

What's On

3—7 September	SASS Recognition Week (SLSOs, Office Staff, GA—Alan)
Mon, 3 September	Making it Happen—for children with disabilities meeting 9.15am
Wed, 5 September	The Ponds School Signing Choir performance—Hills Music Festival, Evans Theatre Penrith
Wed, 12 September	Farmer Fundraiser
24–18 September	Science Week
Wed, 26 September	Mad Science Expo Ice-skating—selected students Yr 7 Immunisation
Thu, 27 September	Amazing Achievers & PBL Assembly
Fri, 28 September	Zoomobile Last day of Term 3
Mon, 15 October	First day of Term 4—students and teachers



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you to all those parents and carers that have completed the review of their child's Personalised Learning Plan (PLP), updated their information, applied for the administration of prescribed medication, requested therapy services at school, made changes to transport, purchased school uniforms, made payments on POP, returned notes, or used Class Dojo or written in the communication book. Schools and homes are busy places, at times it can seem like there is a lot to do. By understanding, working together and communicating all things are possible. Let's all work together to achieve great outcomes for your child.

Athletics Carnival Winners

The winners of the Athletics carnival were the Koalas - Red with 138 points. Then came:

Kookaburras – Blue 128

Echidnas – Green 112

Emus - Yellow 71

We now have our perpetual Athletics Carnival trophy, Swimming Carnival trophy and MOVE trophy in our Trophy Cabinet.

New Playground

A huge Thank You to all the people that contributed to this project; Blacktown Ponds Lions Club, The Variety Club, The Primary Club, TAG Financial, Wiggles and Giggles, Making It Happen - for children with disabilities, The Commonwealth Bank and the entire Ponds Community. We will officially open the playground early Term 4. Thank you to our students and staff who have been impacted upon whilst our much anticipated accessible playground has been constructed. This week students are taking the opportunity to explore and play in the playground during class time. Staff are completing risk assessments on the individual play items. We are waiting for the hammock and a play panel to be put in. Next week the playground will be used by all students daily during break times.

Parent Information Session

On Wednesday, 22nd August we held a Parent Information Session on Parent Wellbeing, the new structure of the day, Class 19 and External Validation. Thank you to those parents that attended, your input is valued. Please find some of the information discussed below:

The New Structure of the Day

After trialling and evaluating the new structure of the day, students and staff are very positive in regards to the benefits. Teachers have reported there is more time in class and more learning taking place, students have adapted to the change extremely well – behaviour incidents have decreased, many areas of the playground and the school in general are being used more often, such as; the library, kitchen, hall, bike track and oval. Classes have more time in the hydrotherapy pool and more time to access the community.

Father's Day

This year The Ponds School is very fortunate to have Bunnings and Woolworths generously donate gifts for our students to give on Father's Day. Each student will receive two gifts to give and have the opportunity to purchase gifts from the parent run stall.

External Validation

Currently The Ponds School External Validation Team is busy completing the requirements for External Validation. What is External Validation?

As part of the ongoing school planning , self-assessment and reporting cycle of School Excellence, all schools self assess their practices using the School Excellence Framework (SEF) across the domains of Learning, Teaching and Leading.

Every 5 years the school will complete External Validation. External Validation provides an opportunity for schools to discuss their judgements about the school's practice – and the evidence that underpins them- with a panel of peers.

On the 25th October the panel will visit our school. This panel will comprise of a Principal, School Leadership (PSL) and a peer Principal and will consider the school's evidence using the School Excellence Framework (SEF).

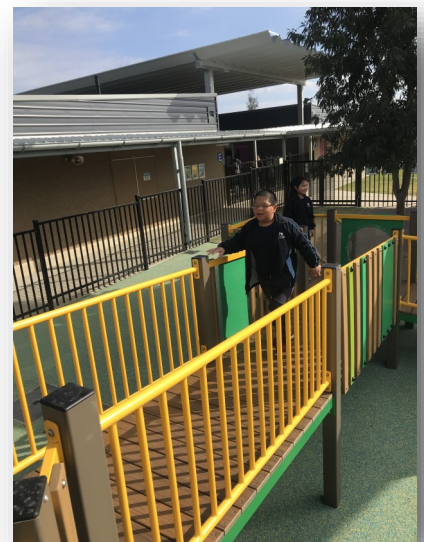
After this process we will have a document that will illustrate the areas in which The Ponds School excels, the areas that we are sustaining and growing, and the areas that we are delivering. The External Validation report will assist us on our journey of continuous improvement.

Reminder

If you are dropping your child off at school in the mornings, please wait in the gated area near the office until a staff member comes to escort students down to their classrooms. Students will be supervised by class staff while unpacking bags, participating in hygiene procedures and playing in the Cola before the 9am bell. All staff are on duty at this time.

Leonie Donaldson

Principal



Freedom Wheels BLACKTOWN

Free Assessment

Friday 28th of September 2018

BOOKINGS



Call today to book your free assessment with our Occupational Therapist:

WHERE The Mount Druitt Hub
ADDRESS RM 1, Level 1
9 Ayers Grove
MOUNT DRUITT NSW

Call to book your spot:
1300 663 243



freedomwheels.org.au



BLACKTOWN AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP



The Autism Community Network provides free support during school terms for families living with autism conditions. If you would like to meet other carers who understand you or find social opportunities for your ASD child and their siblings, please contact us or come along to our free support group meetings

When: First Wednesdays 10 am to Noon
Venue: Westpoint Blacktown - in the Food Court, Coffeeland café

For more information :
www.autismcommunity.org.au | info@autismcommunity.org.au | 9543 9036



Harriet Korner Consulting

ABN: 52 849 087 354



Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display

Introductory PODD Sessions & PODD Interest Group Meetings 2018



One-hour introductory talks to PODD communication systems will be available prior to PODD Interest Group Meetings. These are designed for people who are new to PODD.

PODD Interest Group meetings will be of interest to people who are implementing PODD communication systems and/or have attended a PODD Workshop. Anyone who has attended a PODD Workshop or an Introductory PODD session is welcome to attend.

Cost: \$10 to attend the Introduction to PODD Session;

\$10 to attend the PODD Interest Group.

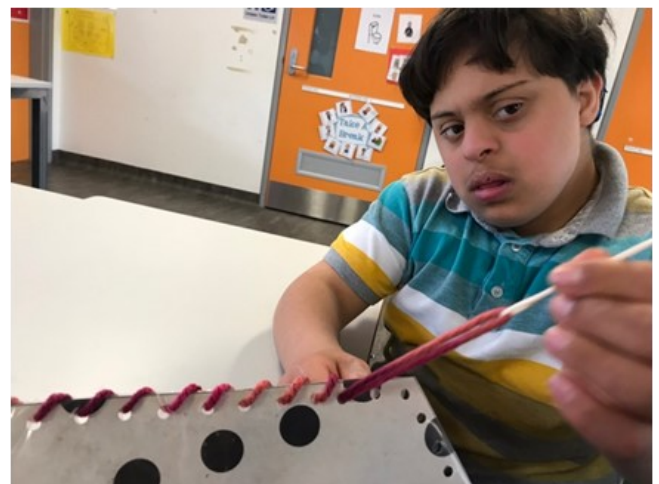
For further information, please contact Harriet Korner at hkorner@netspace.net.au

Venue: Royal Rehab – Charles Blunt Meeting Room
235 Morrison Rd, Ryde, NSW, 2112.

16 November 9am – 10am: Introduction to PODD
10am – 12 noon: PODD Interest Group Meeting

Class 3

Class 3 has had a very busy term. In art we have been creating our own Starry Night masterpiece inspired by Vincent van Gogh. In Literacy and Maths we have been looking at fairytales and working on our independent skills to complete our work. This week we have enjoyed sewing our Father's Day presents to give to our dads on Sunday.



Class 12



This term Class 12 paired with Class 6 to visit John Palmer Public School to participate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) integration. Students explored coding technology B-Bots and they learnt how to control the robots. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to interact with same age peers and practice their social skills with appropriate social models. John Palmer students were kind and provided our students with assistance. What a lovely way for our students to build connections with our community.

