

# ST LUCY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

In the Catholic Dominican tradition. A community enriched by difference; inspiring learning for a life of purpose

# JOY | COMMUNITY | COURAGE | TRUTH



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents.

#### **Covid Guidelines and Arrangements for Term 3:**

Yesterday principals of independent schools were briefed about the latest Covid guidelines by AIS and Dr Kerry Chant, the NSW Chief Medical Officer. The recommendations are much as we were used to last term and have been strengthened to help prevent infection from influenza as well as the Omicron 4 and 5 sub-variants sweeping through NSW at the moment.

Of note NSW Health has revised the COVID-19 reinfection period from 12 weeks down to four weeks effective from 21 July 2022.

People who have previously had COVID-19 should test for COVID-19 after 28 days since their isolation ended if experiencing symptoms and follow the relevant health advice if they test positive. People who test positive again will be reported and managed as new cases.

NSW Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant said the reduced reinfection period, which follows the advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, is due to the latest subvariants of Omicron circulating in the community.

The COVID-smart settings that students, staff and communities have become used to this year will continue in Term 3. Schools continue to be encouraged to establish their own procedures, depending on their individual context and risk profile, to help minimise the risk of infection in their particular school community.

### Particular Covid safe practices include:

- Staying home if unwell or showing any symptoms, and not returning to school or work until fully
- Rapid antigen testing for any students or staff showing symptoms and for close contacts who are able to return to school
- Maximising natural ventilation
- Good hygiene practices for students and staff including regular hand washing with soap and water.
- Encouraging all students, staff and families to keep up to date with vaccinations, including COVID-19 booster shots when eligible and the flu vaccine

# MOVING K-12 TOWARDS K-12 22 July 2022

TERM 3

THURSDAY 04 AUGUST
IEP EVENING 3.30pm
(online)

FRIDAY 05 AUGUST
IEP DAY (online)
PUPIL FREE DAY

FRIDAY 12 AUGUST
ST DOMINIC'S DAY
MUFTI DAY

FRIDAY 26TH AUGUST
BOOK WEEK
DRESS-UP PARADE (PRIMARY)
CRAZY HAIR (SENIOR)

FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

Term 3 Concludes

Principal: Mr David Raphael www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au Ph: 9487 1277







 Identifying when schools need to implement additional COVID-smart measures if experiencing rapidly increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases with the assistance of NSW Health

In addition to these baseline settings, some additional layers in Term 3 as extra protection for staff, students and school communities, include:

- Strongly encouraging all staff, students and school visitors to wear a mask while indoors during the winter months from the beginning of Term 3. Please encourage your child to do this if at all possible. Staff will continue to wear masks in indoor settings and classrooms as far as students will allow.
- Staff and students in specialist centres and support units, such as St Lucy's, will receive 2 multipacks of RAT kits each. This will be delivered directly to schools shortly and distributed to parents asap once they arrive.
- Continuing day cleaning in schools, with a particular focus on high-touch areas much as we have done throughout recent times.
- Continuing to require all parents and visitors, contractors and volunteers to have had three Covid vaccinations (double dose and booster) OR requiring a negative RAT test prior to entry.
- Students who are Household/Close contacts will not be able to attend school for the isolation period, this is based on the information received from the NSW Department of Education, in consultation with NSW Health for students of Special Schools and schools with special units and will continue learning from home where possible for the duration of the isolation period.
- Minimising large group indoor gatherings of people from the wider community at school beyond students and staff to help minimise the risk of transmission of influenza and Covid

As you can see and as you would expect, St Lucy's continues to take a cautious approach to these medical matters due to the immune-compromised conditions of some of our more vulnerable students and their families.

Our aim continues to be to keep the students, staff and your families as healthy as possible during these challenging medical times. This is so we can maintain as normal a routine as possible for the students by minimising infection and keeping the school open. This in turn will assist you as families, continue to be able to send your children to school rather than face possible school closure and challenging learning from home arrangements which we know are difficult for parents and staff alike.

Your help as parents in being vigilant in terms of any symptoms you or your child or close contacts are exhibiting, staying away from school, getting tested and returning again as soon as testing and symptoms clear and taking all necessary precautions is very much appreciated by us all.

#### **IEP Date and Process:**

We are looking forward to the next round of Independent Education Plan meetings for all families on Thursday evening 4th August and all day Friday 5th of August. Please remember that the Friday is a pupil free day at all settings. The arrangements for these interviews are that all meetings will be via Teams/Zoom. In Mrs Woodward's absence, a date for Finch class IEPS will be communicated shortly. Finch class students will still have a Pupil Free Day on Friday 5th August. They will attend school on the revised IEP meeting day.

#### **Holiday Program Thanks:**

Thanks to the team who conducted our Holiday Care Program during the first week of the recent term break. Especially to Mrs Pinker and Ms Picone for their leadership and dedication in what was a very engaging and successful program for the children.











#### **New Staff and Changed Roles:**

I wrote last term about the challenges we face as staff leave us in finding suitable qualified and experienced replacements during this time of sector wide staffing challenges. I am pleased to let you know that despite these issues we have commenced this term fully staffed in terms of class teachers and teacher's aides. Thanks to Mrs Nicole Foxall for her excellent work in assisting us in this important task as our HR Manager. We continue to look for casual teachers and aides so if you know of any suitable people please do recommend them to apply through our website.

David Raphael Principal

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PASTORAL CARE

## **NAIDOC WEEK LITURGY**

At St Lucy's, we continue to take significant steps towards recognition of Australia's indigenous heritage. An integral component of our support for Reconciliation and healing are our NAIDOC week celebrations. NAIDOC Week occurs annually and is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories. Our students participated in a very moving and uplifting liturgy, where we celebrated the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The students were actively involved in setting the sacred space with key symbols, such as the Aboriginal Flag. The clapsticks are also a very powerful symbol because they remind us of the

significance music and song plays in Indigenous culture, and how ancient and preserved this culture is for us to still enjoy today.

The theme for this year's NAIDOC week was: 'Be brave. Make change'- which of course closely aligns to our school's value of courage. Students have been encouraged to reflect on simple ways we can all take action to make a difference towards reconciliation. Next year, we hope to begin the formal process of drafting our own Reconciliation Action Plan.

As always, we are very proud of the respectful, enthusiastic, and heartfelt manner our students participate in our liturgies.

## What's happening in Religious Education this term?

This term, all students will learn about the ongoing contribution of St Dominic, as well as other Dominicans (and Dominican organisations) which promote and celebrate Dominican Values. Students will be encouraged to think about how they can emulate St Dominic, primarily because he was renowned for fostering positive relationships, as well as a sense of joy and belonging. This wonderful man also recognised and nurtured the

spirituality of each person he encountered. Additionally, students will be provided with opportunities to reflect on how, as a Dominican inspired community, St Lucy's promotes dispositions such as a love of learning, hospitality, kindness, inclusion, and joy. The highlight of the Religious Education program this term is undoubtedly our celebration of St Dominic's Feast Day in August.

## St Vincent de Paul Society

As winter has commenced and homelessness is sadly increasing at an alarming rate, we are especially grateful for your support of our Mufti Day, which raised more than \$400 for the Vinnies Winter Appeal. We also received so many beautiful items, including blankets and jackets, which have been given to homeless people who are having to endure the harsh conditions of a winter night.

If you do wish to bring in anything else (such as gloves, beanies, and socks) which are unused, clean and in good condition, please send items into school with a note which says Vinnies, and I will pass these on to the local Parish representative.

Elizabeth Webster Head of Mission and Identity K-12: Class Teacher



# ST LUCY'S BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES

Our special Book Week celebrations will commence on the 22nd August through to the 26th August 2022.

The Theme is 'Dreaming with Eyes Open'. So, let's get curious and support our student's learning starting with our St Lucy's Reading Challenge, beginning Monday 25th July 2022, remembering that all students are invited to enter! All you need to enter is curiosity and enthusiasm for reading and/or Storytime. Your child/young person just needs to be immersed in a story which could mean reading, listening, watching, and/or looking. Each student who participates will receive an award and the top 10 readers will receive a book to celebrate their achievement. These awards will be presented to the students at their assembly on either Friday 26th August for primary or Monday 29th for secondary.

We will be having our Annual Book Week 'Dress up Parade' on Friday 26th August, 2022, straight after primary Assembly. The students will parade around the oval in their character costumes if in primary and 'crazy hair' if in high school after the assembly on Friday.

We hope to invite parents to attend this event but this will be dependent

on the current Covid surge and we will provide more information closer to the date. We hope everyone gets involved and enjoys our Book Week this year.

## **ASSISTED TRANSPORT**

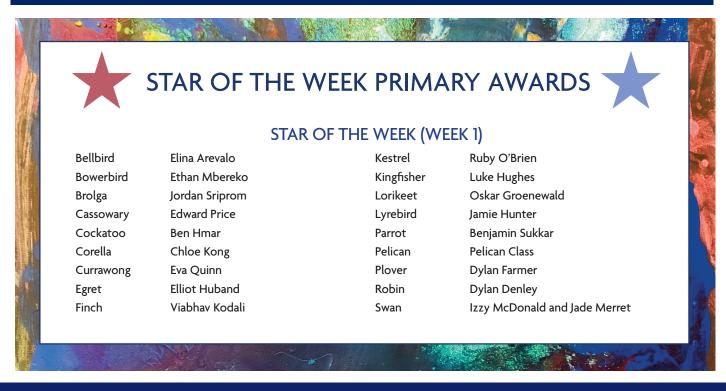
Dear familes,

Please note that I will be taking over carriage of Assisted Transport from Terry Williamson.

We apologise if your child has been arriving home late this week. Aside from the wet weather which never helps, we have been experiencing our usual start-of-term slowness in getting the Assisted Transport vehicles loaded. It is normal for students to transition just that bit slower when getting back into the swing of things. Please bear with us – things usually speed up after a week or so. Please contact me via email on leigh-annh@stlucys.nsw.edu.au if you have an questions or concerns.

Leigh-Ann Hibbert Enrolments Officer



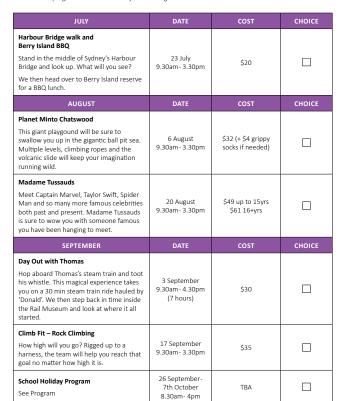




**AbilityOptions** 

#### **Saturday Club Choice Sheet 2022**

\*Please note program and costs are subject to change



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AbilityC	<b>Options</b>

OCTOBER	DATE	COST	CHOICE
Halloween Slime Workshop THE CREEPIEST and THE SLIMIEST of all Halloween sensory play. With Halloween coming up, the kids will have the neighbors screaming!	15 October 9.30am- 3.30pm	\$15	
Bondi Sculpture by the Sea Fresh air, exercise and mesmerizing art There are 100 sculptures created by artists from Australia and across the world.	29 October 9.30am- 3.30pm	\$22	
NOVEMBER	DATE	COST	CHOICE
Blaxland Riverside Picnic Enjoy the huge spider-net, the spinning play disk, viking swing and the tunnel slides. There is also a multi level treehouse, sand pit and lots of open space to play sport or just run around. Top of the list though is the water play area. Light lunch included.	12 November 9.30am- 3.30pm	\$20	
Museum of Fire  Most children dream of growing up to be a firefighter, so why not grant their wish?  A day of adventure and exploration with fire safety activities, computer games, puzzles and dress ups. What could make a visit to the Museum of Fire more memorable, than going for a ride on a vintage fire engine.	26 November 9.30am- 3.30pm	\$26	
DECEMBER	DATE	COST	CHOICE
Xmas Party Join all your friends for our end of year Christmas party. There's a goodie bag for everyone on the day.	10 December 9.30am- 3.30pm	\$20	

This program is for 6-17 year old's, mostly on the Northern Beaches

# Northern Beaches – Saturday Club Program





DATE	VENUE	MEETING PLACE	START	FINISH	ACTIVITY	COST	PLEASE BRING
23 July	Harbour Bridge walk and Berry Island BBQ	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	Stand in the middle of Sydney's Harbour Bridge and look up. What will you see? We then head over to Berry Island Reserve for a BBQ lunch	\$20	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.
6 August	Planet Minto Chatswood	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	This giant playgound will be sure to swallow you up in the gigantic ball pit sea. Multiple levels, climbing ropes and the volcanic slide will keep your imagination running wild.	\$32 (+\$4 grippy socks if needed)	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.  Companion card.
20 August	Madame Tussauds	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	Meet Captain Marvel, Taylor Swift, Spider Man and so many more famous celebrities both past and present. Madame Tussauds is sure to wow you with someone famous you have been hanging to meet.	\$49 up to 15yrs \$61 16+yrs	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.  Companion card.
3 September	Day Out with Thomas	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	4.30pm (7 hours)	Hop aboard Thomas's steam train and toot his whistle. This magical experience takes you on a 30 min steam train ride hauled by 'Donald'. We then step back in time inside the Rail Museum and look at where it all started.	\$30	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear. <b>Companion card.</b>
17 September	Climb Fit – Rock Climbing	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	How high will you go? Rigged up to a harness, the team will help you reach that goal no matter how high it is.	\$35	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear. Companion card.
26 September- 7 October	School Holiday Program		8.30am	4pm	See Program	ТВА	
15 October	Halloween Slime Workshop	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	THE CREEPIEST and THE SLIMIEST of all Halloween sensory play. With Halloween coming up, the kids will have the neighbors screaming!	\$15	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.
29 October	Bondi Sculpture by the Sea	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	Fresh air, exercise and mesmerizing art There are 100 sculptures created by artists from Australia and across the world.	\$22	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.
12 November	Blaxland Riverside Picnic	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	Enjoy the huge spider-net, the spinning play disk, viking swing and the tunnel slides. There is also a multi level treehouse, sand pit and lots of open space to play sport or just run around. Top of the list though is the water play area.  Light lunch included.	\$20	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.
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10 December	Xmas Party	Cromer Community Centre 150 Fisher Rd North, Cromer	9.30am	3.30pm	Join all your friends for our end of year Christmas party. There's a goodie bag for everyone on the day.	\$20	Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, water bottle. Hat. Sunscreen, change of clothes. Appropriate footwear.

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**Contact:** Jayne 0437 422 121

Please note: Start and end times for activities vary, please ensure you check this roster, any changes will be notified to you via phor All related Health Care Plans and Medication will require further documentation prior to registering with a program activity



# St Lucy's School 2023 Term Dates & Staff Professional Development Days

Term 1, 2023		
Wednesday 25 January	New Staff Induction Day	
Thursday 26 January	Australia Day Public Holiday	
Friday 27 January	Staff Professional Development Day	
Monday 30 January	Staff Professional Development Day	
Tuesday 31 January	Staff Professional Development Day	
Wednesday 1 February	Term 1 commences for students	
Thursday 6 April	Term 1 concludes for students	

Term 2, 2023		
Monday 24 April	Staff Professional Development Day	
Tuesday 25 April	Anzac Day Public Holiday	
Wednesday 26 April	Term 2 commences for students	
Monday 12 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	
Friday 23 June	Term 2 concludes for students	

Term 3, 2023		
Monday 17 July	Staff Professional Development Day	
Tuesday 18 July	Term 3 commences for students	
Friday 22 September	Term 3 concludes for students	

Term 4, 2023		
Monday 9 October	Staff Professional Development Day	
Tuesday 10 October	Term 4 commences for students	
Tuesday 12 December	Term 4 concludes for students	
Wednesday 13 December	Staff Professional Development Day	
Thursday 14 December	Staff Professional Development Day	