



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

### Siblings Morning:

This week we saw about 80 siblings attend the school and be hosted by their St Lucy's sibling. They participated in a liturgy, arts and crafts and play sessions with their respective class and class staff. It was lovely going around and seeing the visible excitement on the faces of those spending time with their loved ones, with beautiful caring and supportive interactions as you can see from these wonderful photos. Thank you to Ms Webster and each of the class teams for hosting and organising the day. Thanks to our corporate volunteers from Apple who packed baskets of edible goodies for delivery to each classroom and helped out as students enjoyed morning tea together with their siblings.



23 June 2023

## TERM 3 DATES

**Tuesday 18 July**

Term 3 commences for students

**Thursday 3 August**

IEP Day - PUPIL FREE DAY

Wahroonga, Prouille and  
Narraweena campuses

**Friday 11 August**

IEP Day - PUPIL FREE DAY

Narrabeen campus

**Friday 18 August**

St Dominic's Day

**Friday 25 August**

Book Week Parade

**Wednesday 30 August**

Father's Day Liturgy

**Friday 22 September**

Last day of Term 2

Principal: Mr David Raphael  
[www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au)  
Ph: 9487 1277

### **Playground Pledge:**

Our Playground Pledge has reached \$129,000 at the end of Term 2, and donations continue to be made towards the end of financial year. We are truly amazed and delighted at the generosity from our extended families, friends and supporters of our St Lucy's community. We are so grateful and we have more to come as our walkers of the Camino in September are pledging their support for this cause. I would like to give a shout out to the parents in Peony class who matched funds, and the parents in Iris class and Azalea class and Violet class who raised the largest amount in CrowdRaisers for the benefit for all our children to learn in and enjoy their purpose-built playground. Thanks to the P&F who have donated \$6,000 from funds raised from the Bingo night. I'd like to thank you all for supporting our Playground Pledge so whole-heartedly.

### **Staff Wellbeing Olympics:**

Recently our staff enjoyed some fun together in the last Staff Meeting for the term competing in sack races, egg and spoon and thong throwing. There were some very competitive campaigners and good fun and bonding was had by all.



### **Catherine Centre Construction and Veritas Centre Refurbishment Commences:**

During these holidays the works for the construction of the Catherine Centre (12 purpose built high school classrooms) will commence. The Board and Trustees have approved the appointment of the builder as Co-Wyn Building Group. This first part of the construction is scheduled to be about twelve months and finish in readiness for occupation in Term 3, 2024. This will then be followed by the Refurbishment Project in the Veritas (Administration/Reception building) involving provision for a VET/Hospitality kitchen and dining area, expansion of Reception and related offices as well as a purpose built First Aid Clinic plus renovated classrooms to house the Library and other important work and life skills areas.

### **P&F Meeting**

A hybrid meeting held on Wednesday 21 June with some attending face to face and some online. Pizza and wine was enjoyed by those attended face to face and all were given an update from the President of the P&F, Dani FitzGibbon and an update from myself.

### **Term 2: External Audits**

As I have previously reported, this term has been especially busy with IEPs and completion of academic reports with the inclusion of more normal events in the life of the school with the welcome return of parents to the campus.

Additionally, we have had two significant external audits of our NCCD funding arrangements and the NESI Inspection of our Year 11 and 12 curriculum and school-wide child protection policies and procedures. Thanks to all staff for the NCCD preparation and thanks to Kirstin Willis and Susan Jones for leading the NESI inspection. I am pleased to report that in both cases the school was commended by the auditors and inspector on the thorough professionalism of its documentation in all areas. Furthermore, a lot of hard work has been completed behind the scenes by our Finance and Property Team to organise the finalisation of all matters related to the building construction works.

The Term has been marked by extra efforts from all staff to prepare for and support these external requirements and are each significant achievements in their own right above and beyond the normal operations of the school.

I know staff across the board are looking forward to an especially well-deserved break these holidays.

I do hope that our parents despite the challenges of a three-week break can also find time to enjoy quality family time too during these holidays.

**David Raphael**  
**Principal**

## SUPPORTING SIBLINGS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE SIBLINGS WITH A DISABILITY.

1. Talk openly with your child about their sibling's disability at their level of understanding. Answer their questions and concerns to prevent them from experiencing unnecessary fears or worries.
2. Spread the support for caring for a child with a disability by allowing siblings to help you. This gives you more time with all family members and allows the sibling to develop a sense of responsibility and achievement. Importantly, appreciate what they do and do not overload them with responsibility.
3. Spending one-on-one time with each child is essential. They need to feel that you care about them and what they're going through.
4. Try and find peer support groups for siblings with disabilities. Socialising with other children in a similar circumstance can help your child not feel isolated. (Carer Gateway provide support to locate peer support groups in your area)
5. Be mindful of "*Glass children syndrome*" which refers to siblings of children with a disability whom people tend to see right through as the focus is on the child with the disability. These children appear strong but may not be, as their emotional needs are not being met.

### A resource from Siblings Australia:

#### Alex and Arlo: A Sibling Story Created by Siblings Australia

Alex and Arlo: A Sibling Story was written by Siblings Australia to help your sibling child (aged 4-7 years) feel less alone in their experiences, and to provide reassurance that there are others out there who understand how they feel. 'Alex and Arlo' will take you and your sibling child through the various experiences Alex faces as a sibling to her younger brother Arlo, who has a disability. Siblings Australia encourages you to read the story together with your child and to take the chance to reflect together on Alex's experiences and the coping strategies she uses.



### Recommended Reading:



#### **Siblings: Brothers and sisters of Children with Disabilities**

By Kate Strohm

Siblings tells what it is like to grow up with a brother or sister with a disability or illness. The siblings of children with a disability are often the overlooked ones in families struggling to cope.

## FURTHER INFORMATION FOR SUPPORT FOR SIBLINGS

### Carer Gateway

Provide tailored packages to Siblings based on what the needs of the sibling are. These packages can include driving lessons, tutoring, help with hardware costs such as computers, peer-support groups, programs and counselling.

<https://www.carergateway.gov.au/>

### Siblings Australia

Siblings Australia has information and resources to support siblings of children and adults with chronic conditions, including disabilities and mental health issues.

<https://siblingsaustralia.org.au/>

### Raising Children

Raising Children has information on how to support siblings of children with disabilities

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/disability/family-life>

## Cricket coaching for the satellite classes of St Lucy's.

Sunflower, Firethorn, Freesia, Orchid and Lotus classes started their cricket coaching sessions last week. Lots of fun and new skills were learnt by all. Please have a look at some of the sample pictures below.

Warm regards,

Mr Gary



# HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday, Stage 5 Food Technology students were tasked with preparing and delivering a 2-course meal to VIP St Lucy's staff members. "St Lucy's Eats Delivery Service" was a great success, and the students received a five-star rating from all their happy customers!



## Music Excursion

On Wednesday, June 14th, some students from Stage 4 and 5 music classes attended an excursion to the Seymour Centre to watch the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Performed pieces had the theme "The Environment and Me", which was a great finish to the Year 7 orchestra learning unit and the Stage 5 music unit, "Places and Spaces". Students enjoyed hearing the different instruments and watching the conductor in action. Our students participated in the concert activities like superstars and were fantastic ambassadors for St Lucy's!





## STAR OF THE WEEK PRIMARY AWARDS



### STAR OF THE WEEK (WEEK 8)

Aconite	Max Torbarac	Grevillea	Max Macgugan
Azalea	Christian Leenderts	Jasmine	Winnie Harvey
Bluebell	Annabelle Zabulic	Lotus	Chralie Harris
Buttercup	Luke Hughes	Magnolia	Fahad Omar
Camellia	Ruby Baron	Orchid	Rock Batchelor
Cosmos	Andrea Manaday	Peony	Talha Tanzeel
Firethorn	Joshua Uler	Sunflower	Cooper Hutcheson
Frangipani	Austin Cameron	Tulip	Sofia Dixon
Freesia	Eric McCarroll	Violet	Milla Hammer

### STAR OF THE WEEK (WEEK 9)

Aconite	Sydney Cameron	Grevillea	Corey Beadman
Azalea	Ebenezer Hmar	Jasmine	Tobias van der Sluijs
Bluebell	Scott Roberts	Lotus	Ethan Bortolussi
Buttercup	Jamie Hunter & Stella Shen	Magnolia	Xavier Adams
Camellia	Charlie Hanna	Orchid	Ethan Mbereko
Cosmos	Finn Donnelly	Peony	Trey Simon Pritchard
Firethorn	Lennox Pollock	Sunflower	Leon Aitken
Frangipani	Monty McNeil	Tulip	Luka Romic
Freesia	David Salsano	Violet	Zac Chen



## HIGH SCHOOL MERIT AWARDS



### MERIT AWARDS WEEK 8

Acacia	Leo Papa
Anemone	Madison Garcia
Aster	Joey MacDermid
Clover	Oliver D'Souza + Whole Class
Gardenia	Charli Dimmick
Iris	Sofia Shepherd
Marigold	Eddie Livingstone-Foggo
Waratah	Mia Richardson
Zinnia	Jack Olling

### MERIT AWARDS WEEK 9

Acacia	Christian Ding
Anemone	Abigail O'Keefe
Aster	Tiarnan Malone
Clover	Noel Anslam
Gardenia	Benson Hiser
Iris	Cruz Balfour
Marigold	Hugh Wechsler
Waratah	Gidon Budai
Zinnia	Isabella Chen

Please donate to help  
our students be ready  
for life after school, feel  
empowered and be part of  
the community



St Lucy's students aspire to be thriving young people with the skills to live independently. The exciting new facilities planned for our upcoming Veritas Centre refurbishment, will provide students with essential learning spaces to prepare them for a life with purpose beyond school.



When Maggie was reaching the end of primary school, St Lucy's announced that they would be opening a high school. This came as a great relief to her mum, Shanan...

*"At that point high school options for Maggie were minimal and I felt those settings wouldn't drive Maggie's development or give her the opportunities she has had at St Lucy's. When I heard the announcement, I shouted 'YES' so loudly, that onlookers must have thought I had won the lottery! Well, I felt like I had".* Shanan, Maggie's mum

The St Lucy's High School Life Skills Program is supporting students like Maggie to learn important skills and to become as independent as possible in all aspects of daily life.



*"The growth that I have seen in Maggie's strengths and interests, from personal care skills to friendship building, is phenomenal. St Lucy's staff see each individual young person's potential and strengths, and work hard to encourage and harness them for life-long skills."*

Shanan, Maggie's mum

At St Lucy's, we want students to have all that they need to participate fully in a dynamic and meaningful curriculum. The new Veritas Centre facilities that we are planning will create many opportunities for our young people to discover what they are passionate about. The new specialist facilities include a kitchen and dining room to teach hospitality and important life skills to provide students like Maggie with what they need to participate in exciting new areas of the curriculum, and to build confidence for their life after school.



**The aim of our 2023 Tax Appeal is to raise funds to establish a range of new facilities which will be essential learning spaces for our young people including:**

- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Kitchen
- New Student First Aid Clinic
- Student Gym
- Residential Life Skills Room
- High School Specialist Elective Room
- Library Refurbishment

continued over...

*'Maggie absolutely loves her weekly job of delivering uniforms to classrooms across the school and she is always eager to greet the staff and peers in each classroom using Proloquo2Go. Over the past 2 years Maggie has shown increased independence when completing this job and she now uses a map to find each classroom on her delivery list. Maggie's excellent work ethic is evident in her positive attitude and willingness to learn new skills all the time.'* Kirstin Willis, Teacher



With the new facilities, St Lucy's secondary students will have the resources they need to develop skills which are meaningful and fulfilling. Facilities that promote good health, workplace skills and knowledge, artistic pursuits, self-care, daily life skills and more.

*"By offering a well-rounded education, innovative teaching and learning, and a rich curriculum augmented by excellent learning spaces, St Lucy's is preparing and inspiring students for an exciting future."* David Raphael, Principal

Maggie will be one of the first students to have journeyed from Kindergarten right through to Year 12 at St Lucy's. In the years that Maggie has been at school, St Lucy's has grown and developed into a leading special education setting.

Through ambitious fundraising for major builds, we are on the path to realising our vision for St Lucy's and we have more to do to make education for our students the very best that it can be.

With the support of donors, like you, we can make great things happen for our students.

*"I have every confidence that Maggie will be as prepared as she can be to enter the world. St Lucy's School has allowed Maggie to blossom into an exceptional young woman, developing her own unique pathway of success. I am forever grateful."* Shanan, Maggie's mum

**To provide these new facilities, which Maggie and her peers deserve, St Lucy's is asking for your help with these much needed refurbishments that will be tailored to our students' needs. This will help our students be ready for life after school, feel empowered and be part of the community which is why I ask you to please give today.**

Warmly yours,

David Raphael  
Principal

P.S. Your donation makes you a special member of St Lucy's community and part of the Team that values, celebrates and nurtures our exceptional students.

*David Raphael*



St Lucy's School respects your privacy. Your details are protected by us under the Privacy Act. Please see our website [www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stlucys.nsw.edu.au). Personal information is collected to process donations, issue tax receipts and send information. If you do not wish to receive mail from us, please call 02 9487 1277.

**JOY | COMMUNITY | COURAGE | TRUTH**

**To donate, please scan the QR code or visit [givenow.com.au/stlucys](https://givenow.com.au/stlucys)**

# NSYD DISABILITY SERVICES OPEN DAY

Looking for disability or carer support services available in our local area?

Come along and meet a wide range of services who can help people with disability in the NSYD areas, their carers and families explore community and government supports available to them.

This event is jointly organised by Gordon- Pymble Uniting Church, NSYD Carer Gateway – Your Side and Uniting LAC program PITC with NDIS.

Drop in to have a chat and some tea or coffee.



**HELD AT GORDON-PYMBLE UNITING CHURCH**  
**18 CECIL ST, GORDON (OPP: RAVENSWOOD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS)**  
**THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 2023 | 10 AM - 1PM**

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

For further information please email  
Katie - [katieb@yourside.org.au](mailto:katieb@yourside.org.au)  
Jeannette- [Joujani@uniting.org](mailto:Joujani@uniting.org)





**Fri 4<sup>TH</sup> & Sat 5<sup>TH</sup>**  
**AUG 2023**

 **9AM - 3PM**

 **SYDNEY SHOWGROUNDS, SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK**

*My Future My Choice*

### THE EXPO INCLUDES



Hundreds of disability providers, products, aids & equipment and technology organisations exhibiting



A variety of guest speakers covering a range of accessible topics & sharing valuable information



Live all-ability performances on stage and a variety of all-age entertainment



Accessible facilities.  
All abilities, all inclusive

Register today at

[sydneydisabilityexpo.com.au](https://sydneydisabilityexpo.com.au)



Connect  
with us

# SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September

6pm-8pm

Possibility Space

Special Disability Trusts

Special guests from Coleman Greig Lawyers will be presenting an introductory information session for parents and carers interested in the topic of Special Disability Trusts guardianship, NCAT and planning for the future.

Contact [elisam@stlucys.nsw.edu.au](mailto:elisam@stlucys.nsw.edu.au) for any inquiries



Are you looking for things to do in the upcoming school holidays?

Would you like your child to have interesting and stimulating activities to do?

Concerned about the level of care your child needs to attend a holiday program?

**Look no further than Allowah!**

An experienced disability support provider in Dundas Valley

## Choose one of our great vacation care options

- ➔ **School Holiday Program** - A day program where your child gets one-on-one fun with a Support Worker all day, engaging in games, craft and other activities that suit your child's skills and interests.
- ➔ **Day or Overnight Respite Stay** - Book in for the day or make use of our wonderful facilities and give your child the chance to enjoy a safe and fun overnight respite stay. With round-the-clock care from our experienced staff, you can have peace of mind that any additional needs are met. Respite stays allow your child to participate in the recreational activities happening at our facility while being supported by our amazing team of Support Workers and Nurses.



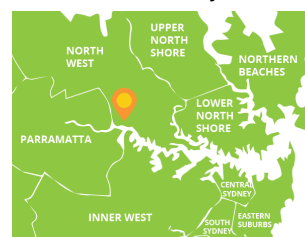
**Book your child's spot today for the Winter holidays!**



**Week 1: 2-8 July**



**Week 2: 9-15 July**



8 Perry St, Dundas Valley NSW 2117  
8877 3400 | [admin@allowah.org.au](mailto:admin@allowah.org.au)



We run fun and engaging holiday activities for children with complex medical needs and disabilities. Our team of nurses and support staff are especially experienced in caring for kids with complex needs, fully trained to provide personal care and eating / drinking support for your child. Our programs and holiday time activities are undertaken in a fun and supportive environment, with a variety of activities to keep your child engaged and comfortable.

So that we can get to know you and your child's needs, we will meet with you prior to your child attending Allowah.

**Scan here**  
to make an enquiry or get in touch to find out more.



# NDIS: When your young person's situation changes

## "Change of Circumstances"



### Key Points:

- If your young person has an **NDIS** plan and their situation changes, you must tell the **NDIA**.
- The NDIA may update your young person's plan or...
- Your young person's NDIA plan needs to be discussed.
- Either way, you can keep using your young person's plan.

### Here are some examples of changes you might tell the **NDIA** about:

- Your Contact details change.
- Your young person's support needs and goals change –
- changes to the functional impact of your disability where your young person may need more support.
- Your young person turns 18 and/or approaching a major life transition e.g., post-school, change of living arrangements.
- Your Carer needs change.

**Contact your local area coordinator or support coordinator** about changes in situation or details. They can explain what you need to do and help you with the process.

If your young person's needs change, their **CORE SUPPORTS** budget allows you to use your **NDIS** plan flexibly in most cases.

If you and the NDIA need to discuss options for your young person's plan, your local area coordinator or NDIA planner will work with you on this. This might involve a **plan variation** or a **plan reassessment**.

**Remember, you are allowed to ask for an NDIS Plan Review at any time during your plan.**



### Links/resources:

Change of details and situation forms can be found here:

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/using-your-plan/changing-your-plan/change-circumstances>

<https://mycarespace.com.au/resources/writing-an-ndis-carer-statement-template>

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/changing-your-plan>