




What's On

Fri, 27 Sep	Variety Day		CARE
Fri, 27 Sep	Last day of Term 3		LEARN
Mon, 14 Oct	Back to school for Term 4		BE SAFE
Tues, 15 Oct	Whole school photo		

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term three seems to have flown by! This time, one term ago, you were receiving your child's first semester report. Learning, being Safe and Caring remain our focus areas.

This term we have celebrated: Do Something Day, Education Week, Book Week, Author Visit, MADD at The Ponds High School, Preparing for Life Expo and Bus Tour, SASS Recognition week, Father's Day stall, Bush Dancing, Official Opening of our TAG Café, Immunisation for Years 7 and 10, The Signing Choir performing at Ridges Performing Arts Festival, Northcott Junior Athletics Carnival and many more fantastic learning opportunities. Many students have been participating in a range of community access, STEM lessons, hydrotherapy, Movement Skills and Music Engagement. Thank you to the parents that shared in these events and paid fees for their child to participate.

The staff have engaged in many Professional Learning opportunities throughout the term. As such, we have had many visitors from the Department of Education out to see the great education we provide in a safe and caring environment where students are known, valued and cared for.

By the beginning of term four we will have welcomed three more families to The Ponds School. We are also farewelling one family and wish them the best for the future.

Tell Them from Me Parent Survey

This term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement. Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements. The survey is conducted entirely online via smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is entirely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between now and 25 October. Although participation in the survey is voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>. The survey is available in 23 languages. To access the survey for our school go to <http://tellthemfromme.com/theponds5765>

Further information in regards to this survey is available later in this newsletter

Athletics Carnival

Unfortunately, due to the weather last week our oval is still too wet underfoot for us to hold our Athletics Carnival on Wednesday. It will be rescheduled in Term 4. You will be notified of the new date when it is set.

Amazing Achievers and PBL Assembly

On Thursday we celebrated all students that have achieved one of their Personalised Learning Plan Goals. These students received an Amazing Achievers ribbon. Students that have achieved five stamp charts or one hundred Dojo points received a PBL certificate. When students receive five certificates they are presented with a Bronze Bag Tag.

Congratulations to all our Amazing Achievers, PBL Certificate winners and Bag Tag recipients. We are proud of you for achieving your goals and being safe, caring and learning.

Go Red for Variety Fundraiser

The Ponds School will be holding a fundraiser for Variety, The Children's Charity on **Friday, 27 September** (last day of term). Variety have supported The Ponds School by providing a bus, a Liberty Swing and access to events such as Ice Skating and The Variety Children's Christmas Party. Money raised supports kids who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs. Variety's work allows kids to gain mobility, get out and about in the community, communicate, achieve independence and increase their self-esteem.

To assist fundraising, your child can **wear red clothing** on the day and **bring in a gold coin donation**. There will be **heart shaped biscuits to decorate** on the day. Thank you in advance for supporting this great cause.

Whole School Photo

Due to rain our whole school photo has been postponed until Tuesday 15th October at 2pm.

Sun Safe Shade Sails for The Ponds School

We are very excited to inform and thank our community for supporting the My Community Project by voting for **Sun Safe Shade Sails for The Ponds School**. We have been successful in the public vote. Together with our amazing sponsors, Blacktown The Ponds Lions Club, we distributed leaflets on how to vote at shopping centres and conducted letter box drops. We will be receiving \$86,554. We hope the shade sails will be erected over our inner playground by the beginning of 2020. Thank you to The Ponds School Community for voting, Class 17 for letterbox dropping and everyone for promoting this to family and friends.

School Spectacular

As you know we are very proud that seven members of our Signing Choir will be performing at the School Spectacular. They would love your support. If you have not already done so please purchase a ticket to attend on either Friday 22nd November or Saturday 23rd September. It will be a great show!

School Disco

Please put Friday 15th November in your diary. The Ponds School will be having a disco from 5pm – 7pm. You can dress up or dress as your favourite character. There will be a DJ, great decorations and a sausage sizzle. Everyone is welcome!

Enjoy the break and take time to do the things that make you happy! Looking forward to seeing happy faces on students and staff on Monday 14th October, the first day of school for term 4.

Be Kind

Regards

Leonie Donaldson
Principal

Tell Them From Me parent survey Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between now and 25 October. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>. To access the survey for our school go to <http://tellthemfromme.com/theponds5765>

Please find further information in regards to this survey within the newsletter

The survey is available in 23 languages.

Tell Them From Me parent survey Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

1. What is the **Partners in Learning** parent survey?

The *Partners in Learning* parent survey is part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys on student engagement. The parent survey helps to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between parent and school.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights from the parent point of view at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

2. What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey questions aim to understand parents' perspectives on their child's experience at school, including teaching, communication and the school's support of learning and behaviour. The survey also aims to understand parents' perspectives on activities and practices at home related to their child's learning.

The survey will ask parents questions about:

Parents feel welcome	Parents are informed	Parents support learning at home
School supports positive behaviour	Safety	Inclusion
Communication preferences	Parents' participation at school	School supports learning

3. How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open to all NSW government schools at no cost to them. Your school has decided to participate.

4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The parent survey provides school principals and school leaders with parents' perspectives on their school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home, and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour help build an accurate and timely picture that schools can use for practical improvements.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

5. How does the parent survey relate to the student survey?

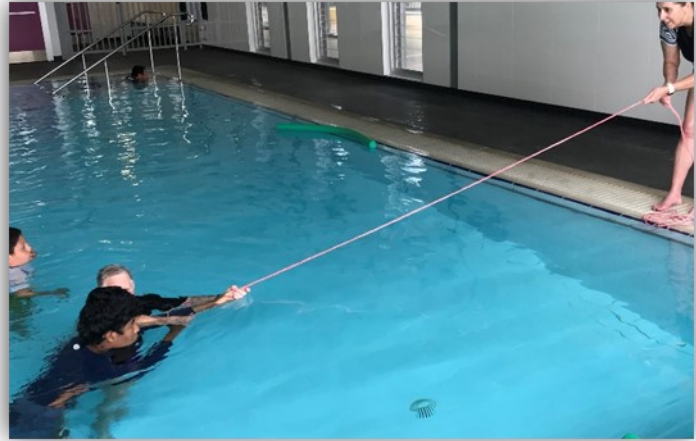
The parent survey is complementary to the *Tell Them From Me* student survey that your child may have been asked to complete. These surveys are offered (along with a teacher survey) to ensure schools can capture the views of students, teachers and parents.

For more detail on each of the surveys, see the survey website: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/>

6. What do I need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes 15 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, *The Learning Bar*. You can complete the surveys on desktop computers, laptops, iPads, tablets and smartphones. You will be provided with a link to complete the survey at home or your school may make computers available so that you can complete the survey during school hours. This link will be distributed to you by your school during Term 3.

Class 14

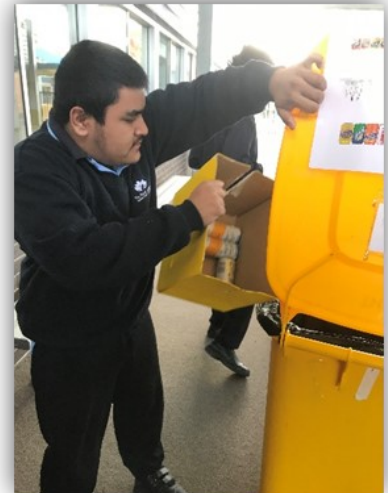


Term 3 has been an exciting time continuing with all our life skills activities.

We have extended our morning walks to outside the school grounds, continuing with bike riding and working on life saving skills in swimming. Our school recycling collection has been going well with our regular visits to Schofield Recycling Centre and also taking our paper shredding to Kellyville Pets.

Next term we are looking at bushwalking in Cumberland State Forest and preparing great foods in cooking to share with other classes. We hope everyone has a great and safe 2 week holiday and look forward to seeing everyone in Term 4.

Aswinii, Hans, Jaden and James



Over the holidays—stay safe and have fun

Class 15

Class 15 have been busy with Froggy food spot preparing and serving food for the school community. During our weekly visit to the kitchen Jordan, Glenn, Rayyan, Ben and Joseph participate in making food items and setting up ready to serve their school peers.

This session is a great learning experience for all students across the school. They are able to develop communication skills, practice turn taking and simple mathematical skills such as exchanging money for goods, counting and sorting money.

Class 15 appreciate everyone's orders as we develop our life skills.



PBL News!

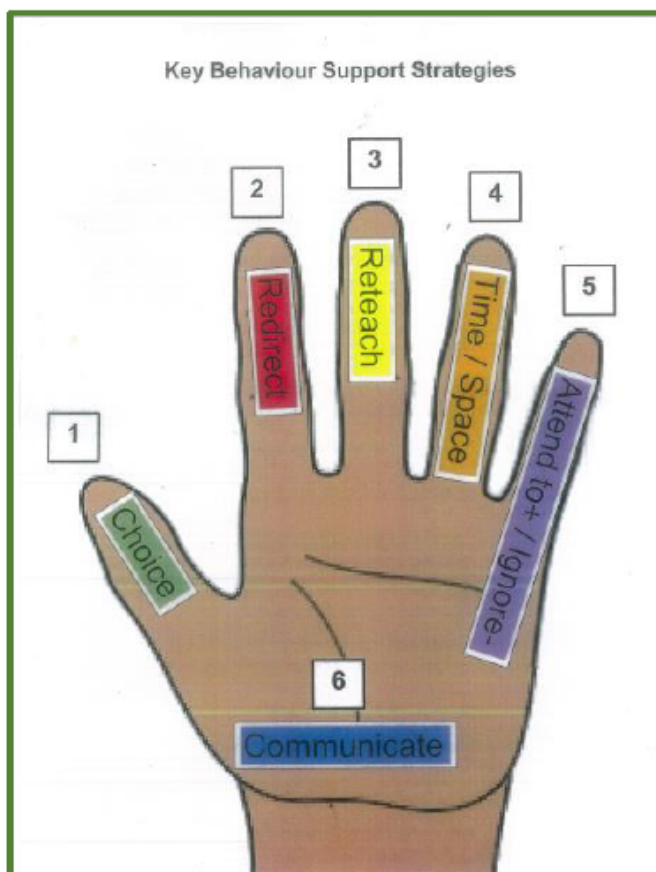
Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)



Key Behaviour Support Strategies

As part of our 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' framework, we use six Key Behaviour Support Strategies at The Ponds School. They include giving choices, redirecting, reteaching, providing time and space, attending to positive rather than negative behaviour and communicating clearly at all times. These strategies are summarised on a 'hand' poster which acts as a reminder to all staff members while supporting student behaviour at school and in the community.

The six Key Behaviour Support Strategies as explained below, are effective in promoting positive behaviour and can be used by different people across different settings.



Key Behaviour Support Strategies

1. Give choice
2. Redirect
3. Reteach
4. Time and space
5. Attend - positive / ignore - negative
6. Communicate

PBL News!

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)



Key Behaviour Support Strategies

1. Give choice

Give the student a choice. This gives the child some control in a situation and teaches them to make decisions.

E.g. Would you like the blue cup or the pink one? You can put your shoes and hat on or you can stay inside?

2. Redirect

Redirect the student away from an inappropriate activity. Distract the child by redirecting them to a more appropriate activity.

E.g. Oh let's see what I have in this big box! Come over here and help me give the plants some water.

3. Reteach

Reteach a skill or expectation. Take the time to model the desired, positive behaviour to the child. Show them exactly what you want to see.

E.g. I sit on my chair. I shake hands with my friend. I dry my hands on the towel.

4. Time and space

Give the student time and space to calm down. There is no point in trying to reason with a child who is significantly upset or in a state of 'meltdown'.

5. Attend to positive / Ignore negative

Attend to positive behaviour and ignore negative behaviour where possible. Give loads of positive feedback when the child is doing the right thing.

E.g. hi-fives, smiles, clapping, verbal praise.

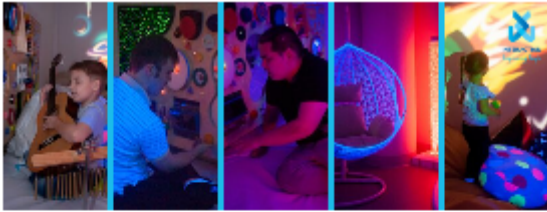
Try not to give any extra attention to the child who is doing the wrong thing.

E.g. Stay calm, keep a neutral expression and don't make eye-contact while directing them to clean up a mess or pick up something they have thrown on the floor – just keep repeating the instruction.

6. Communicate

Support all verbal communication with a combination of picture symbols, key word signs and physical prompts as needed. Describe the behaviour you wish to see and do not use too many words. Keep it simple and to the point.

E.g. lunch box in tub, feet on the floor, wash hands



KIDS GARDENING CLASSES

Gardening with kids has so many benefits – learning about plants, trying new things, increased physical activity and taking responsibility to care for something on their own.

In a **FREE** interactive workshop that focuses on BEES, kids will be able to Plant, Explore and Learn about gardening and the important role bees play in our ecosystem.

All materials will be provided on the day and kids will be able to take home one potted seedling.

Who? Suitable for kids aged 12 and under. Kids under 5 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

When? 11.00am Weekdays Monday 30 September to Friday 4 October and Tuesday 8 to Friday 12 October.

Where? At all 10 Flower Power Garden Centres.

Registration is not required but if you are thinking of bringing a large group please call the store ahead of time to give them a heads up.

Participating children can also receive one free kid's meal with the purchase of an adult meal at the in-store cafes!

This offer is only valid on the day of the gardening class. Not available at Mascot.

You're Invited to Interaction's Sensory Room Open Day!

It's Sensory September at Interaction Disability Services and you're invited to our upcoming Open Day and morning tea at our Bella Vista location! We will be opening the doors to our Sensory Room to share the benefits of our custom-built, specially designed space.

10am to 12pm
Friday 27th September 2019

Join us for morning tea, live demonstrations, bonus offers on all bookings, the opportunity to meet other clinical professionals as well as a **FREE** sensory gift!

Senior Psychologist Giselle Tadros will be presenting a discussion titled 'What is Sensory Processing, and how does it impact individuals with Autism Spectrum disorder?'

Registration is free, however spaces are limited. [Click here to secure your ticket.](#)

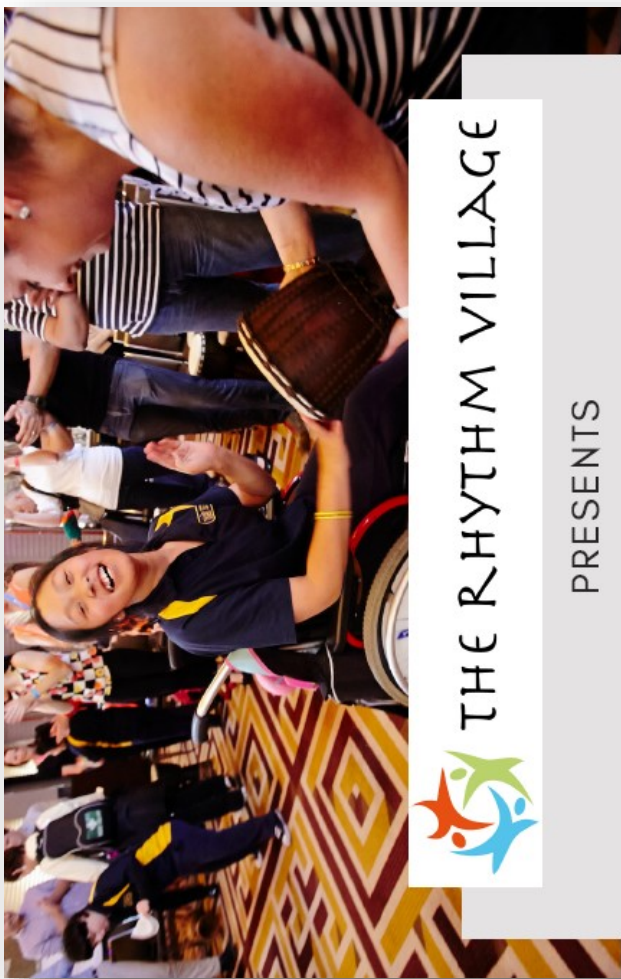
Questions? Call 1300 668 123 or email leisurelifestyle@interactionservices.org.

FREE

*We have kindly been donated
Dry Nites huggies GIRLS pull ups
8-15 Years (27-57KG).*

*Limited stock available.
Please see front office*





THE RHYTHM VILLAGE

PRESENTS

**School Holiday Music Workshops
for children with special needs
and their siblings**

Join us for a 1-hr interactive music workshop (10-11am) or stay on for our percussion making workshop (11:15am-12pm). Bring siblings along for a fun and exciting opportunity for bonding with one another through music and rhythm.



At Sydney Olympic Park

Tues 1st Oct - 10am - primary school aged children

Tues 8th Oct - 10am - secondary school aged children



Tickets are limited, so secure yours early:

1st Oct: <http://eventbrite.com.au/e/70868961973>

8th Oct: <http://eventbrite.com.au/e/72210548695>

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR 2019

SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

**QUDOS BANK ARENA
22 & 23 NOVEMBER 2019**

TICKETEK

MAJOR SPONSORS:

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:










VEHICLE PARTNER:

RECYCLE PARTNER:

Saturday Teen Club

WESTERN SYDNEY
October to December 2019

Saturday Teen Club is for teenagers aged 12 to 18 years who want to increase their social and community skills through new experiences; make new friends; and build their confidence - all while having fun!
Saturday Teen Club is delivered both in centre at Northcott Parramatta, and in the community.

 <p>Sat 19 Oct Cooking @ Northcott - Pizza subs and rocky road</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$15</p>	 <p>Sat 26 Oct Cinemas - Angry Birds</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$26</p>	 <p>Sat 2 Nov Picnic Lunch @ Goat Island via Parramatta Rivercat</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) Free</p>	 <p>Sat 9 Nov Kicks bowling and arcade games</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$20</p>
 <p>Sat 16 Nov Comic Book shopping @ The Comic Shop Liverpool</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$20 (spending money comics)</p>	 <p>Sat 23 Nov Scavenger hunt</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) Free</p>	 <p>Sat 30 Nov Teen Choice</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$30</p>	 <p>Sat 7 Dec Christmas exploring in the city</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) Free</p>
 <p>Sat 14 Dec Christmas Party @ Northcott</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$10</p>			

Please see reverse for terms and conditions

PARRAMATTA











Teen School Holiday Program

Northcott
Let's see what you can do

30 Sep – 11 Oct 2019
WESTERN SYDNEY

Our Teen School Holiday program is for teenagers who want to increase their social and community skills through new experiences, make new friends, gain new skills and build their confidence all while having fun.
The Teen School Holiday program is delivered during school holidays, both in centre at Northcott Parramatta and in the community.

The program runs from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

WEEK 1				
 <p>MON 30 SEP Holey Moley Putt Putt golf</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$15</p>	 <p>TUE 1 OCT Picnic lunch at Canada Bay via Parramatta Rivercat</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) Free</p>	 <p>WED 2 OCT BBQ, movies and games day @ Northcott</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$10</p>	 <p>THU 13 OCT Luna Park</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$50</p>	 <p>FRI 4 OCT Cinemas - movie TBC</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$26</p>
WEEK 2				
 <p>MON 7 OCT Closed for Labour Day</p>	 <p>TUE 8 OCT Picnic @ Watson Bay</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) Free</p>	 <p>WED 9 OCT Bowling and arcade games</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$16</p>	 <p>THU 10 OCT Sydney Zoo</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) TBC</p>	 <p>FRI 11 OCT Pizza, movies and games day @ Northcott</p> <p>Northcott Parramatta (\$) \$10</p>

(\$) Indicates out of pocket expenses (not including NDIS cost)

Please see reverse for terms and conditions



Therapy

Northcott
Let's see what you can do



Therapy services



Occupational therapy



Speech pathology



Physiotherapy



Dietitian

Therapy support to realise potential

Northcott's Therapy team are experienced and high skilled professionals who provide a range of therapy services that cater to the needs of children, teenagers and adults with disability. Our specialised services offer caring and effective support to our customers and their families, to enable them to achieve their goals.

What you will get from this service

- Support to navigate your way through the disability system
- Therapy is provided in an environment which is most effective for working to achieve goals
- The option to work in 1:1 and group settings
- Holistic and personalised support from a therapy team
- Capacity building opportunities for you and your carers
- A team of fully accredited, experienced and committed specialists

In-home and Community Support

Northcott
Let's see what you can do



Support for independence



Flexibility



Personal care



Community access



Individualised support

Enabling independence for the whole family

Northcott's In-Home and Community Support service offers tailored and flexible support to people with disability of all ages and their families or carers. Customers can choose when and where they receive individual support with activities such as personal care, social outings, transport, shopping, doctors appointments and cooking.

What you can access with us

In-home Support

Our tailored service provides support to people with disability in their homes so they can develop skills and build independence.

A customer is paired with a trained worker who can meet their support needs and take pressure off family members. We offer:

- Flexibility around what support is required, and when and how to ensure you meet your NDIS goals - giving customers and families more control
- Assistance with meal preparation and light domestic chores (these chores will only be undertaken in relation to other supports offered e.g. cleaning up after meal preparation or personal care)
- Overnight support in a customer's home

Community Support

We provide one-on-one support so people with disability of all ages can participate in social activities in their local communities. We offer:

- Exposure to everyday situations and community interactions so customers can develop a sense of familiarity and confidence to complete tasks themselves
- Opportunities for customers to form connections with people outside their support network
- 'Me time' - customers to spend time away from family in order to build a sense of freedom and independence