with enthusiasm and high expectations of ourselves and for our students.

This year, we extend a warm welcome to St George School to a record eight new students. In Primary 1: Edith Gilmore, Charlie Cash, Oscar Young, Josephine Fishwick and Tahlia Chigioni. In Primary 2: Jaxon Crittendon, Matteo Farinaro and Shafia Diab.

This week we are meeting with new families for the start of school this week and next. We trust that our new students and their families will enjoy their time at St George School and find the experiences rich and rewarding.

Classes 2017

We continue in 2017 with staffing for ten classes. We are using the staffing flexibly to provide additional school learning support officers to address the personal care and health care needs of our students. We continue to have three teams: Primary, Middle and Secondary. Flexible staffing operates in Primary 2, Middle 2, Secondary 1 and Secondary 2.

Early this term your class teacher will contact you to schedule a meeting to develop your child's personalised learning plan. The meeting will set the individual learning priorities for the year. Where necessary, the meeting will also provide the opportunity to review your child's health care plan, any physical management issues and/or therapy recommendations.

Staffing

This year we welcome back Betty Mak as one of our permanent school learning support officers. It is wonderful to have Betty back at school after a nine month absence.

We also welcome back Gina Kucler as a school learning support officer. Gina has been working in a mainstream school for the last two years. We welcome Sara Hage and Kriscilla Spiliopoulos into temporary position this year.

We congratulate Kay Dagli for her successful application as a permanent member of staff replacing the position occupied Margaret Amuso who retired at the end of 2016..

New 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 required in order to meet the requirements of this legislation.

Karen Baker has set up a **sign on/out sheet** which is located in the foyer of the office.

Students on Practicum from Denmark

Next week we welcome Casper, Oystein and Kristian, physiotherapy students, for a six week practicum.

We look forward to their input and participation in our physical management, sport and movement programs.

Music program

This term, Josh Oshlack is continuing to recover from surgery and Daniel who works for Josh's company, Rhythm Village, will be our teacher for the term

Assisted School Travel

With ten students leaving at the end of 2016 and eight new students commencing this year, there has been significant changes to school bus runs. Many families will have their child on a different run with a new driver. Your patience with the changes is appreciated.

Staffing continued..

Staff on leave this term

- Janne Kelly in Primary 2 is on long service leave this term. Ursula Ransom and Shayne Gannon are replacing Janne on the class and Leah Ponzio is relieving for Janne as Assistant Principal and team leader for the Primary team.
- Toward the end of term Lynda Johannsoon will be on long service leave.
- I will be taking leave on Tuesdays this term and Ana Mowle will relieve as principal for the Tuesdays

Intensive Swimming

Our intensive swimming program which has operated over the last two years has been very successful.

We are fortunate in re-engaging Emma Wilson for intensive swimming before she resumes her medical studies in March. Emma is an experienced special education teacher and a qualified swimming instructor.

In the week commencing 13 February the Secondary and Middle classes will have intensive swimming. The Primary classes will have intensive swimming the following week commencing 20 February 2017.

A fuller explanation of the program and permission slip will be sent home within the week.

School Development Day

Our school development days provide the opportunity for professional learning and completion of mandatory training. In term 4 last year all staff completed CPR training and face-to-face anaphylaxis training.

Last Friday staff completed online 2017 Child Protection Training. Staff also attended a session on supporting students with vision impairment and on NDIS, NDIS rollout in 2017 and the NDIS interface with education.

School Captains

We congratulate Kate Beardsley and Jordan Hunt who are our School Captains for the year. We also congratulate Elliot Austin and Thomas McMahon, our Vice Captains for the year.

School Plan 2015 – 2017

We enter the third and final year of our school plan this year. Our three strategic directions focus on student learning, staff learning and learning within and beyond the school. The Annual Report for 2016 will provide an evaluation of the progress of the plan in 2016 and directions for 2017. Our Annual Report will be uploaded onto our school website in first term 2017.



Centre-based Respite

for children with
disability

Short term
accommodation
and assistance



Centre-based Respite

For children with disability
(ages 7-17)

Everyone, even a full-time carer, has times when regular support arrangements need to be changed.

This is where Civic's replacement support, or respite, can assist so that you can focus on other commitments - or simply recharge, whilst your child is taken care of by professionals in a safe environment. Whether it's for an evening, a weekend or a holiday period, our flexible service can fit in with your requirements.

Civic provides respite in a friendly, wheelchair accessible house in Caringbah, South Sydney. Children have their own room but attend with others of a similar age so they have the opportunity to make new social connections and have fun.

Fully-trained staff provide 24 hour support and our safe house has a level, fully-secured garden and a wealth of toys, games and equipment.

Civic's centre-based respite offers an opportunity for children to try new activities and learn new skills tailored to their interests and abilities. These can range from developing their independence skills, going on excursions to local beaches, playing sport or attending social events such as BBQ

Come for a Play * Eat * Stay Trial

- Bring your child for a play date to view the facilities
- Stay for dinner when he/she is ready
- Book in for respite once you are both comfortable

Email: enquiries@civic.org.au
or call 1800 253 743

Sundays. Transport is available for excursions, pick-ups and drop-offs.

Come and view our facilities and see for yourself.

Civic is registered with the Office of the Children's Guardian to provide Voluntary Out-of-Home Care (VOOHC) in NSW.

**Contact us to make a booking
or to arrange a visit:**

T 02 9575 1900

E enquiries@civic.org.au

F [Facebook.com/CivicDisabilityServices](https://www.facebook.com/CivicDisabilityServices)

1800 253 743
CIVIC.ORG.AU



A photograph of two young men sitting at a table, focused on painting. The man on the left is wearing a dark sweater and has a beard. The man on the right is wearing a grey t-shirt with 'MOTOR' visible. They are surrounded by art supplies: a white paint palette with blue and black paint, a glass jar holding brushes, and a blue bottle of A2 paint. The background is a bright, slightly out-of-focus indoor space.

CIVIC

Do you want
to learn new
things and explore
your community?

**Hurstville
Community
Hub**

Hurstville Community Hub

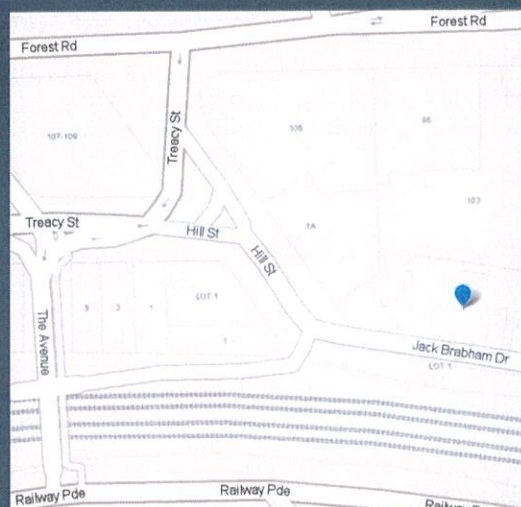
Civic's Community Hub offers a range of fun learning and social activities for adults with disability in the St George area

Civic's **Hurstville Hub** offers a wide range of engaging activities aimed at increasing personal independence, self-esteem and confidence. Facilities and activities include:

- **Lifestyle activities** such as massage, yoga, music and arts therapy.
- Various outings in the community with the **social club**.
- A **computer lab** offering skills training and more.
- **Learning activities** including an international cooking skills program, a fishing skills program, travel training, community access, personal safety, identification of familiar community symbols and numeracy skills.
- **Physical Fitness/Exercise** such as swimming, gym, walking, gardening and bowling.
- **Clinical services** such as psychology and speech – for both adults and children.

...and lots more

1800 253 743
CIVIC.ORG.AU



Drop in and see us at

Shop 6
1 Jack Brabham Drive
Hurstville NSW 2220



Places now available

T 1800 253 743

E enquiries@civic.org.au

f Facebook.com/CivicDisabilityServices

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