


What's On

Thu, 20 September	Ice-skating—selected students
24–28 September	Science Week
Mon, 24 September	Science lesson with a buddy class
Tues, 25 September	Fire Engine visit
Wed, 26 September	Mad Science Expo
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



CARE
LEARN
BE SAFE

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Have you heard “It’s always a good time at The Ponds School”? There is always something fun, exciting, interesting and educationally based happening at The Ponds School. Over recent weeks students have participated in The Ponds School’s first camp; Fathers Day Stall—thank you to Making it Happen for children with disabilities for organising this event; and SASS Staff recognition week – schools need SASS Staff! Our signing choir performed at The Hills Performing Arts Festival. Class 19 have been staffing the canteen on Thursdays and washing cars and buses. Many students have participated in community access and more students are accessing a variety of areas within the school than ever before. Thank you to the parents/carers and staff that made all these events possible.

Playground

Our new playground is very popular with our students. All students have the opportunity to use the playground during at least one of the breaks. It is truly fantastic to see every student engaged when playing in the inner playground.

We will be organising a Grand Opening for the Accessible Playground during Term 4. We have many organisations to thank. We will be able to set a date as soon as the hammock and some more play panels are installed. We hope you will all be able to attend.

Sick Children and Absences

It can sometimes be difficult to determine whether to keep your child home from school. In the interests of our whole school community, we appeal to all parents and carers to keep children home if they are unwell.

To assist you in making the right decision about keeping your child home, please refer to the information found at the Department of Education’s website - School A to Z, where you will find a chart called ‘Too sick for school?’. We thank you for your support with this very important matter.

If your child is sick please ring the school to inform us. If the staff are unaware of why your child is absent from school I will contact you. If you take your child to the doctor please gain a Doctor’s Certificate. This is required if your child is away for three days or more.

Farmer Fundraiser

Thank you to all the Ponds School community who supported our Farmer Fundraiser. The students and staff enjoyed dressing as a farmer or a farm animal and making scarecrows. Your donations will go to Drought Angels.

Leonie Donaldson

Principal

CAMP

In Week 6, 14 students and 6 staff were involved in The Ponds School's first ever overnight camp at Teen Ranch, Cobbitty. What a success!

Students had the opportunity to challenge themselves with rock climbing, archery, bushwalking, volley ball, camp craft and the giant swing. They enjoyed cooking marshmallows and damper over a fire. Students practised showering, dressing, using knives and forks, trying new foods and looking after their own belongings. They developed friendships and learnt to interact with a wider variety of adults. Students slept in sleeping bags and bunk beds in dormitory style rooms. For many of our students it was their first night away from family.

We are so proud of what all our campers achieved over the duration of the camp. They demonstrated resilience, determination, problem solving, friendship and team work again and again!

The staff at Teen Ranch were some of the most encouraging and energetic people we have come across, and our staff, as always, went above and beyond to ensure our very first camp was such a huge success. See you again next year Teen Ranch!



CANTEEN

Every Thursday, Class 19 have been running a school canteen. We have been learning to prepare, package and sell food. Our friends are learning to make choices and requests, take and carry their own items, give money in exchange for goods and say please and thank you.

We can deliver canteen notes, greet people appropriately, ask questions ("what would you like?"), select and give people the correct items, take money, sort and identify coins and say thank you. Running our school canteen helps us to learn the skills that are preparing us for life.

We sell healthy snacks and non-edible treats (e.g. bubbles). Look out for the note in your child's communication book each Wednesday and send some money to buy something yummy and fun!



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.

CLASS 19

We all know that at some stage in our child's schooling, they will need extra support. Sometimes this is with reading, maths, mobility or communication. Sometimes it is with self-regulation and engagement. This term, we have started a 'Wellbeing' class in the Sensory Room/Garden with exactly this purpose, which provides extra support to those students who need additional help in this area. Some children are accessing this class full-time, while other students are accessing it for negotiated programs.

Skills students are learning within this program are communication, social skills, self-regulation, calming strategies and life skills. They are also learning to be proud of their achievements.

While students are attending this class, we are working closely with staff, families and therapists to better support them at school and at home. We are working together to keep all students safe, happy and learning at school.

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 Drutt Hub
ADDRESS RM 1, Level 1
9 Ayers Grove
MOUNT DRUTT NSW

Call to book your spot:
1300 663 243



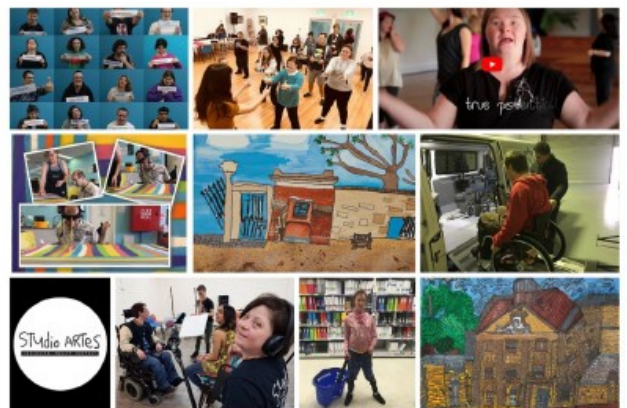
freedomwheels.org.au



STudio ARTES

INCLUSION EQUITY RESPECT

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY



Studio ARTES Carers Week Open Day/Expo

You are invited to attend our Carers Week Open Day/Expo. Come and explore everything about Studio ARTES. We have invited other service providers to be a part of the Open Day/Expo. These providers have been recommended by our parents/carers.

Please RSVP to Jess.bolan@studioartes.org.au or call Jess or Lynne on 9482 5266 to register your interest. Your RSVP is extremely appreciated so we know how many will be coming.

Date: 17th October, 2018
Time: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Cost: Free
Venue: 33 Jersey Street Hornsby, NSW 2077
Phone: 9482 5266

GET ACTIVE each day

Physical activity is an important part of being healthy. Find as many ways as you can to be active everyday.

HOW MUCH ACTIVITY SHOULD KIDS DO EACH DAY?

Toddlers 1-3 years **Preschoolers** 3-5 years

3
hours
ACROSS THE DAY

ACTIVE PLAY



- Standing up
- Moving around
- Active toys

School age 5-12 years

1-3
hours
ACROSS THE DAY

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



- Try activities that make breathing quicker and your heart beat faster:
- Fast walking
 - Riding a bike or scooter
 - Organised sport



MAKE HEALTHY NORMAL

This resource has been developed by Western Sydney Local Health District, published October 2017

choose HEALTHY SNACKS

Healthy snacks are important to help meet children's nutrition needs. Choose snacks based on vegetables, fruit, milk, cheese, yoghurt and wholegrain breads, crackers and cereals.

WHAT IS A HEALTHY SNACK?

INCLUDE FRESH FOODS & WHOLEGRAIN VARIETIES AS SNACKS



MAKE HEALTHY NORMAL

This resource has been developed by Western Sydney Local Health District, published October 2017



Making It Happen – *for children with disabilities inc.*

201 The Ponds Boulevard, THE PONDS NSW 2769 Ph: 02 9269 2470 Fax: 02 9629 5461

CFN# 23693, ABN: 35861017320, INC# INC1400684, www.facebook.com/makingithappenforchildreninc

Father's Day Stall

This year we had a very successful Father's Day Stall. All the children had a great time participating in shopping at the stall. We had a great range of items this year and some bonus items, which were donated by Woolworths at The Ponds and from Bunnings at Rouse Hill. We hope all the dads, grandads and carers had a great Father's Day.

Priceline

Recently Priceline at The Ponds held a competition and three charities were involved. When shoppers spent over \$10 they were given a token to place into a jar for a charity. We are pleased to announce that Making it Happen for children with disabilities won the \$500 prize. Thank you to The Ponds community for supporting the charity.

Board Members

We have a new board, which was nominated and seconded at our AGM.

Chairperson	Rachel Privitera
Secretary	Pat Jonas
Vice Chairperson	Simone Tierney
Treasurer	Gabrielle Koles
Public Officer	Leonie Donaldson

Facebook

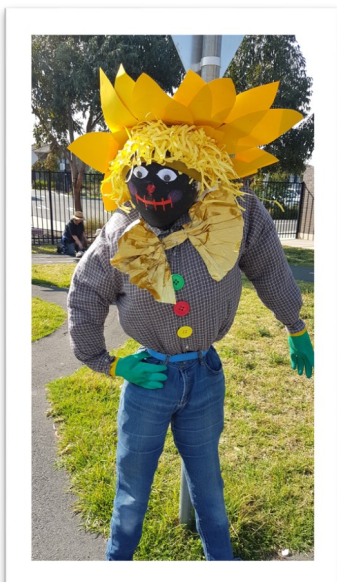
There is a Parent's Group on Facebook—have you joined? Search for parents/carers of The Ponds School. Tell us who your child is and we will add you to the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/914501605290876/?ref=bookmarks>

Meetings

Making it Happen - for children with disabilities inc meets every month to discuss what we are doing to help our families and the kids from The Ponds School. We would love you to come and join us and we would love more families to become members of the charity. There are lots of ways you can help and contribute to the charity, so come and learn what we are all about.

We meet on the first Monday of the month at 9.15am in demountable 20 (near the buses). The next meeting is on the 15th October.



A taste of our class scarecrows from our Farmer Fundraiser

A few more of our scarecrows....



The Hills School PLUS NDIS Open Session

You are invited to an NDIS session
Tuesday 25 September 2018
 7.00pm
 at The Hills School
 Mary Street, Northmead

Presenters are Antoinette Hogan and Peta Rogers
 Local Area Coordinators from NDIS Uniting

Please RSVP to The Hills School on
 9639-8448 or 9639-7334
 by Friday 21 September 2018



SUMMITDISABILITY
NETWORK

KOALA BASEBALL LEAGUE is a baseball competition for people with disabilities. Run by Summit Disability Network, the League forms teams within the Hills District Baseball Association and applies modified rules. Games are held Saturday mornings at local grounds within the Hills District starting October.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT **BERNIE** ON **0412 697 045**

To register your interest visit www.summitdisability.org.au/baseball and complete the registration form. For all other enquiries email admin@summitdisability.org.au.



FREE ENTRY



**nepean
DISABILITY
expo**

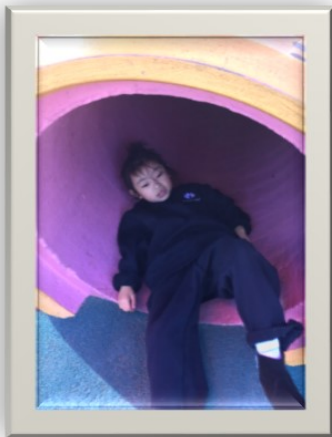
Fri 14th & Sat 15th, September 2018
 Exhibition Marquee, Penrith Panthers

RealChoice

#NepeanDisabilityExpo | Register Now
www.disabilityexpo.org.au

Class 4

This term, Class 4 have been going on weekly excursions to Livvi's Place in Kellyville. The students are learning to be safe while on the bus by wearing their seatbelts, and in the playground by playing safely on the playground equipment. The students are getting more confident each week and are now going down the slides, playing the musical instruments and climbing through the tunnels independently. We are looking forward to the summer months when we will be able to play in the water playground, which has tipping buckets and water spouts.



Class 4 have also been keeping active in the swimming pool. The students have made significant gains during Swim School, and the students are entering and exiting the pool, walking across the pool and treading water all on their own.



That's all from Class 4. We are looking forward to the many exciting things yet to come. Mia, Narelle, Zainab, Jasmine, Madeleine and Lara.

Class 13

Class 13 has enjoyed a busy term. We have been learning about Natural Disasters and have had fun making mini earthquake models and our own exploding volcanoes. We have watched cyclones, floods and storms, and have spent time learning about the drought that affects our farmers today. We named our scarecrow Cheryl Crow and look forward to seeing her represent Class 13 in our Farmer's Fundraiser. On top of all the fun, we were lucky enough to celebrate two birthdays this term – Happy Birthday Logan and James!

