





What's On

Tues, 17 Sep	Whole school photo		
Wed, 25 Sep	School Athletics Carnival		
Thurs, 26 Sep	Amazing Achiever and PBL Assembly		
Fri, 27 Sep	Variety Day Last day of Term 3		
Mon, 14 Oct	Back to school for Term 4		

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Ridges Festival

On Monday, 2 September, over 800 students from surrounding schools performed at the Ridges Performing Arts festival at Hillsong in Bella Vista. The Ponds School Signing Choir performed two songs; True Colours and Brave. All participants did a great job and were given a standing ovation. The behaviour of the students throughout the festival was exemplary. Congratulations to the students, parents and staff that support the students to be the best they can be.

We are looking forward to the School Spectacular rehearsals starting next week.

Official Opening of the TAG Café

On Tuesday, 10 September we held the Official Opening of our TAG Café. I was able to welcome and thank the amazing contributors that have assisted in the development and creation of the wonderful TAG Café!

- Thank you to all the staff from TAG who generously donated the proceeds of their Annual Golf Day to our school so we could make the dream of having a café where our students will gain skills that they will be able to use for the rest of their lives. We are preparing students for life beyond school. Thank you TAG for making a positive difference to the lives of our students
- Thank you to Emma Krikitos, Director, Educational Leadership, The Ponds Network. Without the fast tracking of this project we would not be sitting in our Café today
- Thank you to Liam and Allison Holland - CSC Salvation Army, who have provided the coffee cart and instruction on how to use it to our students. Our students will be making coffee and developing their hospitality skills at the Cafe every Tuesday morning – please do not hesitate to tell your friends and drop by for a coffee and/or something sweet to eat
- Thank you to Sonja and Dom, from Rouse Hill Bunnings, who donated tables and chairs.



- Thank you to our wonderful Drivers Ross, Mark, Ray and Deb that assisted last holidays when we had a working bee and assist whenever the need arises. We are lucky to have you as part of our community
- Thank you to the parents and carers that have supported the Café since its initial inception
- Thank you to Alan, our fantastic General Assistant, who made all this just happen seamlessly
- Thank you to our staff who teach our students skills that will enhance their lives daily

It really does take a community to make a positive and lasting impact to the next generation. I hope in the future our students will be working in cafés or in hospitality, and we will know and remember where it all began. Gerry Baker from TAG was shown the plaque to commemorate the Official Opening and cut the ribbon. Don't forget to visit the TAG Café, which is open on Tuesday mornings from 9am – 10am during school terms.

Thank you also to the wonderful drivers - Mark, Ray and Ross, who donated a Woolworths Gift Card to the school to pay for the ingredients that go into making the sweet treats that can be purchased at the Café.

Whole School photo

On Tuesday, 17th September at 2pm, students from The Ponds High School who have been completing a drone course at TAFE will be visiting our school to take a whole school photo in the inner playground. We look forward to seeing our 2019 whole school photo.

Athletics Carnival

On Wednesday, 25th September, The Ponds School will be holding our annual Athletics Carnival. Parents and Carers are welcome to attend. It will begin at 11.30am and finish by 1.30pm. Pacific Hills and The Ponds High School students will be assisting our students. Please dress your child in their house colour.

- Kookaburras – Blue
- Koalas – Red
- Emus – Yellow
- Echidnas - Green

PBL and Amazing Achievers Assembly

On Thursday, 26th September we will be holding our Amazing Achievers Assembly starting at 9am. Letters will be coming home to inform you if your child will be receiving an award.

Variety Day

On Friday, 27th September we will be raising money for Variety – the Children's Charity. Variety have assisted many students at our school and have provided the school with a bus and our Liberty Swing. We will all be wearing red, bringing a gold coin donation and decorating heart shaped biscuits on the day.

Future dates

- Tuesday, 17th September Schools Spectacular Rehearsal
- 2pm Tuesday, 17th September – Whole school photo in the inner playground
- Thursday, 19th September - Class 1 Ice Skating
- Wednesday, 25th September – The Ponds School Athletics Carnival. Pacific Hills and The Ponds High School students assisting
- Thursday, 26th September – Amazing Achiever and PBL Assembly
- Friday, 27th September – Variety Day
- Friday, 27th September – last day of Term 3
- Monday, 14th October – back to School for Term 4 (staff and students)

Regards

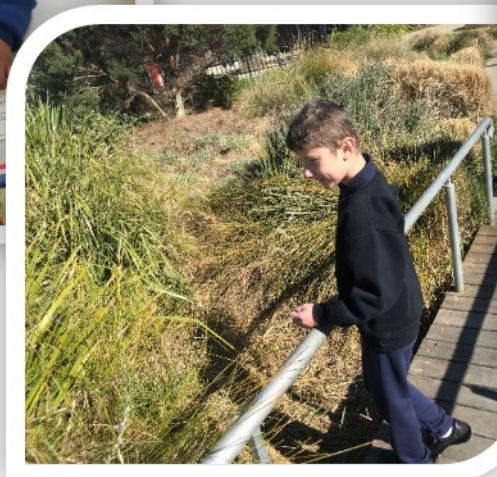
Leonie Donaldson
Principal

Class 7

Class 7 has had so much fun this term! We have been very busy learning and trying new things. Our favourite Key Learning Area this term is PDHPE. Each week we get to go walking in our community, cook healthy foods, swim in the hydrotherapy pool, enjoy athletics with Class 3 and visit the Sensory Garden. We are so busy keeping our bodies happy and healthy.

Thanks for reading!

From Imogen, Alverein, Noah, Dieter, Aliah, Brittney and Viana.



Class 12



Alex, Banjo, Isabella, Jorjah, Mace and Pierre in Class 12 have had an amazing Term 3 so far. We have been enjoying our weekly Hydrotherapy sessions, shopping trips to The Ponds Shopping Centre to buy ingredients for our Friday cooking class, visiting the school library and spending time riding our big bikes and super cool dirt scooters in the bike track.

Some secrets about us – we are meat and noodle monsters - we love meats, especially ham, bacon, chicken, and also noodles. All the dishes we choose to cook on Fridays are the yummiest ever – we have made burgers, sausage rolls, meatball spaghetti, noodle pancakes, zucchini and bacon pasta and many more.

During maths this term we have learnt about 3D shapes and fractions; during science we explore life cycles; during technology class with Alicia we have built a LEGO tadpole and froglet! We love Drama and Art with Elsabe and dance class on Fridays with AJ and Margaret.

Our highlight of Term 3 so far was an excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park in Doonside where we participated in an educational lesson, practised our money skills ordering treats in the Zoo Café and got to feed kangaroos.

We have participated in the Book Parade for Educational Week and an Enviromentors session on how to care about our environment and what rubbish to recycle.

We are looking forward to participating in all the activities our school is organising for us in Semester 2, for example Movement Skills!

Alex, Banjo, Isabella, Jorjah, Mace, Pierre and teachers – Danielle and Margaret





The Ponds School
Believe Learn Achieve

Sadly, due to lack of response, we are cancelling our Bush Dance that was to be held this coming Friday, 13 September. However, as our students had so much fun at the practice, we are rescheduling it as an incursion on a school day around the end of October and will invite parents/grandparents to join us then. Watch out for further information early next term...

Northcott Athletics Carnival



Ridges Festival of the Arts

The Ponds School Signing Choir

Our Signing Choir students worked very hard throughout the year and performed on various occasions, proudly representing our school at The TAG Financial Charity Golf Day, The Ponds School celebration assemblies, Education week celebrations at Castle Towers and at The Ponds High School MADD Night.

This week they performed at The Ridges Festival of the Arts and received a standing ovation from a very appreciative crowd. What a great night it was, celebrating their hard work by taking part in a community organised event, alongside their peers. Our students performed two beautiful songs and watched the rest of the show in awe.

Our performing arts students reap many benefits from taking part in these activities such as integrating into the community, learning to communicate using Auslan, performing with their peers from mainstream schools, learning to travel safely and basking in the attention and praise they deserve.

We are looking forward to performing at The Schools Spectacular on the 21st and 22nd of November!





A huge thank you to these very generous drivers who donated a Woollies gift card to our Café operators.

It will be utilised to purchase ingredients for our delicious sweet surprises on sale each week.

INFORMATION SESSION INVITATION

At DSA Employment Solutions we understand that finding and keeping a job can sometimes be a challenge.

DSA can help you discover, explore and reach your employment goals through available supports such as

- School Leaver Employment Support (SLES)
- Finding and keeping a job
- Disability Employment Services (DES)
- Supported Learning and more...

To learn more, come along to our Information Session.

Dates: **Friday, 13th September**
Time: **10am -12pm (includes morning tea)**
Location: **Eastbrook Building, Suite 1, Level 1, 112 Main Street, Blacktown NSW 2148**
RSVP **Wednesday, 11th September**

If you can't make it at this time, call us to organise a time that suits you.

We're here to support you to choose your future and we'll be with you as you take that first step.



Your local NDIS provider



Learning Hubs



Living Skills



Flexible Learning



Employability Skills



Travel Training



Ideas for Healthy Snacks

SNIPPETS for your families. Pop this in your newsletters and on your social media pages to spread the wellbeing messages.

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.

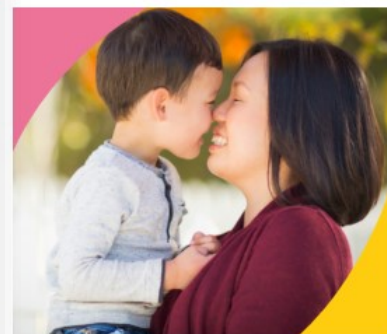
TIPS TO PLAN HEALTHY SNACKS

<p>Include a vegetable and fruit snack each day</p>	<p>Add vegetables into homemade snacks (mUFFins, pikelets, scones and slices)</p>	<p>Cut up vegetables and fruits so they are easier to eat for snacks during the week</p>
<p>Keep a range of healthy snacks in the fridge and pantry</p>	<p>Get your kids to help prepare snacks</p>	<p>Show kids you enjoy eating healthy snacks</p>

New Australian Government Carer Gateway Counselling Service - CatholicCare

CatholicCare are launching the new Australian Government Carer Gateway Counselling Service nationally following a successful pilot program.

The service provides phone-based counselling for carers and is designed to operate alongside the Carers Australia in-person counselling program to enable carers to have a choice of counselling delivery.



Caring for a friend or relative can be complicated.

The new carer phone counselling service can help you manage daily challenges and ease stress and strain.

Call us to find out more...

1800 422 737

8am to 6pm weekdays



Helping carers manage stress and daily challenges



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

SATURDAY PROGRAM – NOVEMBER 2019

Open to participants up to 17 years

McCall Gardens will charge your child's NDIS plan for the staff cost

Booking essential for some programs as numbers are capped

2nd NOV 2019 9am -2pm	9TH NOV 2019 10am -2.30pm	16TH NOV 2019 9am -2pm	23RD NOV 2019 10am -2.30pm	30TH NOV 2019 9am -2pm
				
The Shine Shed All Abilities indoor play centre	Arts, Craft and Games In Centre Activities at the Box Hill Site	Putt Putt Golf Fun activity for kids of all ages at Thornleigh	Cooking Lets cook lunch today – Pizza and afternoon team banana bread.	Outdoor Games and Park Day Games and fun at a local Park for the day
\$16.50 to cover activities cost Please bring pack lunch box for the day and a water bottle	\$5.00 to cover activities cost Please bring pack lunch box for the day and a water bottle	\$14 to cover activities cost Please bring pack lunch box for the day and a water bottle	\$10.00 (Meals Supplied)	Free – Please bring pack lunch box for the day and a water bottle

Contact us today to find out more
Community Participation Hub, 10-32 Terry Rd, Box Hill NSW 2765
t: (02) 9679 1031 e: admin@mccallgardens.org.au
www.mccallgardens.com.au




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Variety Community Connects

A **FREE** information event hosted by Variety – the Children's Charity to help families who have a child with a disability or chronic illness to secure their future.



Brydens Lawyers will support families to find out more about:

What is a Will and what happens if there isn't one?

Appointing a guardian

Appointing a trustee and their role

Succession planning

Bequests to children

Education and care of children with a disability

Medical treatment decisions for children with a disability

Variety Community Connects is a supportive and safe event. All information shared by families will remain confidential.

Brydens Lawyers and the Variety Kids Support team will be available after the presentation for further questions or other support.

Who: Parents and Carers who have a child with a disability or chronic illness

Where: Holroyd School, Wilara Avenue, Merrylands NSW 2160

When: Tuesday 24 September 10am –12pm

Cost: Free

Register: <https://www.variety.org.au/nsw/community-connects-holroyd-school/> or call 02 9819 1000

There will be light refreshments available for all guests.

