



Dear Parents and Friends of St Mary MacKillop School,

Our school constantly strives to be:

A Christ centered community which challenges students to develop their unique gifts and talents through a supportive partnership of school, parents and parish.

This year we have created new, really dynamic teams of staff to work together in delivering our school vision for your child. In each edition of KIT this term I will introduce the teaching teams as there are new faces and new grades for many of our team.

Delivering our mission for each and every student at our school is a huge undertaking. The classroom teachers alone would not be able to deliver the quality we want for our children. For this reason we have teams of support teachers at St Mary MacKillop to provide specialised teaching that enhances the work in the classrooms.

To provide the resource of time for our leadership team to direct and guide the school without compromising the learning for our students, we have a team of very experienced teachers that step in and take over the teaching role every week for our leaders. Mrs Aliberti does an amazing job of teaching Year 2 and Kindergarten each week so that the children maintain their routines and continue to grow at such a critical time of their lives. Mrs Bizzanelli dedicates a huge amount of time in planning and discussing student learning so that when she teaches 3T every Thursday the children maintain their learning progress. Mrs Woodhead is supporting 4J every Thursday, 'freeing up' Mrs Joseph to lead mathematics in our school. The teaching program continues seamlessly across the week for the children.

To ensure that **all** students are challenged to develop their unique gifts and talents, we have a 'diversity team' that supports classroom teachers to be successful with the wide variety of learners in their classes. Mrs McDonald is the teacher responsible for the Reading Recovery program in Year One and the Targeted Learning Partnership program in Year 5 as well as working alongside classroom teachers to meet the children's needs. Mrs Milgate supports a broad range of programs across the school and demonstrates amazing flexibility as she teaches across half a dozen different learning spaces each week. Mrs Laffan is a key support for the teachers in grades 3-6. She brings her knowledge of student learning and experience as a classroom practitioner to bear in designing and delivering specific learning opportunities for many of our children.

Our children at St Mary MacKillop, have such diverse and rich gifts and talents that we have a team of curriculum specialists that deliver our creative arts and physical education programs to the children. By employing these teachers as specialists, it allows classroom teachers to focus more deeply on student learning in key areas of the curriculum. Each week Mrs Viski delivers the drama component of creative arts to classes, Miss Carey teaches the dance component to classes and Mrs Borg engages the student learning in the area of music. By the end of the year, our children have been able to access high quality teaching and learning in each of these specialist areas. Mrs Woodhead teaches the Physical Education curriculum to every class each week. She engages every student in our school in challenging and engaging activities to build their talents in sports and their appreciation of a healthy lifestyle. Each of these teams is a genuine cooperative team that do amazing things for our kids and are a priceless support for our classroom teachers.

Staffing News

We had the great news last year that Mrs Milgate and her husband are expecting a beautiful addition to their family in 2019. Congratulations to Ashlea and Michael from everyone here at St Mary MacKillop. We wish you all the very best as you move to this next chapter of your lives together. Mrs Milgate will take leave from the end of this term.

Mrs Tredinnick is also welcoming a new member to her family next term. We wish Jess, Geoff and Tegan much joy and happiness. Mrs Tredinnick will commence leave in the second week of next term. May the time ahead be exciting and blessed.

Welcome back to Mr McErlain. After a well earned term of Long Service Leave, Mr McErlain will re-join our community at the start of next term. We have all missed him this year.

Learning Mandarin at St Mary MacKillop - (Repeat from last edition)

Unfortunately this year we were unable to continue our Italian After-School language classes. However, we have another terrific opportunity. I have approached another organisation named, "Mandarin Stars" to consider running classes of an afternoon here. They are very excited to become part of our community and bring the opportunity for our kids at St Mary MacKillop to learn another language. They are prepared to offer after school classes K-6 to learn Mandarin and bit about Chinese culture.

More information about this after school opportunity is contained in this edition of the newsletter or can be obtained from the school office.

Together We Grow
 Mr Scott Buchan - Principal

News from the Assistant Principal

Winter Uniform

Students can choose between Full Summer or Full Winter uniform for the first 2 weeks of Term 2. All students must be in full winter uniform from the start of Week 3 (Monday 13th May)

Change of Sport Days

Please note that commencing Term 2 students will wear their sports uniform on the following days:

Mondays: Year 2, Kindergarten and 5H

Tuesdays Year 1 and Year 6

Wednesdays: Year 3, Year 4 and 5J

Wishing all our families a wonderful and safe Easter.

Mrs Margaret Rowan
Assistant Principal

Hair with a Heart

Amalia in 3H would like to help children in need. Her and her Mum, Justine, will be chopping off their hair to donate it to the charity, 'Hair with Heart' in May. Their hair will then be used to make wigs for children who are sick. This is some of what Amalia had to say:

"We (Amalia and her Mum, Justine) want to make a difference to the lives of families in need, by cutting and donating our hair to be made into wigs for someone who has lost their hair due to a medical condition.

"I will be chopping off 36cm and my Mum will be chopping of 40cm around May 1st.

"Wigs cost families up to \$6,000, lasting 1-2 years, meaning families can spend tens of thousands of dollars on the purchase of wigs throughout a child's youth. By making a donation to Variety - the Children's Charity, we can help provide a wig and other equipment to children in need."

If you would like to donate to support Amalia and her Mum and this great cause, here is the link:

<https://hairwithheart.everydayhero.com/au/amalia-justine-s-big-chop>



The Season of Lent

As we move closer towards the end of Lent it is the opportune time to reflect on our personal preparation for the resurrection of Christ at Easter. We ask ourselves: Are we growing in our relationship with God through regular prayer and works of love? We acknowledge that we are human and make wrong choices, but are comforted by the knowledge that God loves us unconditionally.

Pope Francis' Words:

Do you want to fast this Lent?

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



Project Compassion - Mufti Day (Thursday 11th April)

Thank you for all the donations so far, it has been wonderful to see the children putting their compassion into action this Lent by supporting the 2019 **Project Compassion Appeal**. The money raised will help many people in need.

To further increase our school donation to Project compassion, the P & F have suggested that the students should have a gold coin mufti day so.....

2019 Project Compassion: Mufti Day - Thursday 11th April

On this day the children can wear appropriate casual clothing to school and bring a gold coin donation to place in their class Project Compassion Box.

As Pope Francis said, "The future does have a name... and its name is hope."

Lives change when we all give 100%.

Project Compassion: Fifth Week of Lent (7/4/19) - Salma from Bangladesh



Salma was just 18 years old, pregnant and fearful for her life and that of her unborn child, when she featured in Project Compassion 2013. In Bangladesh, maternal and infant mortality rates are tragically high. During her first pregnancy, Salma was very sick and in distress, she sought the help of a midwife trained by Caritas' Safe Motherhood Program. Six years on, she's now a healthy mother of two strong, happy children. Salma is committed to giving her children the education they need to provide them with the future she hoped for.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help reduce infant mortality rates in countries like Bangladesh and provide hope to pregnant women in remote communities for happy and healthy families.

Sixth Week of Lent (14/4/19) - Nguyet from Vietnam



Nguyet is a teenager living with a disability in a small town in Vietnam. Living with a disability was challenging, her early years were subdued and solitary. Since featuring in Project Compassion 2017 Nguyet has successfully built her own business, a dream that has become a reality with the support of Caritas Australia. Connected to the world in new ways, Nguyet has become independent, an important member of her community and has great hope for her future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and give children living with disabilities in Vietnam the opportunity for an education and inclusion in their community.

Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Religious Education News—Continued

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (commonly called Confession, Reconciliation, the Sacrament of Healing or Penance) is one of seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. Penance is a sacrament instituted by Christ in which forgiveness of sins (wrong choices) committed after Baptism is granted through the priest's absolution to those who with true sorrow confess their sins and promise to try to do better in the future. It is called a "sacrament" not simply a ceremony, because it is an outward sign instituted by Christ to impart grace to the soul.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the most unique aspects of Catholicism. Jesus Christ, in His abundant love and mercy, established the Sacrament of Confession, so that we as sinners can obtain forgiveness for our sins and reconcile with God and the Church. The Sacrament “washes us clean,” and renews us in Christ.

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained’ “ (John 20:21-23)

Congratulations to the following students who will make their First Reconciliation on Thursday 4th April:

Evan B, Jordan B, Grace B, Matthew B, Ashlinn B, Amelia C, Giacomo C, Jackson C, Brock D, Lucca E, Joseph F, Jaymee G, Jenaya G, Vivekah G, Zack H, Joshua H, Amelia H, Ava H, Isabella H, Sienna H, Samuel I, Sienna K, Ruby M, Lachlan Mc, Fynn M, Maya M, Siobhan M, Owen O, Michael O, Gemma P, Isabella P, Grace P, Zarah P, Miley R, Gerard R, Amalia S, Maddison S, Jonathan V, Sophia W, Piper W, Ivy W, Angela W and Jai W

2019 Easter Celebration - Prayer Room Experience, Thursday 11th April

This year to celebrate Easter, the most important liturgical season of the church year, the St Mary MacKillop community will participate in an Easter Prayer Room Experience in the Hall on Thursday 11th April. All parents and friends are warmly invited to attend our Easter Prayer Room Experience.

The timetable will be as follows:

K,1 and 2 will visit the prayer room at 9am

Yr 3 and 4 will visit the prayer room at 10am

Yr 5 and 6 will visit the prayer room at 11:30am

During this reflection the students will relive the events of Holy Week (beginning with Palm Sunday and concluding with Good Friday) through scripture, prayer and song.

When the students return to school after Easter they will reflect upon Easter Sunday. Looking forward to seeing you there



Holy Week is the last week of Lent. We enter this week (beginning 14th April - Palm Sunday) knowing that it is a week made “holy” forever by the self-surrendering love of Jesus for us.

All week, we remember how he loved us. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or “distracted” we might be, we cannot let the power of this week be in the background of our thoughts. Jesus entered into our life with its profound joys and heartbreaking sadness -that we might never experience those struggles alone.

Religious Education News—Continued

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and concludes with Easter Sunday. It recalls the last week in the life of Jesus Christ. The sacred events of Holy Week are:

Palm Sunday (14th April) - Commemorates the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem that was marked by the crowds who were in Jerusalem for Passover waving palm branches and proclaiming him as the king. This Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday to commemorate Jesus' final agonizing journey to the cross.



Holy Thursday (18th April) - There are a variety of events that are clustered on this last day before Jesus was arrested. These include Jesus' and disciples last meal together, the institution of Eucharist, the washing of the feet, the betrayal by Judas and Jesus praying in Gethsemane while the disciples fell asleep.



Good Friday (19th April) - On this day, we remember Jesus' arrest, his trial, crucifixion and suffering, death, and burial. Since services on this day are to observe Jesus' death, and since Eucharist is a celebration, there is traditionally no Communion observed on Good Friday.



Easter Sunday (21st April) – On Easter Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ who was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross. Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Christ Jesus.



May everyone have a Holy and happy Easter

Mrs Gillard

Religious Education Coordinator

Year 1 Elizabeth Farm Excursion

On Tuesday 2nd April, Year 1 went on an excursion to Elizabeth Farm in Rosehill. We were taken on a tour of the historic site and the house. Along our tour, we were able to participate in activities like writing our names using a quill and ink, learning how people washed clothes in the olden days, and played old fashioned games. It was a great day filled with lots of new learnings.



Sport News

Diocesan Cross Country

On Tuesday 7th May, 48 students will be representing our school at the Diocesan Cross Country, at Sydney Motor-sport Park (formerly Eastern Creek.) Currently, our team and our reserves are participating in training sessions on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings, under the supervision of Mrs Churchill, Miss Jones, Miss Vella and Miss Wotherspoon.

Parramatta Diocesan Representative Students

Every year, in Term 4, Stage 3 students have the opportunity to submit an expression of interest to trial for a Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport. The student must have an above average skill set in their chosen sport and must have representative experience. This year, St Mary MacKillop has had a great number of students successful selected for these representative teams. A huge congratulations to:

Summer K - Hockey

Rafferti G - Netball

Coby R - Rugby League

William Z - Cricket

Christian M - AFL

Thomas R - AFL

Jarred H, Caleb K, Jordan P, Ava D, Elise B - Soccer

Well Done on your selection! We wish you all the best!

Maryanne Churchill
Sport Coordinator



P & F News

Just a reminder our Primary School Disco (Years 3-6) is to on Thursday, 11th April from 5:30pm to 7pm.

Find us on Facebook! Please like our page **St Mary MacKillop Primary, Penrith South P&F** for all the latest on the P&F.

We hope you all enjoy the upcoming school holidays...stay safe and have fun!

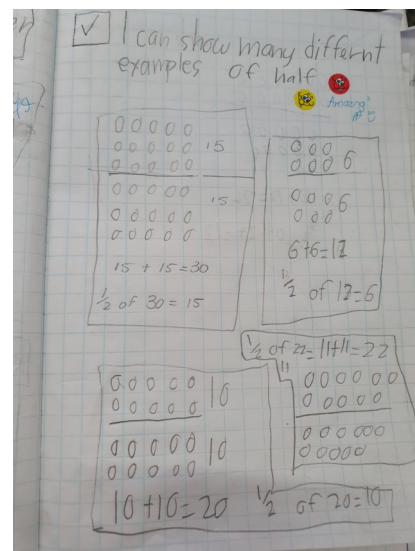
Veronica Neale
P & F President



Classroom News

Well done to Artold in 2W who is using doubles to work out halves of numbers!

Good Job!



SMMP Thinking Mathematically!

DOUBLING

Doubling math facts is a great strategy to increase speed and accuracy for even the most difficult facts.

Doubles facts teaches students to manipulate numbers. This is a key strategy for future success in mathematics. Kids are learning how numbers relate to each other and this provides a foundation for using effective strategies for solving other number sentences.

For example, $5 + 6 = 5 + 5 + 1$. Most young students do not understand that both sides of the equation have the same sum (value). They do not instinctively recognise this. By pointing out the doubles fact, you are not only explicitly teaching a strategy for solving $5 + 6$. You are also laying the foundation for success with automaticity.

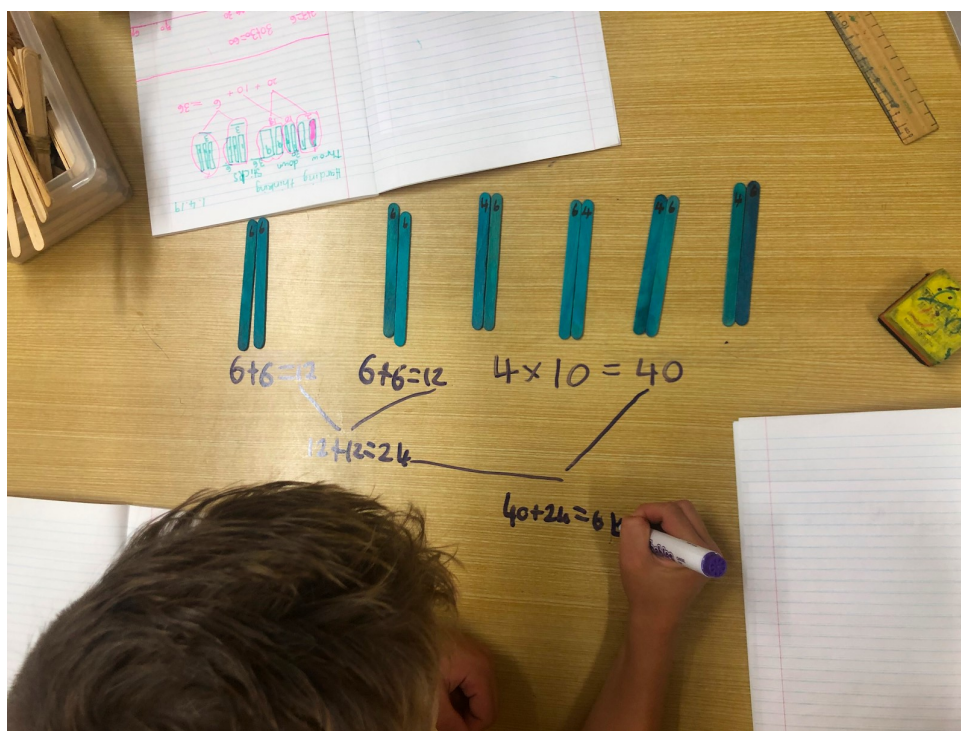
Doubling works with large numbers as well, *i.e.* $50 + 60$. It is best utilized when the addends are relatively close together or can be deconstructed into an equation that makes sense ($50 + 50 + 10$).

For further information around activities that can be done at home visit

<https://www.numeracyathome.com/>

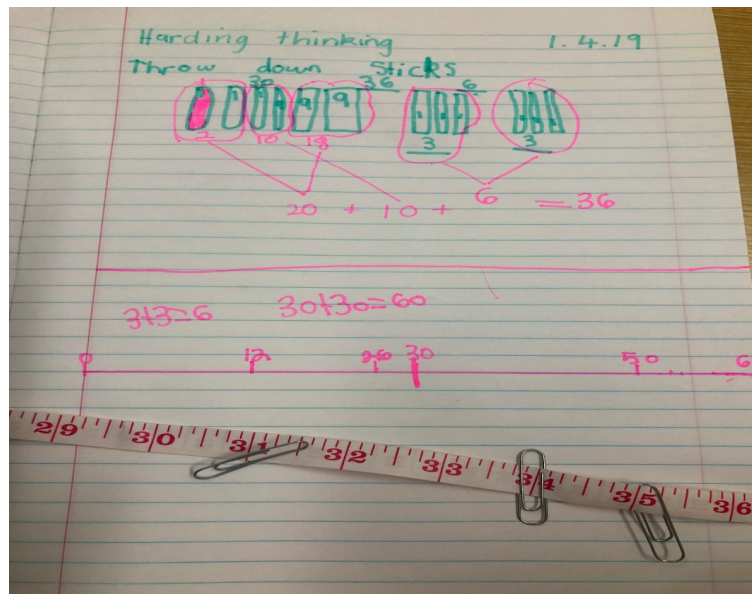
Here is some great work from a Year 4 -- student around doubling.

Here is what our **Middle Years EMUs** and how they have been using doubles to help them problem solve. This game is called 'Throw Down Sticks'. Students have to throw down the sticks and add the value on each stick together. First we grouped our tens together, however we didn't know what 4 times 6 was off the top of our head, so we had to break it down. We used our doubles facts about 6 to solve half of the problem, then doubled 12. All we needed to do then was add our two totals together. See our hard thinking below:



SMMP Thinking Mathematically!

In **EMU** we also use our doubles facts to help justify where we plot numbers on a number line. We played a game called 'Three in a Row'. In this game we take turns plotting numbers on a measuring tape and then use our reasoning skills to plot these numbers on an empty number line. Our doubles facts help us work out where half way is. See below:



CHALLENGE

- I made a city of doubles. When I built one tower, I built another one beside it and doubled the size of my original. I made another tower, then built a tower beside it that was double
- I doubled a number and kept doubling so that the original number was doubled four times. What might my answer be?

If your child has done some impressive thinking around this question, take a picture and email to the school. We would love to celebrate their work.

The Numeracy Team

Afternoon Pick Up

Please pick up all children at 3pm across the road in the park. Do not come into the playground to collect your child or take them from lines as this creates safety issues for our children.

The teacher on duty will bring any children who are not collected from the park by 3.05pm up to the school playground onto our waiters line.

If your child is on waiters, they can be collected from the playground between 3.10pm—3.30pm

Thank you for caring for our staff and kids.

Subscribing to the KIT (Keeping In Touch)

Our school newsletter is only sent home in hard copy for kindergarten the first newsletter of the year.

The newsletter is available by subscribing on the schools website www.mackilloppenrith.catholic.edu.au select News & Events>Newsletter and click on subscribe to our online newsletter, complete the form, you will then receive the newsletter each fortnight via email. You can also view the newsletter on the website under current issue.

Skool Bag App Instructions

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on

School Sunscreen

The school uses the Ombra Ultra Sport SPF 50+ sunscreen. If your child cannot use this brand of sunscreen and would like to supply your own sunscreen for your child please bring this into the school office.

Dates for Your Diary Term 1 ~ 2019

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	5 April	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly—2G Item
Tuesday	9 April	10am-12pm	Year 6 attending Anzac Day Service @ Penrith Paceway
Thursday	11 April	5:30pm-7:00pm	Project Compassion Mufti Day (Gold Coin Donation) Years 3-6 School Disco
Friday	12 April	2:20pm	Last day of Term 1 Whole School Assembly

Dates for Your Diary Term 2 ~ 2019

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday	29 April		Term 2 Commences
Friday	3 May	2:20pm	Whole School Assembly
Tuesday	7 May		Diocesan Cross Country—Sydney Motorsport Park (Eastern Creek)
Friday	10 May	9:15am	Mother's Day Liturgy Mother's Day Morning Tea

Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin





fun mandarin for kids

FUN Mandarin Language Club at St. Mary MacKillop Primary School!

The Mandarin Stars program offers:

- Specialist Mandarin programs for both native and second language learners of Mandarin.
- An engaging program that will inspire a love for learning Chinese.
- An immersion based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, Chinese songs, rhymes and games!
- The teaching of Chinese characters, reading, writing and Pin Yin.
- The discovery of Chinese history, culture, festivals, Calligraphy, Tai Chi and even Kung Fu!

Classes will start in **Week 1 of Term 2** as follows:

Thursday Afternoons
3.15- 4.15 for Kindergarten - Year 6
 \$15/ weekly session, plus a \$20 material fee/ term.

To book a **FREE** trial class please email or contact:
enrol@mandarinstars.com.au or call
 1800 18 11 18 for more details.

www.mandarinstars.com.au ★ enrol@mandarinstars.com.au ★ Ph:1800 18 11 18

SCHOOL HOLIDAY KIDS YOGA WORKSHOP



FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN, 6-12 YEARS

Throughout this fun and playful 3 hour workshop, children will focus on exploring mindfulness, connection and presence in a fun and unique way.

This unique workshop incorporates yoga games, storytelling, art, music and yoga poses to engage the natural energies and enthusiasm of children.

Children will leave this workshop having engaged in activities to develop:

- body awareness
- social skills
- confidence
- mindfulness
- breath awareness
- co-ordination
- balance
- flexibility
- connection
- relaxation

April 15th, 2019

1 - 4pm

Cost: \$50 (\$45 for siblings)

Healthy snacks provided

Location: CRANEBROOK

(address provided upon booking)

FOR FURTHER INFO OR BOOKINGS:

Justine | 0413 236 542



Enliven Yoga



enlivenyoga



**KiDS
CAN ACT**

APRIL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Mon 15th April Springwood Court		Tue 16th April Springwood Lawin St		Wed 17th April Penrith		Thu 18th April Springwood Court	
The Wizard of Oz Trial (Mini Musical) 9:00am - 5:00pm		1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie The Girl in the Locked Room 9:30am - 3:30pm		Time for An Adventure 9:30am - 1:30pm		Fairylicious Fairies & Mischievous Elves 9:30am - 1:30pm	
		Puppetry 2:30pm - 5:00pm		1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie Mystery of the Whispering Trees 1:30pm - 5:30pm (OLDER KIDS 9-15yr)		Drama Queen Makeovers 1:30pm - 5:00pm	
Tue 23rd April Penrith		Wed 24th April Springwood		 <p>USE YOUR \$100 CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER</p> <p>Call Cathie 0414 475 158 www.kidscanact.com.au</p>			
1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie The Girl in the Locked Room 9:30am - 3:30pm		Time for An Adventure 9:30am - 1:30pm					
Puppetry 2:30pm - 5:00pm		1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie Mystery of the Whispering Trees 1:30pm - 5:30pm (OLDER KIDS 9-15yr)					

THE WIZARD OF OZ ON TRIAL (Mini Musical)

Who was to blame for all the chaos in Kansas? Let's delve deeper into the musical world of Oz & put the Wizard on trial! Be the Judge, a lawyer or maybe one of the characters being questioned on the stand. Let's sing and dance and find out who was really behind the mayhem.

THE GIRL LOCKED IN THE ROOM

1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie

She's locked in a room and everyday writes the date on the wall, but soon she forgets her birthday and then her name! At night, their boots storm up the stairs. They hammer on the door and yell for her to come out. Devise a performance to leave your audience spell bound.

PUPPETRY

This is an opportunity for the children to spark their imagination and feed their curiosity. Children communicate more easily with a puppet on their hand, giving them confidence to express their ideas and feelings. They will have fun as they learn how to use different types of puppets.

TIME FOR AN ADVENTURE

Was it a huge wave that left you shipwrecked or did some strange aliens land outside your house? Did you wake up in a kingdom of princes, princesses and dragons? Or did strange and mystical creatures call you to come help in their quest? Spend a day exploring your creativity.

MYSTERY OF THE WHISPERING TREES

1,2,3 Let's Make A Movie (OLDER KIDS 9-15yr)

In our village there are 2 rules 1. You must never use magic! 2. You must never, under any circumstances enter the Dark Forest. If you break either of these rules the punishment is immediate and dire. We're about to do both. Can you hear that? Oh nooo!

DRAMA QUEEN MAKE OVERS

Drama Queens get ready to be pampered with an afternoon at the spa. Nails, glitter hair, and lipply! Now let's dress up and strut our stuff on the catwalk!

FAIRYLICIOUS FAIRIES & MISCHIEVOUS ELVES

Fairies and pixies love to play tricks! What happens when you wake up, and peek out the window to see what they are up to? Maybe the Fairylicious fairies and mischievous elves hiding in your garden will let you join them for a night of magical adventures. Use your imagination to create this magical world.

KiDS CAN ACT

Call Cathie 0414 475 158
www.kidscanact.com.au

Use your CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER before the 29th March and pay ONLY \$20 for a FULL DAY (ie TWO WORKSHOPS 8 - 8.5 hours)! Get in now, spots already filling fast! DON'T MISS OUT!

www.kidscanact.com.au

Cathie 0414475158

Is this safe?



PEANUT AND TREE NUT ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL



- DO NOT **SHARE** FOOD
- **WASH HANDS**
AFTER SNACK AND MEAL TIMES.
- **ASK QUESTIONS** IF YOU ARE UNSURE
OF "SAFE" FOODS.
- READ **ALL** INGREDIENT LABELS.

B E Y O N D
A PEANUT
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www.beyondapeanut.com
1-877-ALRG-TIP (257-4847)

Thank you
for helping us
provide a safe environment
for our friends with food allergies!