



Principal: Mr Stuart Wylie

3rd December 2018

Last week I had the pleasure of attending our Stage 3 excursion to Canberra and had an amazing time. Our students were extremely well behaved over the four days and everyone had a great deal of fun, returning to school on Friday tired but in good spirits. Stage 2 also had a fabulous trip away on Thursday and Friday with their overnight camp and I have heard lots of good stories about their time away. These trips are not only very educational but they are also a great way for children to develop their friendships and resilience as many are away from mum and dad for the first time.

We have a couple of fun activities coming up for our students in the coming weeks. Our inaugural PBL reward day and our Christmas Carols will both be on during school time. We also have our Parent Helper morning tea coming up in Week 9 more details to come for these events.

### **2019 Student Leaders**

I look forward to announcing our incoming student leaders for 2019 at our Presentation Day next week. I would like to congratulate all of the very worthy students who have nominated for these important student leadership positions. I am confident that those students who are elected will lead the school well and be a great asset to the teachers and myself in 2019.

### **2019 School Year**

We currently have 687 students for the 2019 school year which will be spread across 28 classes. Another classroom will be installed over the Christmas holidays to accommodate our 27<sup>th</sup> class. We are still getting new Kindergarten enrolments and new students moving to the area, which is changing our numbers daily. If you are relocating over the break and your child will not be returning to TPS in 2019, please advise our front office staff if you have not already done so.

### **Year 6 Farewell**

This night is one of the highlights of the year for Year 6 students, their parents and staff. We look forward to an enjoyable evening on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at East Maitland Bowling Club.

Have a great week.

Stuart Wylie  
Principal

Thornton Public School  
Government Road  
THORNTON NSW 2322  
Ph: 02 4964 1369  
E: [thornton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thornton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

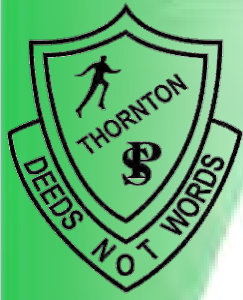


## Important Dates

Date	Time	What's On
Friday 7th December	2 Sessions 2.30 and 3.30	BYOD information Sessions
Monday 10th December	After School	Year 6 Dinner/Farewell
Tuesday 11th December	Yrs. 3-6 9.30am Yrs. K-2 12pm	Presentation Day
Wednesday 19th December	3pm	Students Last Day of 2018
2019		
Wednesday 30th January	9am	Years 1 –6 Students Return
Wednesday 30th January Thursday 31st January Friday 1st February	Times to be Confirmed	Kindergarten 2019 Best Start
Monday 4th February	Times to be Notified	Kindergarten 2019 Start School
Monday 4th February	9am—3pm	Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival— Maitland Pool
Tuesday 12th February	9am—3pm	School Photos

## Student Banking

Last day for Student banking will be Thursday 13th December.



# Stage 3 Report

## Canberra

What a week! 121 students from across Stage 3 were lucky enough to tour our nation's capital last week as part of our Canberra excursion.

We visited a range of significant Australian sites and organisations, as well as some just for fun!

All children seemed to have a wonderful time. They were engaged in the learning happening at the range of destinations, asking interesting questions and offering thoughtful answers during discussions.

It has to be said that the behaviour and conduct of all of the students was exceptional and a wonderful representation of our school. Well done to all involved.

## Quality writing

Back in the classroom, we may only have a few weeks of school to go but the quality learning is still ongoing for our students. Lately, we have enjoyed reading a range of excellent writing samples being produced by our students.

Classes are working on producing quality writing across a range of text types, including informative, entertaining and poetry. Please enjoy reading these two wonderful examples of student writing from our Stage 3 classes.



# CANBERRA

Walking out the door with my coffee in hand  
It tastes so nice and frothy  
Cold breeze going past my head  
Only just got out of bed  
Throwing snowballs at my brother  
Be back soon says my mother  
Me and my bro walk of into the cold  
This is where I like to go

I see a little campfire  
Made inside an old tire  
Then I see a snowman  
Probably made by the old man  
The old man has a ring  
That makes a tiny ding

We start to walk home now  
Then we hear an old cow  
I see a fox walk past  
And my brother sees a hare run fast  
We arrive home now  
I sit in front of the heater  
And hear my dog howl  
Tyson

## A Day at School in 2155

Flowering fields  
War at peace with shields  
Living in misery  
They learn for their history  
Their hair so neatly parted  
They keep their friends close to their heart  
As the tree branches are brushing  
The teacher starts hushing  
Their air conditioner blowing  
And the river flowing  
Children in their detention cells  
With ringing of school bells  
More bees are coming from their hive  
And suddenly it's 2155!  
Josie





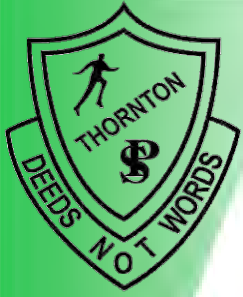


# 5/6A

## Greetings from Canberra 5/6A & Stage 3







# 3/4Y

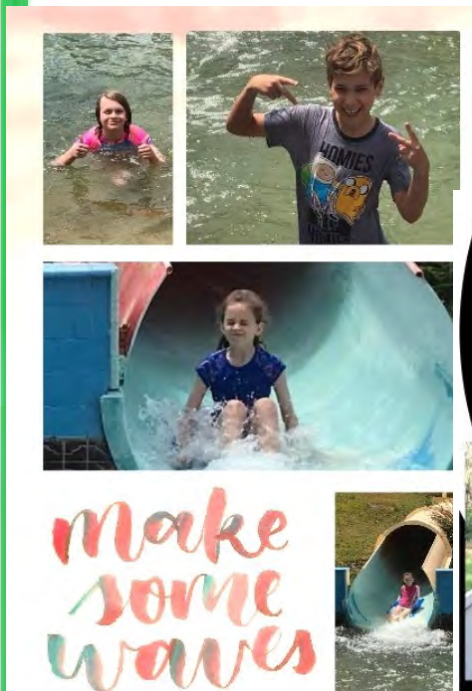
## Camp at Adventure Land Forster

In the morning we had to get to school at 7:30 am so we could get into our groups. Half an hour later we hopped on the bus and went to Forster, it took two hours to get there. Then the carers said get any bag, put it under the shelter and we would find them after. Then the carers had to tell us what we are doing and what cabin we are in.

The first activity was the giant swing, it was two houses tall. Everyone was screaming. The second thing we did was mud world. We went into a mud pool first, we had to swim across to the end. Then we went under and over poles, then we ran over a wobbly bridge and jumped over a wall. We went in a very deep mud pool and swam across. Then we went in a hole full of mud. Next we went in a maze but we had to link arms, we had to wait for everyone to get out of the maze before we unlinked arms. After that we had lunch it was burgers. Then we went back to the activists and we went on the zip line we got to have two turns. Someone got stuck but we got him down. We had afternoon tea, we had sausage rolls. At dinner we had spaghetti Bolognese it was so good. After dinner we had games night, that was fun and finally we got to have chocolate milk and cookies, then we went to bed.

In the morning we had breakfast and then we packed our bags. Our first activity was archery we had to shoot the targets. And after that we had the water slides they were so much fun and that was all we had that day. And we went home.

By Amelia F





## School Camp

On Thursday year 3 and 4 went to a school camp at foster. It took us 1 hour and 40 minutes. When we got there we were put into groups of about 30 or 31 people. Then we all went to our cabins, *unpacked* and got ready for the first activity which for us was the giant swing.

### The giant swing

At the giant swing you had to wear a harness and a helmet to keep safe. Everyone who wanted a turn got one. While they were standing getting ready to be pulled 20 meters or higher in the air the whole class had to run with a rope until the person was high enough to be launched over the trees and the lake. It was soooooooooooooooooooooo much fun but also terrifying at the same time.

### Mud world

I didn't do mud world but, it looked fun. Everyone said that they were freezing when they got out of the mud. When they got out of the mud the hair on everyone's legs made them look like men because it made their hair black. There were heaps of obstacles that you had to go through. Some people said they would NOT do it again but, some people said they would do it again.

### Zip lining

First you had to find a partner then get all harnessed up and put a helmet on. Then you had to walk up to the top of this hill and wait in line until it was you and your partners go on the zip line. Once it was your go the instructor hooked your harness clip on the wire. And off you go flying across the lake and landing on the black pads. 1 person got stuck over the lake but, we got him down by pulling him with a canoe paddle. Someone hit the break so hard they did a backflip.

The next day

### Archery

At archery we all got a go at shooting the bow and arrow and trying to hit the target. At the end we played a game called "bake the cake". Basically you had to get all the ingredients to bake the cake and if you got black you burnt the cake. It was soooooooooooooooooooooo much fun.

### Water slides

Water slides were fun but I wish that there were more than 2 slides. I had 4 turns on one slide and 2 on a different one because we were allowed to just play in the pool at the bottom of the water slides so I did.

My favorite activity was the giant swing because you went so high and the adrenaline was rushing down your legs.

By Anabelle



On Thursday morning at 7:55 the bus had arrived and we were loading our luggage onto the bus. By 8:05 we were on the road to camp, about 1 hour and 45 minutes later we were getting all our luggage and ourselves off the bus and into Adventureland.

At about 10:40 we got sorted and ready for our first activity, the giant swing. At the highest point on the swing you're 20m off the ground. I'm scared of heights, so at first there was no way you were getting me on it, but after about 20 people going on it and only 1 person not loving it my time was running out to make a decision to go on it or not. Eventually I made the decision to go on it, even though I'm scared of heights. I absolutely loved it.

After lunch, we went to mud world. At first I was thinking the same thing as I was before the giant swing, and I was definitely not going into the mud. But then I changed my mind and went in, it was really cold and fun. We had to do lots of obstacles in and out of the mud including things like vault under and over high jump obstacles. Another activity in the mud that we did, we had to get a partner. My partner was Jordan and we had to get on a pipe and we had to slide along it to the middle where we meet and try and push each other off. I managed to push him off before he pushed me.

After that, we did the flying fox which went over the big lake. I did that same thing as the giant swing and mud world. I got all the way to the top but it was too scary and I didn't want to do it.

On Friday morning, I got up ready to go and our first activity was archery.

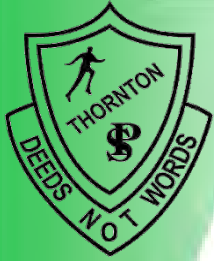
At archery, we were using actual bows and arrows which I was really surprised by and I hit the fourth ring from the middle of the target. I had lots of power but not much accuracy.

The final activity that we did were the big waterslides and I didn't really want to get changed and I don't like long waterslides so I decided to take pictures of people coming out of the bottom instead. I got sick of taking photos, so I asked Zoe if she wanted to do it and she said yes so I got to dip my feet in the pool by the waterslide.

We then had to get ready and get our luggage and belongings sorted to catch the bus home.

On the bus home, I nearly got to sleep but we had the windows on the bus open so it was really chilly and loud. When we got back to school, I hopped out and everybody was walking really slow and looked like zombies because they were really tired. I then I got my luggage and headed home.

By Caleb.



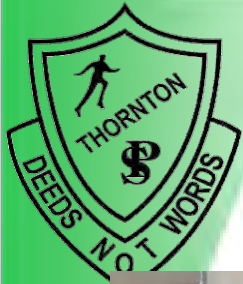
## CAMP

On Thursday we all went to the big shelter and got in our groups. Then the bus came, we put all the bags on the bus that you went on, went to the toilet and said goodbye to our mum and dad. Then the 1 hour and 30 minute travel started. I sat next to Clayton we were 3 seats from the back.

The whole bus started screaming, besides the teachers, the sign said Forster camp. We picked up any bag, put them in the area out the front of the cabins then got put in our groups and cabin. My group had the giant swing, some people pulled a rope. Mud world, some of the obstacles you could skip, it was lots fun. The zip-line I said I cannot do it, I said it again, I stepped down on the grass then the instructor pushed me. We went to bed, day one was over.

The next morning, we had pancakes, then back to activities. Archery was lots of fun, we played a game called bake a cake, and I do not know who won. The water slides were awesome, I had 6 goes on the yellow slide that was the fast one. I had lost my board then hopped on Max's board halfway through. It was wicked on the red slide, I flipped over.

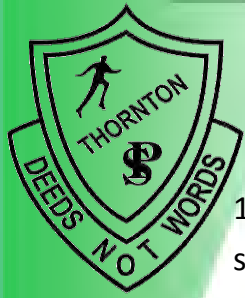
By Levi.



# 1/2WS

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



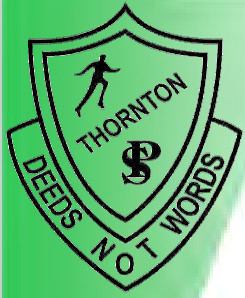


# 1/2P

1/2P have been super busy this term! We have been mastering our adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing and also learning all about fractions and position.

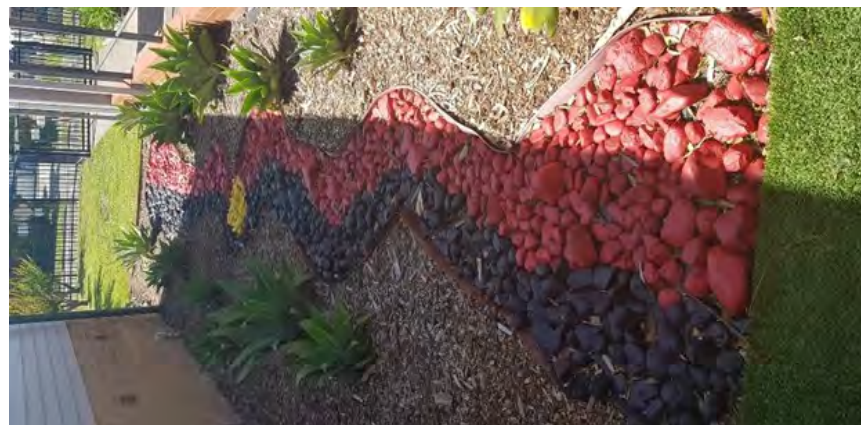
In writing, we have been looking at informative and persuasive texts. We have even written a letter to Mr Wylie to convince him to let us stay inside on windy days! 1/2P have also been working in pairs and small groups performing a variety of readers theatre plays. We absolutely loved it!

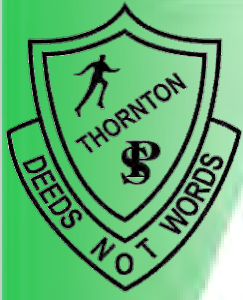




# Cultural Group

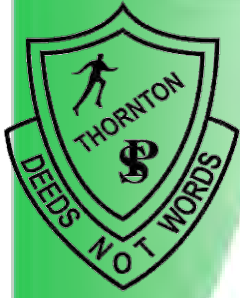
Aboriginal students painting rocks for our Rainbow Serpent.





Aboriginal students in years 3 to 6 planted trees around the yarning circle



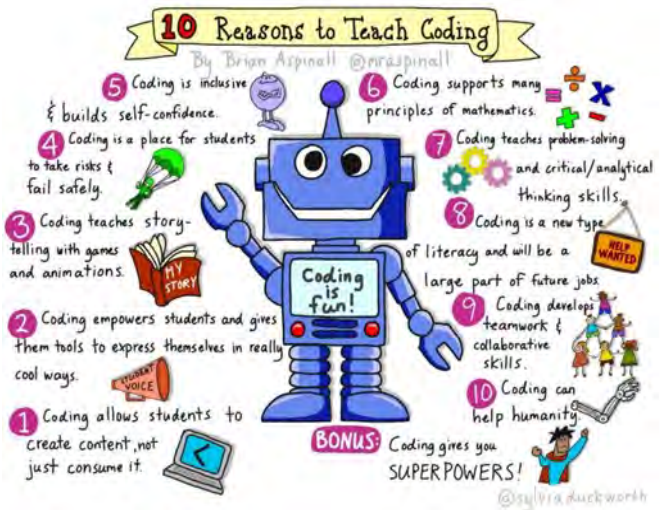


# Technology

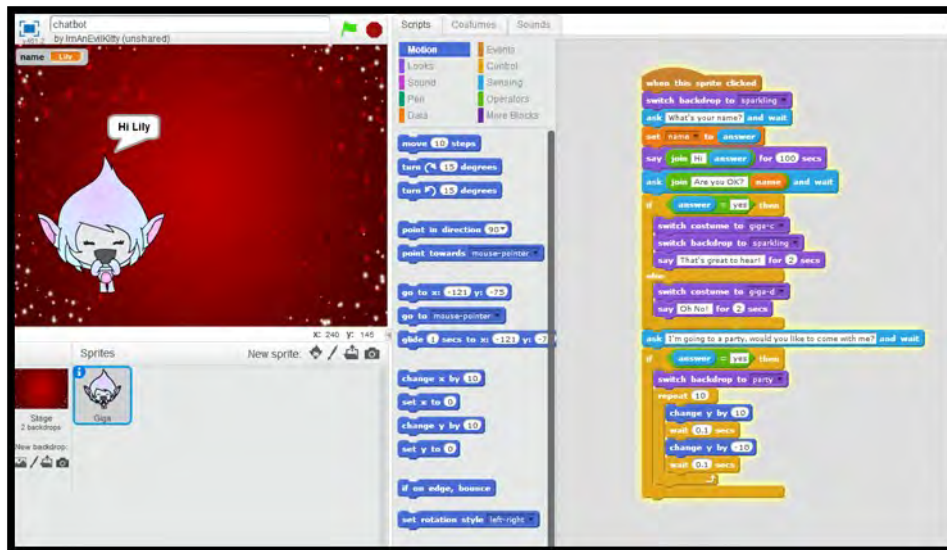
## Technology

Stage 2 and 3 students have been working on their computer programming skills this semester using the website [scratch.mit.edu](http://scratch.mit.edu). A few students have copied screenshots of their work below and explained some of the work they did. I have been very impressed by the problem solving skills shown by all students as they attempted each project.

Mrs Clarke



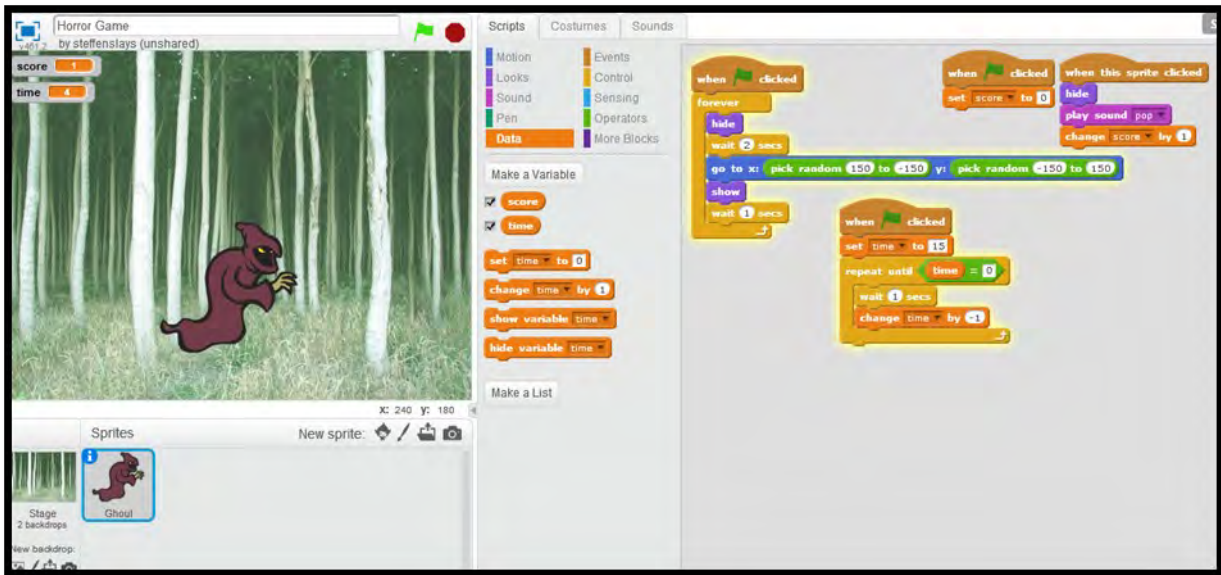
*Libby*



This is called ChatBot. It is a bot that will talk to you. The coding can seem like a job for someone who is more skilled, but if you have a diagram in front of you then it will be pretty easy. Most of the games that you can get on Scratch, you can see all different types of coding that I haven't used yet. Coding is really fun, especially when you know how to do it properly. But if you don't then you can just have a lot of fun. Part of this Scratch project was that you had to make it speak, teach it how to answer the questions and depending on which answer you gave to it, it would change its expression. Like this question for example, How are you feeling? Then if you said good, its expression would change to a happy face that is really cheerful and inviting and say "That's great to hear!". But if you said bad the Chatbot would say "Oh no!" and have a frowny face that looks like it wants to smash something.



## Jack



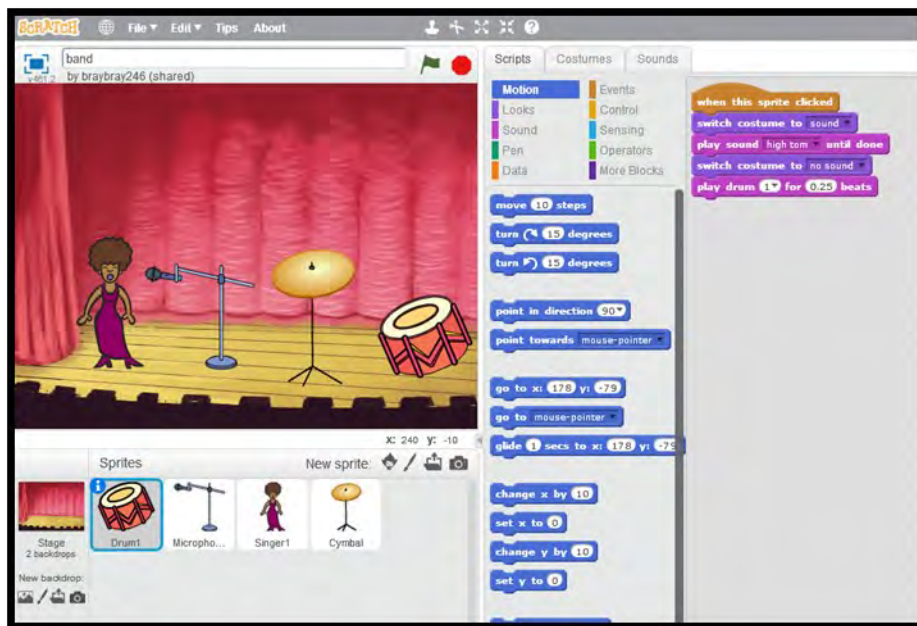
This is a screenshot of a game I made. I made this game because I LOVE horror games.

### Steps to make the game using scratch:

1. You put your backdrop
2. You add your character and choose it's pose
3. You make character move around randomly
4. You make it disappear and make a sound when clicked on
5. You add score for when character clicked
6. You add a countdown timer for 15 seconds.

Then the game is ready to go!

## Brayden



This project is called Band. I made the opera singer sing when clicked and create lines so it looked realistic. The microphone doesn't do anything yet. The drum 1 makes a beat of 0.25 beats when clicked. The cymbal plays a cymbal clang until done. So you can play your own music using my coding!

Ace



In this project I made a game.

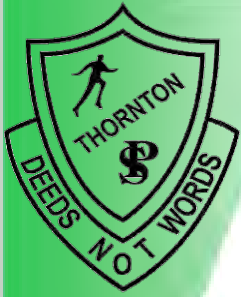
Firstly, I had to put all the coding in for the characters to disappear and appear. Secondly, then I had to make it to go to random places on the screen. Thirdly, I had to put the time and score on it. Lastly, I went onto the backdrop and made it switch and change colours then I added two more sprites.

Now it's all ready to play, all you need to do is to press the flag.

Coding is today's language of creativity. All our children deserve a chance to become creators instead consumers of computer science.

Maria Klawe

autelony



# PBL News

This weeks PBL Affirmation is;

**I remain calm in the classroom.**

This means we... speak politely to teachers and students, ask for timeout if required, use calming strategies and focus on my actions.

Teachers are handing out deeds to students who ... walk safely; during wet weather, outside classrooms and to and from the

*I remain  
calm in  
the  
classroom.*





# Compulsory School Attendance

## Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





### **My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### **What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### **What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### **Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

**Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:**

**Policy, information and brochures:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

**The school leaving age:**

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning website*

**Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

**Learning and Engagement**

**Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships**

T 9244 512

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

Thornton Netball Club 2019 Season  
Registration Information



**Important Dates:**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 9am – 3pm at Pat Hughes Community Hall Thornton

**Meet the Coach date:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 5pm – 6:30pm

**TNC Online registrations will open 7<sup>th</sup> January and final online registrations will be accepted on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of February.** Get your registrations in early to avoid late payment fees.

Club contact details are as follows:

President: Kim Hooson 0422 220 667 Secretary: Kellyan Hickey 0431 063 033

Email: [thorntonnetball@hotmail.com](mailto:thorntonnetball@hotmail.com)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Thornton-Netball-Club-310809352289307/>



**Maitland District Netball Association Competition is due to commence on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

\*\*\*\* REMEMBER YOU CAN USE ACTIVE KIDS REBATE \*\*\*\*\*

**JOY of water**  
Swim school for all ages and abilities

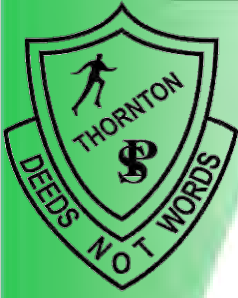
**9 DAYS OF 30 MINUTE LESSONS**

**Summer INTENSIVE SWIM PROGRAM**

**BOOK ONLINE**  
**JOYOFWATER.COM.AU**  
**PHONE 0447 226 284**

**MON TO FRI / 7- 11 JAN**  
**MON TO THU / 14 - 17 JAN**

**SWIM AND SURVIVE**



# FRANCIS GREENWAY

## — HIGH SCHOOL —

### Bring your Own Device (BYOD) Year 7 2019

Students in Year 7 2019 at Francis Greenway High School will be involved in the relaunch of our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy. By facilitating BYOD, we can empower our students, giving them direct involvement in the way technology is used in their learning. Year 7 students will be required to bring a suitable computing device that meets our school's BYOD requirements to school every day from 2019. We have established a partnership with Harvey Norman to provide you with affordable, compatible devices. Please see the specialists in the Rutherford store to meet all of your BYOD needs for 2019 or view the compatible devices on their website <http://www.harveynormanbusiness.com.au/fghs2018portal>

Our Francis Greenway High School BYOD handbook can also be found via the link below.

<https://goo.gl/hBtjNe>

For any further questions please contact the Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Jess Lassam on

0249 641 282.



## SUMMER READING CLUB

### FANTASTIC BEASTS PARTY

Be rewarded for your reading during the holidays. Sign up to Summer Reading Club and grab your starter pack.

Join the party, come dressed as your favourite Fantastic Beasts or Harry Potter character and win prizes.

**WHEN:** Sat 1 Dec  
11.00am - 12.00pm

**WHERE:** Maitland Library

**COST:** Free

**maitland** library  
city council

# Work at the biggest event in NSW

## NSW State election 23 March 2019

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the election.

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SOMERSET ELC  
OFFERS A  
SUPPORTIVE  
AND HOMELIKE  
ENVIRONMENT  
BASED ON THE  
REGGIO EMILIA  
APPROACH.

*"Our 2 children have been at Somerset for the last 12 months and we could not recommend them enough. My husband and I moved to the area as a result of a Defence Force posting. Somerset impressed us from the beginning with the large spacious classrooms, beautiful handmade furnishings and caring staff. As a Teacher, I wanted an educational program that still allowed my children to play and be in a natural environment, opposed to a plastic one. We love the fact that the service is quiet, affording our children individualised attention.*

*We are so grateful to all the beautiful Somerset Educators."*

*Nicki, Rob, Charlie and Benji*



*"Adele has been at Somerset ELC close to 2 years now. We chose it for the long hours and convenient location. The staff are lovely and always keep us informed about how Adele was throughout the day. Her speech has improved and she has gained so much independence. They have great entertainment and educational visits such as the wildlife park, dentist, fire brigade, magic and puppet shows. With a 6.30am open, chickens for the kids to care for and friendly staff, it really works for my family. Thank you for looking after our girl"*

*Matt and Adele*



Our qualified Educators are friendly and nurturing



The pets in our centre help children learn to care for others



Focus on providing a natural, organic learning environment



We are a sun safe Centre

**SOMERSET EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

1 AVARD CLOSE, THORNTON NSW 2322

PH: 02 4028 6460 FAX: 02 4028 6461

[WWW.CHILDCAREMAITLAND.COM.AU](http://WWW.CHILDCAREMAITLAND.COM.AU)



**Beresfield Barracudas Swimming Club  
Welcomes New and Existing Members to the  
2018/19 season!**

**Friday Nights at 6pm  
From Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October – March 2019  
Come along for a try before signing up!**

**Online registrations are now open – see website below**

**\$100 per swimmer**

**7 Y/O + under are FREE, thanks to the Optus Junior Dolphin Program**

Costs include National, State and Local affiliation fees

All new swimmers must bring their birth certificate to the 1<sup>st</sup> club night

**To register:**

WEBSITE [www.beresfield@nswswimming.com.au](http://www.beresfield@nswswimming.com.au) / or via club lane: [nsw.swimming.org.au](http://nsw.swimming.org.au)

*Or on a club night: try before you buy!*

**For more information:**

COMMITTEE available @ 1<sup>st</sup> club night: Fri 19/10 Beresfield Pool

EMAIL [barracudassc@optusnet.com.au](mailto:barracudassc@optusnet.com.au)

PHONE **0438 581 087** to speak with our Registrar, Jacqui / Alternate PHONE **0413 337 184**

FACEBOOK For all updates LIKE the Facebook page!

#### **About Beresfield Swimming Club Inc**

We are a family oriented swimming club which encourages members to develop their skills at their own pace. Our Club Meets are based on improving on your best times in each stroke. We have races suitable for beginners over 15m through to competent swimmers over 50m, 100m and 200m. Competency is assessed by times and proficiency, with swimmers being graded for each stroke from beginners in E-grade through to A-grade for the fully proficient swimmers.