

The Wheeler Word



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Term 1 Week 6

Thursday 4 March 2021

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Gai-maraigal and Garigal people of this land and we will always pay respect to the people who took care of this land.

Leo P – Year 3

Half way through the term already!

It has been another busy and exciting week at school for students, staff and community. Last Thursday evening, I had the pleasure of working with the parent/carer focus group. Our session involved looking at both the School Excellence Framework (SEF) and the current School Plan. The team were asked to assess where they felt the school was at in terms of the elements of the SEF that related to parents and community. There was a lot of interesting and thought-provoking conversation and I'd personally like to thank those parents for not only giving up their time but for their honesty and their passion in ensuring that we all work together in the best interest of the children. It was yet another example of the community spirit that Wheeler Heights is so well known for and as with the recent survey, it was exciting to see how well aligned the school and broader community are.

Last week in professional learning time, the teaching staff engaged with recent research from the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) in to what works best in practice. Teams focused on different elements and we will be engaging deeper with this research next term. This week the whole staff have undertaken mandatory CPR and emergency care training.



The staff are continuing to collaborate on the development of the School's Strategic Improvement Plan.

One of the strategic directions has already been given to us by the Department, this is 'Student Growth and Attainment'. Each school has been set priority areas for improvement in Reading and Numeracy. Later in the Newsletter you will see information about the Premier's Reading Challenge. This is a wonderful initiative and one that can make a significant difference to student engagement in reading. This year Wheeler Heights is aiming for 100% participation. Interestingly, when I recently interviewed some of our Stage 2 and 3 students about how they could improve in reading, nearly everyone replied with 'I could read more' – what a great opportunity to meet this goal!

Simone Rizzuto
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

This information is for parents that enrolled their child for the Yr 7 2022 selective high school placement test:

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 11 March 2021 from 9:00am to 1:30pm.

Unless parents have made special arrangements with the High Performing Students Team to attend an individually allocated test centre, candidates from this school have been sent to:

Narrabeen Sports High School
Namona St
NARRABEEN NORTH NSW 2101

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7> to find:

- Test centre allocations by public school.
- A map of test centre addresses under the heading 'The test'.
- The bulletin, Test information for parents and students. The bulletin contains very important information about the test and should be read carefully.

Jodie Sly
School Administration Manager

2021 DATES

Fri 5 Mar
WHPS Clean-Up event
Summer PSSA starts

Tues 9 Mar
Zone Swimming Carnival

Mon 15 Mar
Syd Nth Swimming Carnival

Wed 17 Mar
Harmony Day Celebration

Thurs 18 March Yr 7 2022
PCS Extension Test

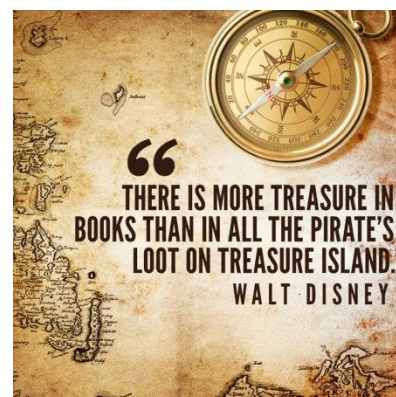
Thurs 25 March
Student Leaders to Halogen Young Leaders conference

Thurs 1 April Last Day of Term 1

Term 2 Tues 20 April - Fri 25 Jun

Term 3 Tues 13 July - Fri 17 Sept

Term 4 Tues 5 Oct - Thurs 16 Dec



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA AT SCHOOL DAY FRIDAY 5 MARCH 2021

Tomorrow, Friday 5 March 2021, Wheeler Heights students and their teachers will be stepping up to support the Clean Up Australia campaign which will be held across the nation on Sunday 7 March 2021. Each class will be allocated an area of the school to clean up. Students are encouraged to bring their own environmentally friendly reusable gloves labelled with their name but if they don't have them they are not essential.



Mrs Rosemary Radom
Clean Up Organiser

HARMONY DAY

WHPS will be celebrating Harmony Day on Wednesday 17 March. Students can participate by choosing one of the options below:

- 1) Culturally appropriate mufti/heritage outfit. Kids can wear a garment or outfit significant to their cultural heritage.
- 2) Wear a colour found on a flag that has significance to their cultural background.
- 3) Bring in a symbol or artefact of cultural significance and share with the class on Harmony day.



It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

Year 2 Teachers

SRC NEWS



Congratulations to the following students for being selected to the Student Representative Council (SRC). Each student has the responsibility of attending the weekly SRC meeting. They also collect information about any issues concerning the students and participate in planning and decision making on behalf of the student body. The SRC also assists with the organisation and promotion of special school events. Badges will be awarded in Week 9 and further information will be sent home next week with SRC members.

1/2C	Flynn H. and Josh I.	2S	Millicent W. and Preston W.
2J	Eamonn S. and Imogen W.	3F	Ella S. and Tom R.
3J	Alexis N. and Dallas B.	3/4B	Marissa B. and Quade K.
4E	Alice H. and Briesa G.	4R	Alex K. and Lilly N.
5/6H	Erin. O. and Nathan N.	5/6J	Sydney D. and Tex K.
5/6S	Bobby W. and Nathan C.	5/6T	Coco F. and Beau O.

2021 BIKE AND SCOOTER LICENCES

Year 2 to Year 6 students who ride to school receive a bike or scooter licence which is to be attached to their bicycle or scooter when riding to and from school. The purpose of the licence is to encourage safe riding and support road safety awareness. Once your child has returned their bike or scooter agreement to me they can ride to school. If your child is riding to school for the first time I will attach their licence to their bike or scooter to ensure it is in a safe location. Students are to see me either in the morning or at lunch time on the first day they bring their bike or scooter to school to get their licence.

Miss Earl
SRC Coordinator



ARTS ALIVE

ARTS ALIVE COMBINED SCHOOLS CHOIR AUDITIONS

The AACSC team is currently preparing for rehearsals to commence in the coming weeks, pending any COVID-19 decisions by the NSW Department of Education. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, the choir will only be rehearsing at one venue in 2021. Rehearsals will be held at Belrose PS and procedures are being put in place in consultation with the school principal to meet the requirements of the school and the DoE relating to social distancing, cleaning and any other issues raised as part of this consultation process.

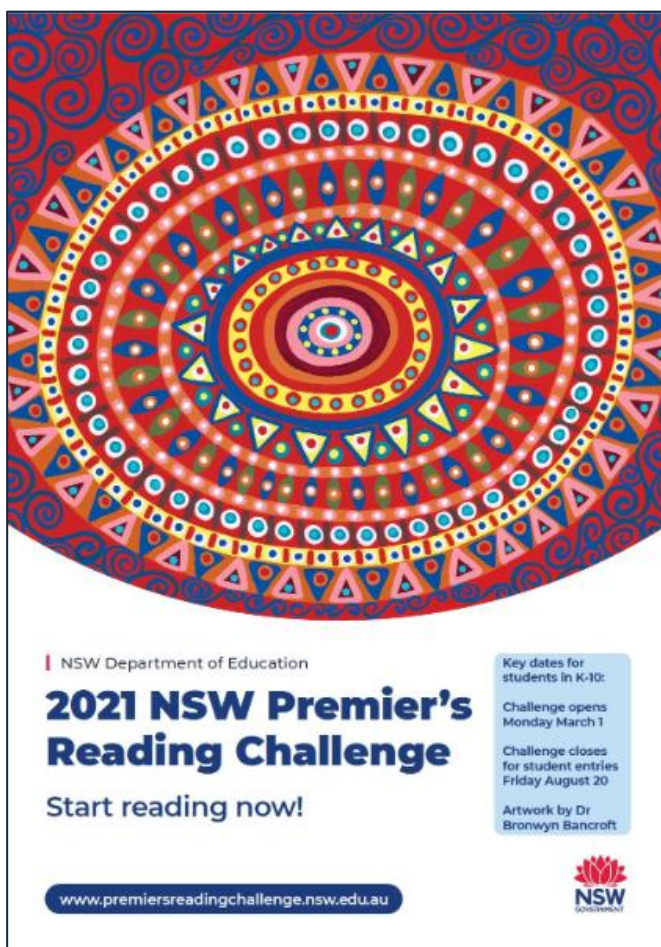
Auditions are open for the two choirs – Primary and Secondary. We will be accepting auditions throughout this term. Apologies for the late notice. Because of COVID restrictions the team has been working on this to ensure protocols are being followed. Students who are enthusiastic singers from Years 4 – 12 who might be interested in joining the Arts Alive Combined Schools Choir Program will need to complete the online Google form <https://forms.gle/Lxa9cH38ZKGrKgoS6> as well as submit a video of their audition.

All the required audition information can be accessed via the link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1me7XkC7yn0a9eKMLCftt13Et0byTGRdG?usp=sharing>.

Mrs Rosemary Radom
(Arts Alive WHPS Contact)

LIBRARY NEWS



Get ready, set, READ! Yes, the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) has started for 2021! A note will be sent home this week with all the details needed to complete the challenge. Important points to note:

- All students K-6 are expected to complete the PRC this year.
- Your child will receive lots of support at school to help them complete the PRC
- There is a fabulous New Student Experience site to check out: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>
- You have until 20 August to complete the PRC. Plenty of time!

After reading the upcoming note, if you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact me through the school email. Happy reading!

Mrs Kathy Westwood
Teacher Librarian and PRC Coordinator

SPORTS NEWS

PSSA

PSSA permission notes and behaviour contracts were sent out last week. These need to be returned before Friday or your child **will not** be able to attend the game.

WHPS PSSA Friday Schedule:

- 8:45am PSSA students meet teachers for roll marking
- 9am Teams leave school on buses/walk to Plateau Park
- 9:30am PSSA competition starts
- 10:50am PSSA competition finishes and students return to school
- Students will return in time for recess (traffic pending)
- Non-PSSA students will participate in home sport

This Friday we will compete against Bilgola Plateau. Please see next week's newsletter for a full wrap up of the matches.

The Summer PSSA draw is available on the [Pittwater PSSA Team app](#).

Personal Best – Tennis

A huge congratulations to the following students who qualified for the Sydney North Tennis trials on Tuesday 9 March:

- Amber P
- Harry H
- Aiden N

All 3 students showcased great skill and determination to be selected and should be very proud of their efforts. The students received their Pittwater Zone representative patch at this week's Stage assemblies. We are all very proud of them and wish them luck in the next trial.



Paul Kelly Cup

Our boys and girls Paul Kelly Cup (AFL) teams participated in a gala day on Tuesday 2 March. Please see next week's newsletter for more information.

2021 Carnival Dates

Carnival	Date
Pittwater Zone Swimming	Tuesday 9 March
Sydney North Swimming	Monday 15 March
WHPS Cross Country	TBC
Pittwater Zone Cross Country	Wednesday 26 May
Sydney North Cross Country	Friday 4 June
WHPS Athletics	Thursday 5 August
Pittwater Zone Athletics	TBC
Sydney North Athletics	Monday 6 September

Pittwater Zone Trials

PSSA Zone trials are for older students who **excel** in a particular sport. They must have several years of club/representative experience. We are asked to send a maximum 2-3 students for each sport. Successful students must be able to commit to training and future trial sessions.

Please note:

- Expressing interest in a trial does not guarantee selection. Mr James and Mr Bennett will consult with the relevant coaches.
- Due to the competitive nature of these trials we are asked by the convenors to send only the outstanding players for each sport. Therefore, many schools do not send any students for certain sports.
- You will need to include details of your child's ability (years' experience and representative teams). Notes will be sent home to students selected to trial.

Upcoming Trials

Sport	Trial Date	Cut-Off Date/Conditions
Sydney North AFL	Tuesday 16 March	Players must qualify for Pittwater team. Cut-off date Friday 5 March
Sub-Regional Boys Cricket	Tuesday 16 March	Players must qualify for Pittwater team. Pittwater Trial took place on Monday 15 February
Sydney North Boys Cricket	Monday 22 March	Players must qualify for Sub-regional team
Sydney North Rugby League	Wednesday 24 March	Players must qualify for sub-regional team Cut-off date Friday 5 March
Sydney North Girls Cricket	Monday 29 March	Cut-off date Wednesday 3 March

Manly/Pittwater Boys Soccer	TBC	Players must qualify for the 3 available WHPS spots. A trial will be held at lunch on Wednesday 10 March.
Sydney North Boys Soccer	Tuesday 30 March	Players must qualify for the Manly/Pittwater team
Pittwater Boys Softball	TBC	Cut-off date TBC
Manly/Pittwater Rugby Union	TBC	Cut-off date TBC
Pittwater Netball	TBC	Cut-off date TBC

The full list of trials can be found on:

<https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/Calendar/TermCalendar?t=250&a=8&sp=&el=0&et=&act=&st=2,8,3,5,4&pl=true&par=false&dis=true&se=true&nep=true&nes=true&m=False&vat=true&vaw=false&vad=false>

Please email the school if your child is interested in trialling for Pittwater Zone/Sydney North teams. The school will inform students when we receive more information about upcoming trials.

Keeping up to date

If you would like further information about sport at the school, zone, region or state level, please use the following apps/websites.

- WHPS Sport – Flexischools app, school website and school newsletter.
- Pittwater Zone Sport – Team app. Sign up to the website/app and search for 'Pittwater PSSA' https://www.teamapp.com/?_detail=v1
- Sydney North PSSA – Website <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/SydneyNorth>
- NSW PSSA – Website <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/NSWPSSA>

Good luck to all our students who will be trialling and competing over the next few weeks.

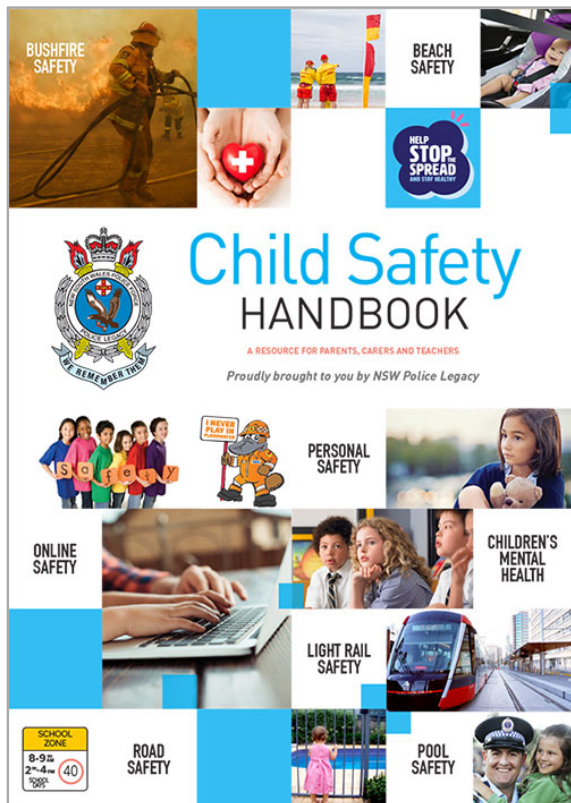
Yours in sport,
Mr James

DIGITAL CHILD SAFETY HANDBOOK

We are pleased to advise that a new edition of this valuable safety resource is now available online with updated safety content.

We urge all parents and carers to download this latest edition and discuss the safety content with your children.

**NEW EDITION
AVAILABLE
NOW**



Child Safety Handbook App
available for download:



[Visit the Child Safety Hub](#)



Selective High School Placement Test 2021 for entry to Year 7 in 2022

Test information for parents and students

When will the test be held?

The test will be held on **Thursday 11 March 2021 at 9.00am** at the allocated test centre. Signs will show you which entrance to use.

How long does the test take?

Parents must drop students off at the entrance to the test centre by **9.00am** and return promptly at **1.30pm** to pick them up.

There is a short rest break after the first test, a longer break after the second test when students can eat the food they bring, and a short rest break after the third test.

The finish time may vary according to the size of the test centre and its facilities. There is no supervision for students before 8:30am. If the test finishes early, students will be supervised. Please do not be late to collect your child after the test.

Dropping off and collecting your child

Test day is a regular school day for the test school so it is important to avoid disruption to staff and students at the school.

Do not park in or near the school grounds and observe any instructions from the school about parking restrictions. Signs will direct you to the entrance to use.

As parents will not be allowed on school grounds you will need to take your child to the designated entrance and a supervisor will meet students there. Please give anaphylaxis kits or other approved equipment to that supervisor. Collect your child from the same entrance after the test. The only exception is where a parent has prior written authority to attend for medical reasons.

If you arrange for your child to be collected by someone else or to walk to school or home, you must send a note with your child giving permission and accepting responsibility for your child's safety.

What if something goes wrong?

If something occurs to prevent your child attending the test or doing his or her best in the test, you can submit a request for consideration of illness or misadventure by 18 March 2021. You will need to get a medical certificate and independent evidence of illness covering the day if the problem is medical, or other relevant evidence if it is not about illness or injury.

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test/illness-or-misadventure> for more information about submitting an illness/misadventure request.

If your child arrives late there will be no extra time given.

Hygiene precautions

Wearing of masks and using hand sanitiser is permitted if you wish your child to do so. The presiding officer and supervisors will be observing hygiene requirements in place for NSW schools.

Please do not bring your child to the test if he or she is ill with respiratory disease. Presiding officers may not admit a student if they consider others in the test centre to be at risk from contagious disease.

What should students wear to the test?

Students should wear school uniform, including a jumper and a hat for the break.

What to bring to the test

Students must bring a printed copy of their 'Test authority letter' that shows their application number.

Students may bring a wristwatch that does **not** make a noise or calculate, communicate or photograph.

Students SHOULD bring:	Students SHOULD NOT bring:
Glasses, asthma inhaler (and spacer) and tissues if required. Other equipment and medical devices that have been approved before the test	Pens, pencil cases, erasers, rulers, note paper or other material such as dictionaries or books. Pencils and erasers will be supplied.
Clear plastic water bottle – with no writing on it except for the brand name (to be stored under the seat to avoid spills)	Equipment such as calculators, computers, mobile phones, computer watches, watches that calculate or beep, or any device that calculates, photographs or communicates
A substantial snack to eat during the break as lunch will be late, especially if the test is delayed.	Snacks containing nuts or nut products.

For further information go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>.

Tips for students

The test is designed to show your ability so there is no particular material to study before the test. You'll use your knowledge and skills to answer challenging questions.

Sample tests

You can see the types of questions that may be asked, and the explanation of answers, in the sample tests at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>. Practise answering the questions using the sample answer sheet.

On test day

- Go to the toilet before you leave home.
- You will be met at the school entrance by a supervisor who will show you where to go to line up with your school group.
- Pay attention and follow all instructions from the presiding officer and supervisors at all times.
- Put your hand up if you have a problem or a question or if you need to go to the toilet.
- Don't talk to other students once you enter the test room.
- In the test room you will sit at the desk which has a sheet showing your name and other personal details.
- There will be a short rest break after the first and third tests and a longer break after the second test, when you will go outside and eat food you have brought.

The tests

There are four tests. They will be done in this order:

Reading	40 minutes	30 multiple choice questions
Mathematical reasoning	40 minutes	35 multiple choice questions
Thinking skills	40 minutes	40 multiple choice questions
Writing	30 minutes	1 question

During the test

Listen carefully to instructions.

Put your hand up if you have any problems or any questions at any time.

You will be asked to copy your name and application number onto all of your test papers.

Answer sheets

Read each test question carefully before you start answering it. Think about what it asks you to do. Choose the answer that you think is best.

<p>Answer questions on the answer sheet by using the pencil to shade in the circle clearly underneath the option you choose.</p> <p>If you change your mind about the answer, rub it out thoroughly and show your new answer clearly.</p> <p>Keep checking that the number of the question you are working on in the question booklet is the same as the number you are shading on the answer sheet.</p> <p>If you find you are answering a question at the wrong place, put your hand up and tell a supervisor. The supervisor will record the question numbers affected. Start the next question at the correct place and come back to fix the problem later if you have time, changing one question at a time.</p>	<p>1 A B C D E ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</p> <p>2 A B C D E ○ ○ ○ ○ ○</p>
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Print off a sample answer sheet to use for practice at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>

Make sure you show your answers on the answer sheet. Answers recorded in the question booklet cannot be marked. Answer in the question booklet only if you have been given permission to do so and if so, you will have separate instructions.

Marks are not taken off for wrong answers. Incorrect, double or blank answers score zero. It is better to have a guess rather than leave an answer blank as this helps you make sure you are answering on the correct line.

If you want to work anything out in the multiple-choice tests you can write on the question booklet or on the back of the sheet with your personal details on it. For the writing test there is a page for planning in the question booklet that you can use if you wish. Any notes that you have made in the question booklet or on the writing planning page or personal details sheet will not be marked.

In the writing test you must write only about the question you are given. The question will ask you to write for a particular purpose and audience. Markers will pay attention to creative ideas, the structure of the writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation as well as effectiveness for the purpose and audience.

Timing

Use your time wisely. Work steadily. If you find a question too difficult, do not spend a long time on it. Shade in the answer you think is best and come back to that question later if you have time.

There will be no time warnings during the test. You will need to check the test centre's official clock to find out how much time you have left. Put your hand up if you cannot see it clearly.

Test conditions

If suspected of cheating you risk having the test marks not counted. Please make sure you:

- do not open the question booklet until the presiding officer tells you to do so
- do not look at the work of others during the test
- do not talk to other students while in the test room
- do not keep writing after you are told to stop.

Good advice

Get a good night's sleep the night before the test and try to keep calm. It's normal to feel nervous about a test. If you can relax, you will have a better chance to think clearly and do your best.

MESSAGES FROM THE P&C

CANTEEN NEWS

As of this week (Week 6), the canteen will be open for over the counter sales for drinks and ice blocks **at lunch time only**.

We have now been given the go ahead to allow volunteers back into the canteen. We have set up a schedule on the 'Sign Up' app for those wanting to help out at the canteen. It is the same system that has been used in the past.

Volunteers can go to signup.com to create a log in and choose the dates that suit them.

We have split the time between two options of either 9:30am-11:30am or 11:30am-1:30pm.

Please note our email address has changed to canteen@whps-pandc.org - please update your records accordingly.

Thank you

Tracey and Heidi
Canteen supervisors

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening hours: The uniform shop is open Friday mornings 8:30am-9:30am, parents are allowed on school grounds to attend the uniform shop.

COVID Sign-in: When attending the uniform shop please use the QR CODE at the school front gate and come straight into the uniform shop. There is a maximum of 5 people inside the uniform shop.

Secondhand Uniforms: We have in store a lot of secondhand uniforms available for purchase. There are sports tops on hand in small sizes, these are available for purchase for \$5. We highly recommend coming into the uniform shop to purchase available secondhand uniforms.

Sports Top shortage: Due to a supply chain issue we are currently out of sports tops. This is greatly affecting new kindy parents and we apologise for the delay in filling orders. All back orders will be delivered to your child's classroom as soon as we receive the delivery.

Thank you
The Uniform Shop Co-ordinators

ADVERTISING FEATURE

April Holiday Camps

6th April 2021 – 16th April 2021



Join our Holiday Camps and play soccer indoors on grass

CAMPS FILL FAST, SO BOOK NOW!

Here at the Football Factory we acknowledge the necessity to focus on the development of an individual's skills. It is important that children have fun whilst they learn new skills, and that's why we've tailor made our school holiday camps to be both fun and engaging!

- Professionally qualified & engaging FFA & AFC coaches.
- Learn new tricks, skills and techniques to improve your overall ball mastery and game play. We will teach you how to execute a 'Zidane Turn', 'The Socrates', 'Rabona', 'Maradona Spin', 'Cryuff Cut', 'Ronaldo Chop', or learn how to do a 'Rainbow Flick'!
- Each day has a different 'Football Focus'. Tricks, skills and moves relevant to the daily focus will be taught.
- Build your child's confidence and self-belief in a nurturing, and fun environment where they can improve their skillset. This leads to more creative players on the football field.
- Play football, no matter what the weather, in your boots!
- Finish the day with Laser football!
- Clean and safe environment where individual needs are catered to.

Check it Out!



The Football Factory | Unit 2, 8 Aquatic Drive, Frenchs Forest | (02) 9972 7766 | thefootballfactory.com.au

Learn Music on Keyboard at School

*Great songs! Musical activities!
Cool music knowledge!*



- Convenient at-school venue
- Small group, 45-min weekly lesson
- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially
- Fun introduction to music
- Kindy student register now for Term 2



To enrol: www.learnmusicatschool.com.au
(02) 9411 3122

VIP Music acknowledges awareness & compliance with the health advice regarding COVID-19.

VIP Music est. 1984