

What's On

1 March	Earn and Learn Assembly
21 March	Harmony Day
29 March	Easter Fun Day
30 March	Good Friday
2 April	Easter Monday
12 April	PBL and Amazing Achiever Assembly
13 April	Last day of Term



CARE

LEARN

BE SAFE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to those parents and caregivers that were able to attend our Meet'n'Greet. If you were unable to attend, we are having a Parent Information Session at 9.30am on Tuesday 27th February. This Parent Information Session will begin with informative presentations on new and updated programs and procedures for your child that will include:

- So Safe – promoting social safety
 - Personalised Learning Plans – new procedures
 - Working with externally funded service providers delivering health, disability and wellbeing services to students.
- After these presentations, morning tea will be provided. This will give you an opportunity to meet other parents and caregivers.

Due to a few more new students starting at The Ponds School we are making some small changes to students in classes. We always strive to make the best decisions in regards to the class your child is placed in. Thank you for your understanding when changes need to be made.

Personalised Learning Plans

Information in regards to making a time to meet with your child's teacher will have been provided to you. It is highly beneficial for you to meet with your child's teacher and discuss the goals you wish your child to achieve. Please remember you are the people that know your child best and we rely on information that you give us to ensure plans are relevant.

Music Engagement

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who have paid for Music Engagement lessons for their child. Students are enjoying participating. During first semester, Classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 17 will participate in Music Engagement with our Music Therapist, Pete McDonald.

Please make your payment asap if you would like your child to participate.

Movement Skills

Movement Skills lessons will begin on Friday, 9th March for classes 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18. Notes regarding this will be sent home next week.

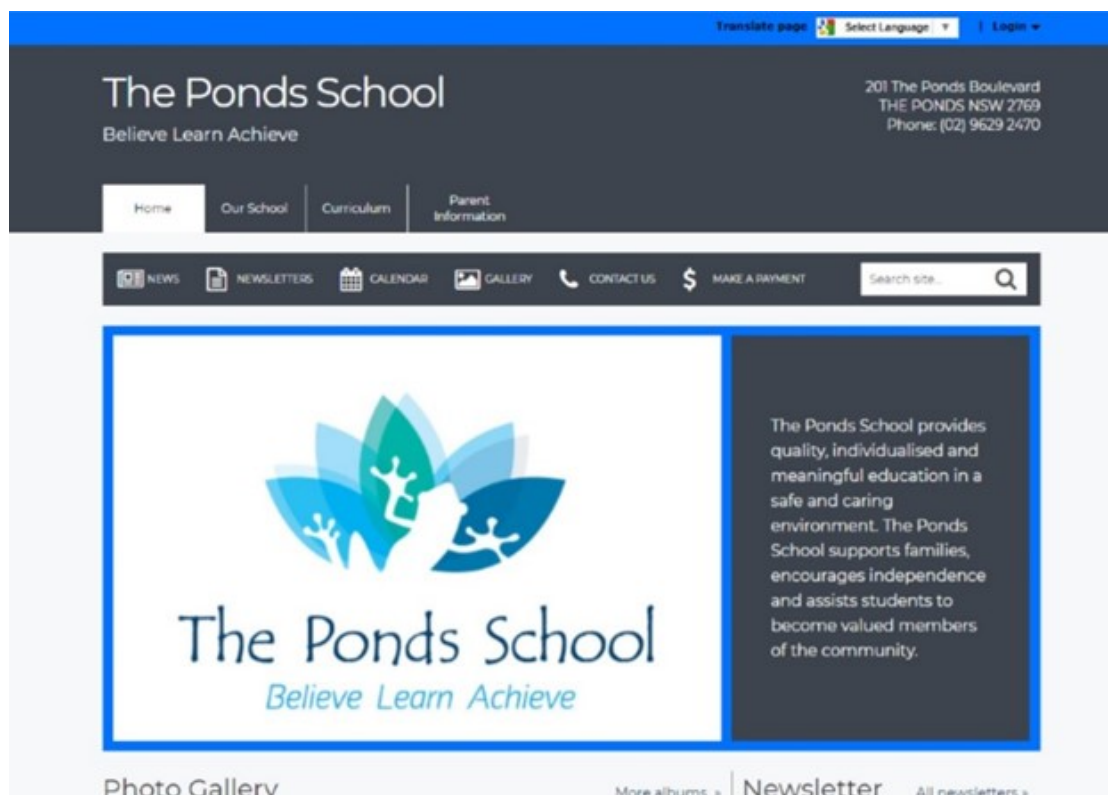
Playground Equipment

The procedure to gain our accessible fixed playground equipment, that the entire school community worked so hard to fundraise for is going full steam ahead. The tender process will conclude at the end of March and then we will know when the equipment will be constructed.

Earn and Learn Assembly

On Thursday, 1st March we will be having a special assembly to thank Woolworths for the resources that we have gained through their Earn and Learn promotion. Please join us for this assembly.

Leonie Donaldson
Principal



The Ponds School has a brand new website! If you haven't checked it out yet, please visit it at <http://www.theponds-s.schools.nsw.edu.au/>. You will find lots of useful information, including a parent information section where you can download copies of notes and forms, and where you will find information about attendance and delivery of therapy services at school.

There are also lots of great photos and calendar items so you will never miss an upcoming school event. Additionally you can make payments online. This is a great way to pay for things like school contributions, excursions, music engagement and uniforms.

Make Online Payments

You no longer need to pay for your child's excursions, uniforms etc. by cash or cheque because it is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac and found on our school's website. You are still able to make payments by cash or cheque if this is more convenient for you.

Online payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting Pay Online.

Please visit our web site for Newsletters, Pay Online (POP), Uniform Pricelist and Order form, and much, much more. <http://www.theponds.schoolnsw.com.au/>

Delivery of therapy services in school – update

As many of you will know, we are implementing the Department of Education's new guidelines and procedures around delivery of therapy services in schools this year. So far we have had many families requesting delivery of therapy services at school and all of these requests have been approved. Service providers are working closely with the school around meeting their requirements to come into the school and the first therapist began delivering therapy at school this week. Over the next couple of weeks we expect many more therapists will be ready to begin delivering services at school.

If you still need to request delivery of therapy services at school or you need to request additional therapy services or a change to therapy services delivered at school, you can download a copy of the request form from our website.

We look forward to continuing to work in collaboration with therapists and families to ensure our students receive the best educational opportunities possible. If you have any questions about the new therapy in schools process please contact the school at any time.

Are you a past or present Carer?

Come and join us for Refreshments and a chance to meet others.

The Hills Carers Group

f /TheHillsCarers

QR code

Every 2nd Monday
10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Every month except January
*if times change they will be posted on facebook

Contact Emily on
Ph: 0475 753 236
email: the.hills.carers.group@gmail.com

Quakers Hill Neighbourhood Centre
51 Goddard Crescent
Quakers Hill, NSW, 2763



We are collecting vouchers for "Coles Sports for Schools". If you have any of these vouchers, please bring them to school and let's see what we can achieve!

PARENT TRAINING AND MEMBERSHIP



Autism Swim is offering the first Drowning and Wandering Prevention Training/Membership for parents of children with a disability in Australia.



WHY DO OUR ONLINE PARENT TRAINING AND MEMBERSHIP?

- Your child is prone to wandering, or you have concerns that they may wander in the future.
- Your child drowning is of concern to you.
- Your child has limited skills in terms of perceiving risks and danger.
- Your child is not making the gains in their swimming lessons which you were hoping.
- You want to connect with other parents to share stories and advice.
- You have not had successes in the past in terms of swimming lessons, and you want to learn more about what's needed.
- You are familiar and frightened by the statistics in relation to drowning and wandering for children with ASD/cognitive deficit.
- You are a proactive parent committed to doing absolutely everything you can to keep your little one safe.

After many months of the team being hard at it, our parent training and membership is now available to you. What's even better, is that for the first month, we're offering 40%!

Now is your chance to be incredibly proactive on all things wandering prevention, water safety and successful aquatics programs.

This is the first and only service of its kind in Australia.

- *Drowning is the leading cause of death in children with ASD.*
- *50% of children with ASD wander.*
- *74% of drownings occur following an incident of wandering.*

<https://autismswim.com.au/product/parent-training-and-membership/>

The Ponds Newsletter

Now our school has grown the cost of printing our newsletter in colour is becoming more expensive. If you are able to have your newsletter emailed instead of receiving a hard copy from school it would be greatly appreciated. Please fill in the below details and return to the school.

Child's Name _____ Email Address _____

I wish to be emailed The Ponds School newsletter on a fortnightly basis.

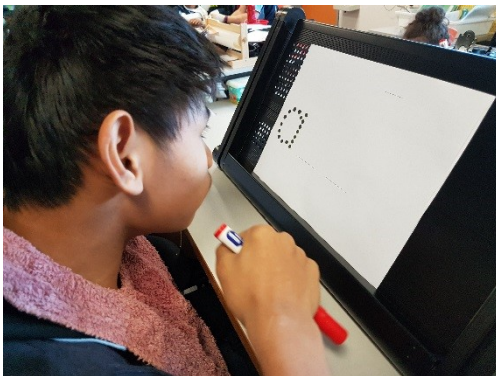
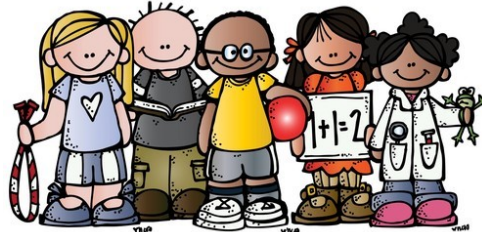
Signature _____ Date _____

Class 2

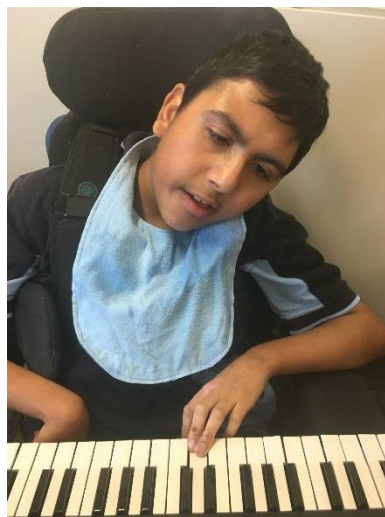
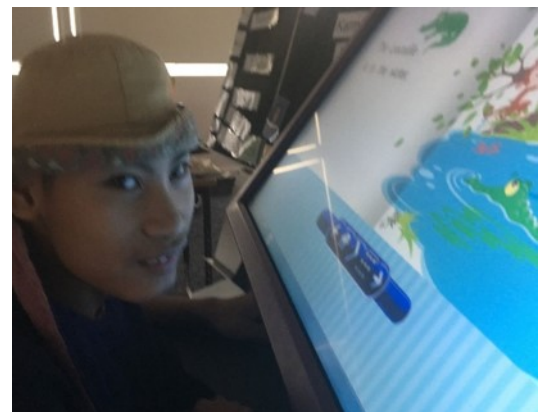
Welcome to Class 2



we ♥ school !



Adrian, Brittney, Karmanjot, Rori and Sithusha settled back into class effortlessly. Sharon and I were no strangers to them and they have known each other for some time now. We are hard at work in class but also spend some time outside gardening, playing sport, enjoying music engagement and we plan to start hydrotherapy soon



Class 11



And we are off to a great start in Class 11.

Our class consist of; Jeremy, Joshua, Kaidyn, Isaac, Taane and Ari. We have spent the last 3 weeks getting to know each other and our new class routine. We have welcomed a new student Taane to our school and have been teaching him the ins and outs of the school.

We have been developing our fundamental movement skills through physical activities including going for walk, using the trampolines and riding bikes. In the hydro pool we have been demonstrating our water skills including floating, blowing bubbles, kicking our legs, paddling our arms and of course splashing our teachers!

Ari, Jeremy and Isaac have also been enjoying the musical therapy program.

In the classroom we have been focusing on counting and learning our personal details. We have also started learning about the human body. Our break out space is slowly being decorated with our amazing artworks.

That's all from us for now. Stay tuned for more updates on all the wonderful things that have been happening in our classroom.

Ari, Isacc, Kaidyn, Jeremy, Joshua, Taane, Yvette, Jacqui and Skye.

