



St George School 2019 Newsletter

Diana Murphy, Principal

Date: 5 February 2019

Key Dates:

Year 7 Vaccination

Thursday 14 February.

Information and permission slips will be sent home this week.

School Photos

Wednesday 20 February
2019

P&C Meeting

Thursday 28 February at
11.30am

Harmony Day

Thursday 21 March 2019

Coffee & Chat

TBA

Last day of term

Friday 12 April 2019

First day term 2 for students

Tuesday 30 April 2019

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 and high humidity.

We started the year with high expectations of ourselves and for our students. Teachers were eager to commence the year with the majority preparing for classes in the last week of the holidays. It is always rewarding to see the students return to school with eager smiles and a sense of belonging.

This year, we extend a warm welcome to 5 new students: Avery Zhang, Benjamin Fletcher, Johanna Hammoud, Jamila Diab and James O'Malley. We will be also be welcoming Billy Doyle in the next few weeks once placement paperwork has been finalised. Avery, Benjamin, Johanna and Jamila are transitioning to school and will commence in Primary 1. James and Billy are transferring from other special schools. We trust that they will enjoy settling into school life and have a rewarding journey at St George School.

Classes in 2019

We continue in 2019 with staffing for ten classes and nine classes operating. We have two teams at school: Primary and Secondary. Janelle Ferguson is the assistant principal for the primary team and Annette Fulller for the secondary team.

This month, your child's class teacher will contact you to schedule a meeting to develop a 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, physical management issues and/or therapy recommendations. Where necessary, teachers will discuss the class timetable and most suitable times for therapy support provided through NDIS funding.

Staffing

There are few changes to staffing this year. As advised at the end of last year, Ana Mowle is relieving principal at the St George Hospital School for 2019 and has been replaced by Jenny Combs. Angela Stupar is now full-time on class and Annette Fuller, AP, is full-time in her executive role. I have returned to work full-time at St George School following three terms of secondment to state office in 2018.

School Captains

We congratulate Lauren Green and Julia Wainwright who are our School Captains for the year. Lauren and Julia will represent the school at events this year such the combined schools Anzac service held in Hyde park.



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.

A sign on/out sheet is located in the foyer of the office.

Music program

This year, Daniel, musician from Rhythm Village will continue to teach music on Wednesday. This program is funded by the St George Children with Disabilities Fund.

Music Therapy

Rhythm Village is a NDIS provider. Josh Oshlack has prepared information for families regarding private and small group music therapy support. Josh's letter to families accompanies this newsletter.



Happy Birthday to our January birthdays

George Yu who turned 9 on
8 January

Nicholas Threlfo who
turned 13 on the 27
January

February birthdays

Jaxon Crittendon who
turned 8 on the 4 February

Jamila Diab who turned 5
on the 4 February

Bella Rose Thiel who
will turned 8 on the 11
February

Johanna Hammoud who
will be turning 5 on the 12
February

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 during the term. On the last day of term class staff reviewed information on students from the handover sheets/ students profile and end of year reports. School learning support officers (SLSOs) reviewed health care plans, feeding plans and manual handling plans. Teachers and SLSOs had initial class discussion regarding personalised learning and support for students in their class in 2019.

Last week on 29 January 2019 staff participated in a STRETCH Manual Handling Workshop which aims to support student and staff safety. The workshop covered:

- Activities - assisted walking or standing with equipment,
- Activities - pushing and pulling wheelchairs,
- Transfers - moving a student using a manual hoist

Outcomes:

- Perform safe movements during work tasks specific to the participants role
- Injury prevention advice and strategies
- Reduced risk of personal injury
- Personal hints and tips to manage personal health and wellbeing

These second session was a nutrition workshop presented by Katie Dalton, dietitian. The workshop focused on healthy eating for staff and students.

Outcomes:

- Heightened awareness of nutrition and impact of various food types
- Awareness of options for students with feeding difficulties

The afternoon session covered Mandatory Child Protection update 2019, an online course for all staff working in schools.

Outcomes:

- Awareness of current legislation in relation to child protection
- Awareness of responsibilities in relation to mandatory reporting
- Awareness of processes and procedures for reporting



Hi there,

For those of you that don't know me, I'm Josh Oshlack, the owner of The Rhythm Village. We run the music program at St George School every Wednesday.

We are very excited to offer something special for your child. The Rhythm Village is an NDIS registered provider, offering private and small group Music Therapy sessions that can be funded through your child's NDIS plan.

In 2019, St George School has given us permission to offer this service to your child during school hours. So, one day a week, we will have a Music Therapist on site at the school who can work with your child on a one-on-one basis, towards achieving your child's specific goals. The time will be negotiated with your child's teacher.

Music Therapy is covered under the NDIS categories: CB: Daily Activities or CB: Improved Daily Living.

For those of you that are interested in taking up this opportunity, please send me an email (to: josh@rhythmvillage.com.au) with your mobile number, child's name and their age.

There will be limited time slots available during the day, so the sooner you can let me know, the better.

We all know how much joy and learning music brings to the students of St George School and we hope to continue offering this to your child for many years to come.



Warm Regards,

Josh Oshlack
Director
The Rhythm Village
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