

SINGLETON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4

Week 10

10th December 2021



R E S P E C T | R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y | E X C E L L E N C E



This will be the final newsletter for the year and I want to thank you so, so much for supporting our school community and your child in education over the course of what has been an incredibly unprecedented year. It seems so long ago that we were able to have K-2 parents in the school for drop off and pick up, our swimming carnival in Term 1 and we had 80+ Kindergarten students starting big school for the first time! Our current Year 6 cohort, who are leaving primary school for high school, were in Year 2 when I first arrived at the school and it was nice to reminisce on the photo below that was taken for the Singleton Argus as part of the welcome that the school had for me when I arrived! See if you can recognise these cute little Year 2 students.



Farewell to our departing families and students

I would like to send a fond farewell to the families and children who are leaving us at the end of this year, and either relocating to another area, or going off to high school. I truly hope you have fond memories of our school community and I wish you and your children the very best in exploring your new endeavours. Thank you for being part of this school and making it great! Feel free to stay in touch and let us all know how you are travelling.

Staff Leaving

It is very sad for me to announce that the wonderful Mrs Janelle Cox will be retiring at the end of the year. Mrs Cox has taught at the school for over 20 years and has developed the talents of many students, past and present in this community. Mrs Cox has been an valued member of the teaching staff at this school and has an amazing creative style that will be greatly missed by the students and staff alike. Mrs Cox has an integral role in the fundraising for charity at the school and always contributes to the positive wellbeing initiatives that the school coordinates. I would like to wish Mrs Cox all the best in retirement, and on behalf of the school community, thank her for her tremendous service to the students and families of this community of the past. I recently presented a special gift to Mrs Cox on behalf of the school P&C Committee.



Mrs Vern is taking a 12-month break from teaching next year, to focus on other pursuits and will be sadly missed, by teachers and students alike. Miss Huntley will be relieving in Mrs Vern's Assistant Principal role for Stage 3.

Our Vision: POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS, AUTHENTIC LEARNING

Dorsman Drive, Singleton Heights 2330 | t: 65731363 | singletonh-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au | www.singleton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

PBL Rewards Day and Bingo

Unfortunately, we had to delay our PBL Rewards Day and Bingo until today, due to the Teacher's Federation Industrial Action on Tuesday. Today, students who qualify for the Rewards Day will get to participate in fun activities in the middle session of the day, and our PBL Bingo will take place at 10:50am. Should be a fun day!



Party Day

Our school Party Day for classes has been scheduled for Tuesday, 14th December. Students will be able to come to school in out of uniform (mufti) clothing on the day, however, they will need to wear sun-safe clothing and closed-in shoes on the day. Class notes have been sent out with the requirements for bringing in food items. Yet another fun day for our students!

Year 6 Farewell

Our Year 5 and 6 students will be participating in the Year 6 farewell, tonight, Friday, 10th December. Dinner will be served from 5:45, with the Silent Disco from 6:30-8pm. Year 5 students will depart at the end of the disco, and our Year 6 students will have a movie night from 8:30pm. Looking forward to a good night.

Allan Ward's Retirement

Our school has had the pleasure of having the expertise of Mr Allan Ward working with our children to learn music for almost 30 years. On Fridays, Mr Ward teaches music all day to our students who are also in our school band, and for years our school band has had a wonderful reputation in the Singleton Community. Mr Ward has been an amazing asset to our school's creative arts program. **Mr Ward has now decided to retire and we will definitely miss his explicit and creative teaching of music.** I would like to wish Mr Ward all the best in retirement, on behalf of the Singleton Heights Public School community. See below for testimonials about this amazing teacher's time at SHPS:



Allan Ward was my first ever music teacher. I sat in the front row of Singleton Heights Primary School Band on the flute. I remember Allan Ward always having coffee in one hand and his clarinet in the other.... Because of the opportunities that Allan Ward gave me I have since joined many other bands and tutored other young flautists.

Amy Alley

Wow! What a career! You have been coming to Singleton Heights Public School for longer than many of the classroom teachers have been there. You have shared your musical knowledge with hundreds of students, who have grown up knowing what it is like to have a love of music.

Meg Bowman (parent and teacher)

I want to thank you (Mr Ward) so much because if it weren't for you, my music career would not be as it is today.... I am now studying a BMus at Avondale University in my second year, and I love it. I have also just recently been selected for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra snare drum awards, which is only four people nationally, chosen for this.... I cannot thank you enough for my first-ever tour to Japan back in 2012 and for just showing me a glimpse of where music can take you.

John Alley

Louis Armstrong once said, "Music is life itself" and I have often heard it said that music is power. Allan, you gave the power of music to so many children at SHPS and to Andre, our son, for whom music is an essential part of his life, and for this we are truly thankful. His love of music is boundless, and you helped to create this love, you gave him "power".

Joy (former SHPS Deputy Principal), **Jim & Andre Vikas** (Bachelor of Music, Honours, B.Ed)



Last day of school

The last day of school for students will be on Thursday, 16th December. We have yet to decide how our Year 6 walkout will look, as we won't be able to have the student walkout tunnel, and we are still not supposed to have parents on site. We will be restricted in whatever we plan, but we will make every attempt to make it a special goodbye next Thursday.

Students in Years one to six will return on Tuesday, 1st February 2022.

From our Visible Wellbeing partnerships:

As parents and educators, we can't shield our children from feeling fear or danger. And we can't always be with them when it happens. But what we can do is help our children handle themselves in these situations.

How? By helping them build courage. What is courage? A great definition of courage is "taking a worthwhile risk." This is a type of risk that you voluntarily do - despite the fear or anxiety that it's making you feel.

Now, how can you explain this to your child? And more importantly, how can you help them build their courage? Here are two things that you can do as a parent or educator:

1 - Explain that fear can help, but it can also bring pain

Explain to your child that fear has its purpose. It can actually be helpful during situations where we are in control. Also, it can prompt us to minimise the risks. Like if your child has to speak in public, their fear may prompt them to keep practising. And that can be an indication of growth.

However, there are also times when fear can do more harm. It's especially true when it keeps us from enjoying life. With that said, you can talk to your child about this. Help them see whether their fear is valid or whether it might be something that can rise above with the support of others. Encourage them to talk about their heroes and other people they see who are doing things even if they feel fear or doubt. Talk to them about how everyone has the capacity for courage. Know when to push and when to step back. This can put your child in control of the situation they fear - making them feel courageous.

2 - Encourage them to be objective

Sometimes, we can fear a situation because of how we would feel on the inside and not really the situation itself. When you try to explain this to your child, you can use public speaking as an example. Most of us fear public speaking because we fear we will forget what we wanted to say. Or maybe we spoke once before and the audience didn't like what we're saying.

It could also be possible that it didn't happen to us. We witnessed it happening to someone else and we don't want the same thing to happen. Such experiences can lead us to feel embarrassed, ashamed, etc. But the truth is, what really happened is that we didn't do it perfectly. And when it ended, we simply got off the stage afterwards and went home. So, you can encourage your child to look at this situation objectively. Try to make them focus on the act itself as separate from the feelings that are attached to the idea of speaking in public. Remind them that courage can only be grown in situations that seem risky or frightening. When things are going well, we have no opportunity to build our courage. So, the upside of fear is that it provides us with the ingredient to become stronger.

Do you think you can do these two tips to help your child build courage?

Take care over the Christmas break and enjoy the festivities of family, food and fun! I look forward to leading this great school again in 2022.



Mari
badge
recipients





DATES TO REMEMBER



13/12 No Canteen	14/12 No canteen	15/12 No Canteen	16/12 No Canteen Students last day	17/12 Staff Development Day
20/12 School Holidays	21/12 School Holidays	22/12 School Holidays	23/12 School Holidays	24/12 Merry Christmas
27/12 School Holidays	28/12 School Holidays	29/12 School Holidays	30/12 School Holidays	31/12 Happy New Year



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

ALL YOU NEED IS
THIS VOUCHER!

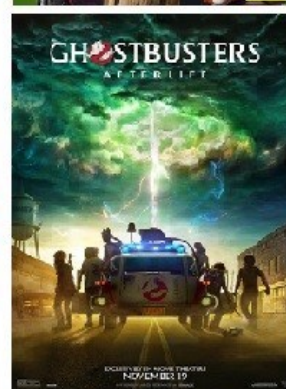
\$9.90*

ALL TICKETS

Bring this coupon to Majestic Cinemas
Singleton for a \$9.90 movie ticket

Valid Until: 28th January, 2022

*Conditions: coupon must be surrendered to receive ticket offer. Not valid with any other offer. Coupon valid for up to 4 tickets per use.



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WWW.MAJESTICCINEMAS.COM.AU

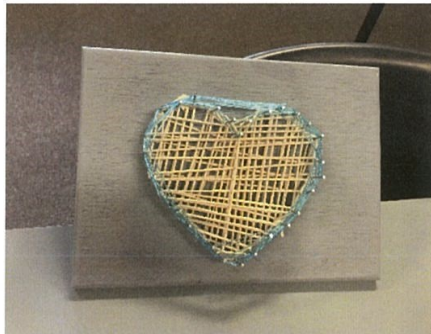


In term 4, K6K have been busy doing art. We have done nail art and sculptures. For the nail art we used small nails and we hammered them into the shape of a heart and the reason the nails were small was so we could make patterns with string.

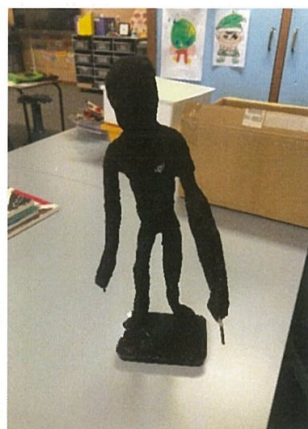
With the sculpture the teacher brought in the base for the body and as stuffing we used packing noodles and then we used plaster to make the sculpture.

Out of the two pieces of art, the sculpture took the longest, just in case you were wondering.

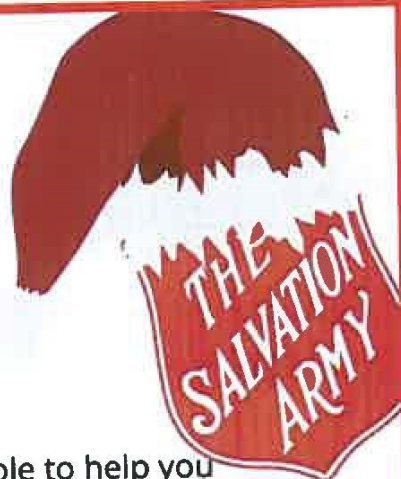
By Caleb R



K-6K



Singleton Salvos Christmas 2021



Are you struggling to make ends meet this Christmas?

Do you have children aged up to 16 in your care?

If your only income is from Centrelink we may be able to help you this Christmas with the following:

- some toys/gifts for the children
- a food hamper / gift card

Registration for support is open throughout November at the Salvation Army Family Store, Gowrie St, or at the church on 4 York St (Tues - Fri)
Pop in and complete the form or call Jean on 0418 741 172 for more information.

Blessings to you,

Jean and Brian

KIDS TENNIS CLINIC



Clinic 1
TUE 21/12
WED 22/12
THU 23/12

Clinic 2
TUE 11/1
WED 12/1
THU 13/1

Clinic 3
TUE 18/1
WED 19/1
THU 20/1

**8:30am
till 11:30am**



**\$30/day
\$80 for 3
consecutive days**

BOOK ONLINE AT
WWW.SINGLETONTENNISCOACHING.COM

PHONE 02 6572 3889 EMAIL hello@singletontenniscoaching.com

**AGES
4-17**



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Coaching



VACANCIES AVAILABLE ENROL NOW

SINGLETON MOBILE PRESCHOOL

Caters for children 3-5 years of age
2 year olds are considered if places are available)
Operates at Community Halls from 9am to 3pm
during school terms

- Tuesday + Friday - Broke
- Wednesday + Thursday - Mt Olive

FOR MORE INFORMATION

T 02 6578 7550
E childcareservices@singleton.nsw.gov.au

SINGLETON OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Caters for children aged 4 to 12 years
Before School 6am to 9am
After School 3pm to 6.30pm
Vacation Care (school holidays) 8am to 6.30pm
Casual and permanent bookings available

FOR MORE INFORMATION

T 02 6578 7558
E childcareservices@singleton.nsw.gov.au

COLLEEN GALE CHILDRENS SERVICES

Caters for children aged 6 weeks to 6 years of age
Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm
All meals provided
Individual educational + school readiness
programs

FOR MORE INFORMATION

T 02 6578 7550
E childcareservices@singleton.nsw.gov.au

CONTACT US ON:

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**ENROL
TODAY!**