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MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am. All welcome!

2014 - Celebrating 35 years of Catholic Education

28th August 2014

DIARY DATES

Friday 29 August **PUPIL FREE DAY**

Sat/Sun 30/31 August

Weekly Sacramental Parish based lessons

Wednesday 3 September

Fathers' Day Breakfast Fathers' Day Liturgy Fathers' Day Stall

Thursday 4 September

Confirmation Practice, 7pm

Friday 5 September

Stage 2 Touch Gala Day

Sunday 7 September Fathers' Day

Mon/Tues 8 & 9 Sept Creative Arts Expo

Thursday 11 September

Grandparents' Day Celebration of Learning

Friday 12 September 7:30pm Confirmation with

Most Rev. Kevin Manning Friday 19 September

Footy Fever & Hot Dog Day

Last day of Term 3

Tuesday 7 October First day of Term 4

Mon/Tues 20/21 October

Year 5 Camp

Monday 29 October

Kinder 2015 Orientation

Saturday 1 November

All Saints Day

Sunday 2 November All Souls Day

Sat/Sun 1/2 November

Weekly Parish based lessons - Reconciliation

Sat/Sun 8/9 November

Weekly Parish based lessons - Reconciliation

Tuesday 9 December

Year 6 Farewell Mass, 7pm

Friday 12 December

Year 6 Social, 6pm

Dear Parent, Carers, Students & Friends,

On Sunday, the scripture readings retell how Jesus calls to Simon Peter that he will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built. In Simon Peter we find an example of an enthusiastic disciple of Christ who displayed both great strengths and serious weaknesses. From Peter's life we learn that God wants us to:

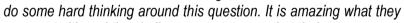


- Attempt great things for God. Be enthusiastic in your faith.
- Take leadership when you have an opportunity.
- Realise that discipleship is costly. Be willing to forsake all to follow Christ.
- Be committed to Christ.
- Growth should be evident in your life.
- Repent and confess your sin, and then get back into the battle. Don't let backsliding and setbacks prevent you from serving God. Rely upon God's patience and mercy and forgiveness.
- Don't worry about other people's affairs.
- Tell vour family about Jesus

Peter stands before us as a great example of a disciple of Christ. His passion sometimes got him in trouble, but there was no doubt that Peter loved the Lord.



This week we celebrate National Numeracy Week. Throughout the school the students were given the question "What does 100 look like?" At first you may think this is no challenge, but students were asked to



came up with and the challenge was to prove that their answer was correct. Imagine what the answers looked like in Kindergarten and then in Year 6.



Last Thursday we celebrated our love of reading by holding a book character parade. What an event! Thank you to the many parents, grandparents and friends that stayed for the parade and watched our wonderful students 'strut their stuff'. Thank you also to the staff for their involvement and enthusiasm. It was a great day and a great way to encourage our children to read, read often, read for knowledge and read

for enjoyment! (Further photos can be found on our Facebook page.)

Next week our Year 3 and Year 5 parents will receive their child's NAPLAN (National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy) results. This assessment is only one of a multitude of assessment tasks that take place weekly in a classroom. Schools across Australia use the data to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy. Teachers also use the results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.

Have a great week, God Bless

Sue Veling

Principal



Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day

On Friday 29th August, the OLOW staff will have a Spiritual Formation Day led by Peter Holmes, lecturer and theologian at Notre Dame University. He was trained and served as a Lutheran Minister before working in counselling, consulting and teaching roles within the Catholic Archdioceses of Melbourne and Sydney. Most recently he spent 6 years as the Manager of Studies for Catholic Adult Education Sydney. Since 2007, Peter has lectured in Scripture, Theology and biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek). Peter's research interests include the relationship between the Old and New Testaments, the relationship between faith and reason and his present PhD research focuses on the theology of masculinity.



Friday 29th August will be a pupil free day.

Fathers' Day Breakfast

Next Wednesday, 3rd September beginning 7:45am, staff at OLOW will be holding a special Fathers' Day Breakfast for all fathers or father figures, and their children attending OLOW. There will be a sausage sizzle, cereals, toast, fresh fruit and fruit juice. So, mark this date in your diary and be prepared to spend some early morning time with your children.



Fathers' Day Prayer

At 8:45am the children will run a special prayer for Fathers' Day. So please hang around for a short time to pray with your children and the school community.

Fathers' Day Stall

During the morning on Wednesday 3rd September our Year 4 parents will be holding a Father's Day Stall. The parents have some lovely Fathers' Day gifts available to purchase. Prices range from between \$1:00-\$5:00.



Uniform Expectations

Please continue to support us in ensuring that every student is dressed in the correct uniform so that the wider community, the parish community and the school community can see the pride your child takes in being part of *Our Lady of the Way School*. A copy of the Hair Styling, Grooming and Jewellery Policy has been included in this newsletter.

Just some reminders:

- Sports shoes should be white (predominantly) with white laces.
- Sports socks should at least cover the ankle bone (no anklet socks) OLOW sports socks are available from the office
- Boys hair should not contain gel, and should be one length all over (minimum No 3 blade)



Complaints and Grievances

If, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to phone or come to the school and speak with the teachers, coordinators, assistant principal or principal, to find a resolution. Social media is not the place to voice your anger or to humiliate staff in any way. It is our aim to work with all members of the school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and a professionally fulfilling experience for our staff.



If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures found on the school website or the system website: http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au

Mobile Phone Alert

Students are not to have mobile phones at school. If, for an extreme emergency, your child needs to have one for after school they will need to leave it at the school office during the day. A letter of explanation will need to be sent seeking approval from the Principal.



Security Fence around the School

On Monday 22nd September, all current existing school fences will be replaced with a security fence (2.1m high). This will include a video intercom and electric entry system to the school during school hours via the gate off Mackay Lane.

Raffle

\$300 was raised through the raffle to help Alex McKinnon after he sustained a career-ending injury playing in the NRL.

Winners of the raffle organised by Jet and Malaya are:

First prize: Won by Lucie McIntosh (Year 2) Signed Penrith Panthers jersey **Second prize**: Won by Mrs Kylie Newton 6 Tickets to Panthers v/s Warriors game Third prize: Won by Tristan Isaia (Year 4) Signed Penrith Panthers NRL football



Grandparents' Day – Thursday 11th September

Our annual Grandparents' Day Celebration will be held on Thursday 11th September commencing with Mass at 9:15am. This will be followed by morning tea for parents and grandparents, a special group performance from our Creative Arts Expo, followed by open classrooms. At around 1pm there will be a picnic lunch, sausage sizzle and family photo booth. More information will be sent home shortly.

Enrolment Information

We are currently receiving a number of enrolment enquiries for 2015. With this in mind it is timely to outline the criteria used for enrolment in our Diocese. Our Lady of the Way is required to follow the Diocesan Enrolment Policy.

Information regarding enrolments can be viewed on the Catholic Education Office website: www.parra.catholic.edu.au.

Enrolment preference is given, in order, to:

- Baptised children of Catholic families who live in the local parish
- Baptised children of Catholic families from other parishes
- Baptised children of other Christian denominations
- non-Catholics



Catholic schools have a strong religious dimension and people of other faiths who wish to enrol in Catholic schools should be willing to participate in the religious activities of the school. Non-Catholic students are accepted into Catholic schools in accordance with each school's enrolment vacancies. Siblings of children already enrolled in the school are considered by the same criteria above. However, within each of these categories, a sibling of a child already enrolled will have preference over an applicant who does not have a sibling enrolled in the school. Special consideration may be given to children of non-Catholic families for:

- compassionate reasons:
- family situations requiring a special pastoral approach;
- parents' intentions regarding their own and their children's faith development;
- family circumstances involving family relocation;
- enrolment of siblings.

School Fees

Statements have been sent home to all families for the current term and are now overdue. Thank you to all families who have paid their school fees and for those on flexible payment plans who have completed or nearly completed payment of the 2014 accounts.

Any families who are in financial difficulty are encouraged to contact Bernadette Alexander, School Finance Secretary, to discuss options. Overdue reminders were sent out yesterday.



OLOW Hair Styling, Grooming & Jewellery Expectations

Students are expected to keep their hair clean, neat and tidy at all times. Students are to keep hair off their face and out of their eyes. Haircuts are to be in a sensible and conventional style. There are to be no extremes of fashion in hairstyle cut or colour. Shaving of any part of the head or undercuts, and haircuts with a number 1 or 2 blade are not permitted. Rat's tails of any sort and the use of gel and hairspray to spike hair is not permitted. For girls, long hair below the shoulder should be tied back by a ribbon, 'scrunchy', hair band or clip.

In the interest of safety and security, no jewellery should be worn. A watch, gold or silver bangle or bracelet that cannot be removed, are permitted. A plain gold silver or gold chain with a religious symbol or medal may be worn under the child's shirt out of sight. (However, this is not recommended due to valuable items being lost in the playground and children and parents being greatly upset at the loss).

If a girl's ears are pierced only one pair of sleepers or studs are to be worn in the lower ear lobe. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings at school or at any school activities. No other jewellery is permitted and teachers will ask students to remove inappropriate jewellery. Children are not to wear leather necklaces with beads or the like. In extreme cases, jewellery will be confiscated, secured and returned at a later time to the student or parent.

Make-up and nail polish are not part of the school uniform. Students wearing make-up or coloured nail polish will be asked to remove it.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Scripture around the Classrooms:

In Religious Education at the moment, Year 1 is learning about Baptism. They are learning that this beautiful Sacrament welcomes us into God's family. The sharing of the many symbols and rituals that are part of the celebration of Baptism is helping them to gain a better understanding of the Sacrament. They learnt that Jesus was also Baptised:

Not long afterward Jesus came from Nazareth in the province of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw heaven opening and the Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you."

Mark I: 9 - 11

To help develop an understanding of the Sacrament, the children were led through a Baptism ceremony. The children were able to see and make connections to the significant symbols and rituals. Parts of the 'script' are shared below:



In the Bible we find the account of the Baptism of Jesus. Jesus was an adult when He was Baptised. The Sacrament of Baptism can be received as a baby or as an adult...

The priest pours water over the head of the baby three times. The pouring of the water is a ritual action. Each time he says part of the prayer.

I baptize you in the name of the Father And of the Son And of the Holy Spirit...





God the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you new life with water and the Holy Spirit and welcomed you into his Church. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation...





Receive the Light of Christ.

This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has received the light of Christ. He/she is to walk always as a child of the light. May he/she keep the flame of faith alive in his/her heart.

Fathers' Day Liturgy:

We warmly invite all fathers, grandfathers and carers to join us, after breakfast, for a special Fathers' Day Liturgy. The liturgy will take place on the Infant's Playground at 8:45am. (if it is raining, in the hall.) Children from Year 1 will help lead our celebration. Dads and granddads, you are very welcome and we hope to see you there.

Grandparents' Day Mass:

Our special Grandparents' Day on 11th September will begin with Mass at 9:15am. Children from all grades will be helping to lead our celebration. The theme of the Mass this year is 'Grandparents: Great Presence". We want to celebrate the unique importance of our grandparents in the life of families and in particular the role they play in the transmission of faith through the generations. We acknowledge that our grandparents provide children with stability, a sense of identity and continuity.



Penrith Community Kitchen Visit:

Today the Social Justice Team took the many items our school community so generous donated to Penrith Community Kitchen. The children were met there by Cathy, the wonderful lady who coordinates the running of this wonderful organisation. They also met some of the other ladies who volunteer their time to help serve those in our community who need a helping hand, a good meal or some company when they are feeling lonely.

It was wonderful for the children to see the good that people are doing in our community and how the generosity of our school community can make a difference in the lives of others. Cathy hoped that in the future, she would see them coming back and volunteering their time.

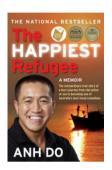


LEARNING NEWS

Book Week

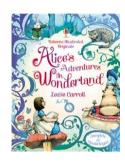
The staff came dressed in many different characters as part of our book week parade. Below are some of the books that the characters are from. There are a mixture of well-known titles, classics and perhaps a few new ones that you might like to take the time to read with your child.





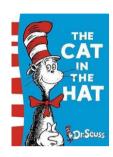
THE HAPPIEST REFUGEE

By Ahn Do



ALICE IN WONDERLAND

By Lewis Carroll



THE CAT IN THE HAT

By Dr Seuss



THE DAY THE CRAYONS
QUIT

By Drew Dewalt

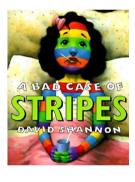




STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK

WHERE THE WILD THINGS
ARE

By Maurice Sendak



A BAD CASE OF STRIPES

By David Shannon



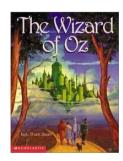
HARRY POTTER

By J.K. Rowling



A BUS CALLED HEAVEN

By Bob Graham



THE WIZARD OF OZ

By L. Frank Baum



Reading as a foundational skill to powerful learning

Our Lady of the Way places a great focus and energy on Literacy and in particular the development of highly effective readers. We desire that our students develop a passion for reading. **We see reading as a foundational skill to powerful learning.**

You ask?

Why an emphasis on reading at home? - What are the benefits of reading?

Research tells us that reading and being read to has the potential to:

- o improve comprehension, students who read extensively learn reading strategies and increase their reading rates.
- o allow students to make gains in overall language proficiency.
- o increase vocabulary knowledge.
- o improve writing skills.
- \circ improve understanding of mathematical concepts and problem-solving. \square

A recent study using data from 34 participating countries showed that there are a number of school and home factors that can positively affect student achievement in Reading, Mathematics and Science.

One key finding concerned the pivotal role of **good reading skills**. Not only do strong skills drive high achievement in literacy, but they also facilitate high achievement in Mathematics and Science, where students often must read complex material to solve problems.

School conditions that correlate with higher student achievement in Reading, Mathematics and Science:

- All parties—principals, teachers, parents and students—are "equally invested" in working together to achieve success;
- Teachers understand curricular goals;
- Teachers are successful implementing curriculum;
- Teachers expect student achievement;
- Parents support student achievement;
- Students want to do well in school; and
- The school provides a safe and orderly environment.

What teachers do that correlates with higher student achievement:

- Making sure students know what they're expected to do;
- Making sure students like what they're reading;
- Trying to be easily understood;
- Presenting content in interesting ways; and
- Giving students interesting things to do and read.

What parents do that correlates with higher student achievement:

- Creating a home environment supportive of educational attainment, with a lot of books available; and
- Reading books, telling stories, singing songs, playing with alphabet toys, reading signs and labels aloud, and playing word games.

Please contact me at mmifsud@parra.catholic.edu.au if you have any questions relating to the OLOWCURRICULUMSPOT.

Year 1 Poetry

I came across a dog on the way to school, Her legs were very awesome and her tail was very cool. I hid her in my shirt so that my teacher would not see. She stayed there very quietly till frightened by a bee.



I like fluffy dogs. I don't like magic iellies. I like dirty logs. I don't like wobbly bellies.



By Jack B

By Milli B

I came across a tiger on the way to school, His legs were very heavy and his roar was very cool. I hid him in my school bag so that my teacher would not see, He stayed there very quietly till frightened by a flea.



By Lily F

I like cute cats, I don't like mean rats. I like slimy frogs, I don't like foggy fogs. I like yucky mice. I don't like buggy lice. I like tall towers, I don't like wet showers. I like pretty curls, I don't like plain pearls.

By Taylah C



I came across a monkey on the way to school. His tail was very long and his shiny nose was cool. I hid him in my tree house so my friend Kees would not see, He stayed there very quietly and was stung by a bee.

By Luke D



I like praying schools, I don't like rain showers, I like swimming pools, I don't like witch towers. I like golf bats. I don't like chasing hogs, I like cute cats. I don't like mean dogs.



By Isabella B

SPORTS NEWS

Netball News

Good luck to the 7 teams competing at Penrith next Tuesday in the rescheduled Netball gala day.

Congratulations to the members of the Year 5/6 Netball NSW Cup team who won the Sydney regional final last Thursday. The girls finished on top of their pool before progressing to the finals. In what proved to be a tight contest, the Our Lady of the Way team won the grand final against Narellan Vale Public School by 1 goal. This is the first time we have entered a team into this competition and the girls were wonderful representatives of our school. They will now progress to the NSW State final on September 16th at Lidcombe. On this day they will compete against schools from across NSW. Congratulations girls, we are all very proud of you.



Diocesan Athletics Carnival

CONGRATULATIONS to all the children who competed last Friday at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival, there were many fine performances, terrific sportsmanship and skills shown throughout the day.

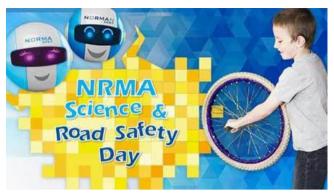
Well done to Bridie Witjes (200m, High Jump, Long Jump), Ruby Lowe (Shot Put) and Emilia DiPrinzio (Shot Put) who will be representing the Parramatta Diocese at the NSWCPA MacKillop Track & Field Championships on Monday 15th September at Sydney Olympic Park, Athletics Centre, Homebush.

We wish you all the best at the NSWCPA MacKillop Track & Field Championships!

St Nicholas Netball Gala Day

It rained and rained and rained! However, we managed to play five rounds of netball before the gala day was called off. Our students have trained hard for 6 weeks to prepare for the carnival however player safety was more important. Many thanks to our coaches, umpires, supporters and players for your cooperation. Thanks also to Mrs Hensen, Miss Reynolds, Mrs Scott, Mrs Flanagan, Miss Thurston and Mr Moorfoot for supporting our netball teams.

ERAL INFORMATION



Parent Invitation for NRMA Science & Road Safety Day -Friday 12 September 2014

Our school will be hosting an NRMA Science & Road Safety Day, a new road safety program that will be delivered free of charge to our school by the National Roads & Motorists' Association with the aim of helping our students stay safe of the road.

This program involves students participating in road safety shows in the hall and completing road safety workbooks in the classroom to help the road safety messages stick.

The shows combine important road safety messages with science. Messages such as "Wear their seatbelt" have a greater impact when children have a stronger understanding of the forces they experience when travelling in a car and what could happen to them should the car stop suddenly in a crash. In the science show, a crash test dummy – an egg – memorably shows children how a seatbelt works to restrain passengers in a crash and more importantly why a seatbelt must be worn on each trip.

Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe, and so we would like to invite you to come and watch the first show of the day to see what your children are learning and how you can reinforce these road safety messages at home.

After the day, your child will be bringing home the NRMA road safety workbook they have completed in class so take the opportunity to speak to them about what they have learned and what they can do to help keep their friends and family safe. Within each workbook is a 4-page parent insert on child road and bike safety for you as a handy reference guide at home.

The program is now in its second season and 40,000 students have already enjoyed the program while learning more about road safety. We are one of 100 schools across NSW and ACT to be chosen to host a day in Season 2 and with your help we aim to make it a great success.

Photographs and Videos

At times during the year, Our Lady of the Way students have the opportunity to be photographed and videoed. These photos and videos may be used as part of grade assessments, be uploaded to the school Facebook page, Twitter, Skoolbag etc, the school website or placed in school publications such as the Parent Handbook. Photographs may also be used in publications to promote the school in newspapers and other media.

When you enrolled your child, you gave us permission to do this. If you wish to withdraw this authorisation and consent, please notify the school in writing.

CANTEEN NEWS

Crunchy Munchy Café Meal Deals \$ 4.50 Available until Friday 5th September

Meal Deal 1

Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo Sandwich, Juice Popper and Zooper Dooper

Meal Deal 2

Pancakes (2) – Plain or Choc Chip, Juice Popper and Fruit Stack Ice Block

COMMUNITY NEWS

Penrith Community Kitchen – Volunteers Needed

Penrith Community Kitchen is committed to providing a gathering place where homeless, low income families, street kids and the disadvantaged can feel welcome and receive a nourishing meal. This is only achieved through the generous help of volunteers and local businesses.

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Cathy at Penrith Community Kitchen on 4721 1444.

Bereavement Support Program – Springwood

CCSS Solo Parent Ministry will be running an eight session Bereavement Support Program in Springwood for men or women who have suffered the death of their spouse or long term partner. Sessions held on every second Wednesday commencing 3rd Sept from 10.30am – 12.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, 313 Macquarie Rd Springwood. Each fortnight a different aspect of grief will be discussed, with some input, reflection and sharing about how grief is affecting you and how you are working through it. The first topic is "The Physical Effects of Grief". Details and Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

Support Group For Younger Widowed People

In response to requests and inquiries the CCSS Solo Parent Ministry will be starting a new Monthly Support Group for younger widowed people. We will trial this group for 12 months, and it will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning Tuesday 9th September. **Venue**: CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. **Time**: 10.30am-12.30pm **Cost**: \$5.00. **Details and Registration**: PH: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au

Stepping Beyond: Support For Those Separated Or Divorced

If you have been separated or divorced and would benefit from regular shared discussion evenings with others who are in a similar situation to you, come along to STEPPING BEYOND on the last Tuesday of each month at CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, at 7.30pm. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: \$5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 9933 0205

THE BEST HOLIDAYS **HAPPEN AT CAMP**

Choose from over 30 exhilarating camps at 10 locations across NSW these school holidays.

Our Sport and Recreation Centres offer over 40 activities for kids aged 5 to 16 years. Try your hand at fishing, mountain biking, kayaking, abseiling, crafts, cooking or flying fox. You're sure to find a camp the kids will love.

Kids' Camps from \$45 per day

fb.com/nswsportandrecreation www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps 13 13 02



EMU PLAINS CRICKET CLUB INC. JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS

We've held our registration days early in August, however, its not too late to register to play for EPCC in 2014/15 summer. Players still urgently needed for Under 8's, Under 9's, Under 10's, Under 11's, and Under 12's.

For more information:

www.epcc.com.au,
Junior Secretary, Andrew Kennedy 0468 951 473 or
ask2308@me.com
Assistant Junior Secretary, Richard Field 0412 473 418
or richard.field@optus.com



October School Holiday Workshop Program 2014

Workshops are inspired by the *River to River*, spring suite of exhibitions at Penrith Regional Gallery. Students are encouraged to wear old clothes and bring a snack and drink for break time.

Bookings and pre-payment essential Pay by credit card over the phone on 47351100



Tuesday 30th September -Alien bugs 5-8 yrs, 10am- 12 noon, \$18

Create a collection of colourful and animated alien bugs using paper clay and paints. Plus make your own bug display box.

Wednesday 1st October – Bugs and Birds Mask Making 5-8 yrs, 10am- 12 noon, \$18

Workshop participants will first create the base for a characterful mask and then add textured objects such as feathers, paper, textiles and felt to complete it.

Wednesday 1st October - TOTS in the gallery 3-6yrs, 10am-11am, \$12

Go with your tot on a child-size gallery tour of *Best Wishes: Korean Folk Painting* and then head together to the studio to make a fish mobile using watercolour and collage.

Thursday 2nd October - Marine Garland 5-8 yrs, 10am-12 noon, \$18

Taking inspiration from 'Best Wishes: Korean Folk Paintings' create your own garland with an aquatic theme using coloured paper and watercolour paints.

Thursday 2nd October - Flying High Wall Kites

5-8 yrs, 10am -12 noon, \$18

Design and make wall-kites decorated with flowers, birds and animal motifs.

Friday 3rd October - Future Landscapes

9-12 yrs, 10am -12 noon, \$18

What will the Nepean River and surrounds look like in 50-100 years? With 'Yupo Paper' and collage techniques create a dynamic luminous future landscape.