



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

EREA Supports the Voice to Parliament

Dear Parents,

In November 2022, EREA endorsed the Uluru Statement from the Heart, stating:

"We stand in solidarity, alongside our First Nations peoples, in their calls for a Voice and acknowledgment enshrined in the Australian Constitution..."

The establishment of a First Nations Voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution, and the establishment of a Makarrata Commission for the purpose of truth-telling is at the centre of this justice. We support this road to Treaty." EREA Endorses Uluru Statement of the Heart - Edmund Rice Education Australia.

Our school communities and those in the wider community are engaging in thought about the upcoming referendum on the Voice to Parliament. Edmund Rice Education has a genuine desire to provide learning opportunities for staff and young people about this important decision facing the nation – a conversation that is consistent with an EREA approach of respect, deep listening, dialogue and solidarity.

Within the EREA Acknowledgment of Country, we accept: "the invitation contained in the Uluru Statement From The Heart to listen to the First Peoples of Australia and work together for reconciliation, justice, equity, and healing." The Voice to Parliament is an authentic outcome of this invitation which will have a deep and lasting impact on the future of First Nations peoples within Australia and the reconciliation of this nation.

In living out the commitment to justice and solidarity (The Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition), to Truth Telling (Stretch RAP Respect Action 10) and to deep listening (EREA Learning Statement), EREA supports and encourages all our school communities to continue their reconciliation learning journey, including what a Voice to Parliament could look like and the possible impacts that could be felt by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people as a result of having an enshrined voice.

Australians have a unique opportunity to vote on a proposed amendment to the Constitution that recognises Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this country. This recognition will be seen through the establishment of a Voice which will be an independent, representative body for First Nations peoples speaking on behalf of issues affecting Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. I encourage our school communities to explore the specific and accurate details regarding this democratic process through the [Australian Government website](#).

EREA stands in solidarity with like-minded organisations including: the National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSIACC), Reconciliation Australia, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC), Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA), Caritas and the Edmund Rice Centre. All of these bodies have commenced a process of positive dialogue within their organisations.



The link to our [EREA Endorsed Uluru Statement of the Heart - Edmund Rice Education Australia](#) is found within and I encourage our community to consider our commitment to the Statement of the Heart, together with other opportunities for dialogue and messages of support towards the Voice for Parliament.

Happy Father's Day

Our thoughts and prayer this week are for our fathers or others in our lives who act as supportive fathers. May they find strength to balance work, family and faith. We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Happy Father's Day.

Michael Farrell | Principal



FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST



FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST



ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This week, as a community, we celebrated some very special people in some very special ways. For our dads, and other significant males, we provided a Father's Day breakfast, prayer reflection and words of thanks on Friday morning. A slideshow of images was also compiled and shared at this gathering, as was the awarding of some fabulous hampers within our raffle. Our school assembly on Friday continued the theme of Father's Day and students were able to purchase a gift from our Father's Day stall that was packaged up by our Year 9 and Year 10 students.



As well, throughout this past week, we celebrated the incredibly kind, patient, experienced and generous staff who are our Teacher's Aides! The bell song, a special afternoon tea, some quotes from the students and a special iMovie were some of the ways we extended our gratitude for the integral role they have within our school community.

Thank you to all the staff who were involved in the facilitation of these two special occasions this week, in particular, Mrs Dickenson, Ms Wytenburg, Katie and Mrs North.

Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation

Terry O'Keefe is currently providing input sessions with some of our students as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We work closely with Holy Name Church, Wahroonga, and the Diocese of Broken Bay, to provide a differentiated program that enables our students to access the learning that is required prior to receiving the Sacraments. Thank you to Terry for the way in which he leads these sessions and nurtures the faith of our students.

Book Week

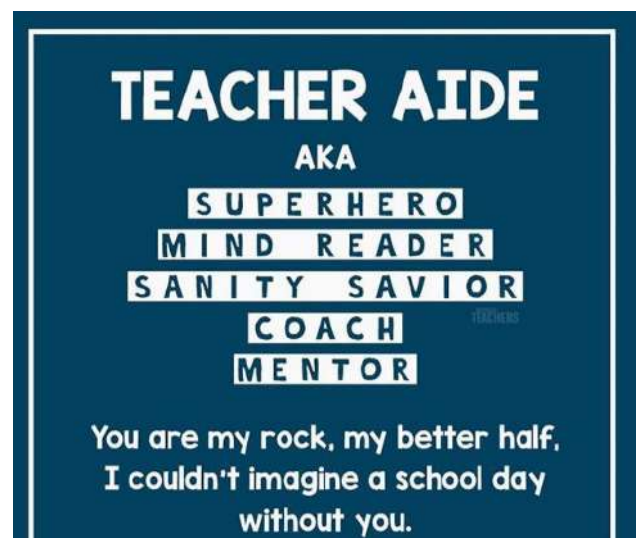
Thank you to Ms Gilkes and Catherine for the way in which this was coordinated and facilitated for our community last week. Thank you, also, for the way your child supported the focus and got involved with the Book Week Themed Mufti Day on Friday! It was so fabulous seeing so many wonderful outfits and the joy on everyone's face was extremely evident!

Personalised Planning

This week we completed our final offering for PP Meetings for this Semester. Thank you to our Homeroom teachers and our families for the time taken to collaborate on student goals. Such cooperation and consideration truly benefits our students, and it is greatly appreciated.

Year 9 and Year 10 Camp

Next week, students and staff from Year 9 and Year 10 will be attending a three day, two night camp at Port Stephens, NSW. Everyone is looking forward to the exciting activities on offer, and praying for kind weather so as to enhance the enjoyment of these activities. Thank you to Ms North, Mrs Hosken and Ali for the coordination and organisation they have undertaken for this to take place. We wish all who are going, a safe and exciting experience!



ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

School Student Visits

We have recently welcomed two sets of students from two different schools, for onsite immersion experiences. These students have come from both St Pius X at Chatswood, and Mercy College at Chatswood. These experiences provide a rich learning opportunity for our visitors, and a chance for our students to demonstrate the many incredible gifts they have to offer.

The students from both Pius and Mercy, left at the end of the day energised and buoyant, and filled with awe and wonder, as a result of the encounter. The conversations I was able to listen to, as they gathered in the reception area at the end of their visit, were all about asking each other what they did during the day, how awesome the Eddie's students were, how nice the staff were, how they wished it was for longer, and laughing about the shared experiences they had just enjoyed.

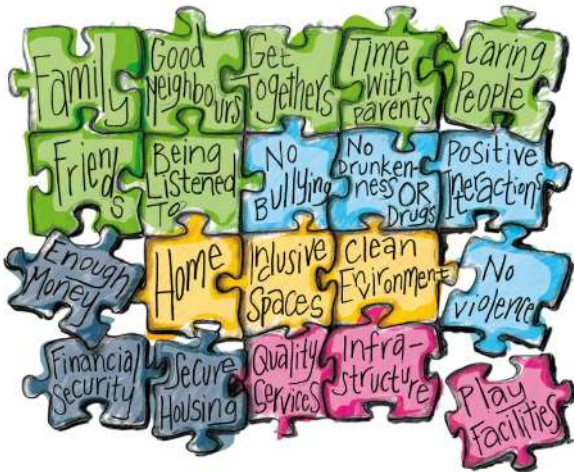
Vanessa Dillon | Acting Deputy Principal



WELLBEING

National Child Protection Week – 3-9 September

The theme for National Child Protection Week this year is Every child in every community needs a fair go! Aiming to promote a safe and supported life for every child now and into the future. One child described community as a jigsaw puzzle, all pieces need in place to make it work. This [short clip](#) identifies the elements that children identify as central to a positive community.



**NATIONAL CHILD
PROTECTION WEEK**
3 - 9 September 2023

NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT



Please [view more information here](#).

Some links for support to keep our children safe.

[Relationships & Private Stuff](#) support people to develop social and friendship skills; as well as relationships and sexuality knowledge and awareness.

[Kids Helpline](#) provides free confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling for young people aged 5 to 25. Kids Helpline for Teens can help with Mental Health, Physical Health and Identity, Friends, Family, Relationships, School and eSafety.

[Safe Haven](#) is for young people 12-17 who may be feeling overwhelmed and experiencing suicidal distress.

Indigenous Literacy Day – 6 September

International Literacy Day – 8 September

International Literacy Day is a global event that highlights the importance of literacy in our lives. It's a day to recognise how literacy opens up doors to imagination, communication and opportunity. It's a day to highlight the importance of making sure everyone has the chance to learn essential skills and breaking down barriers that might limit access to education.

Thank you to everyone for dressing up and donating to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation during Book Week, to support Indigenous Literacy Day on the 6th September. These funds will support indigenous students access quality literature including culturally relevant books, early learning books and resources, and programs to support Communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice.

Wishing all the Fathers, Grandfathers and Father figures a wonderful and relaxing Father's Day.

Judi North | Acting Head of Wellbeing



KEY DATES

TERM 3

**Wednesday 6 -
Friday 8 September**
Years 9-10 Camp

**Tuesday 12
September**
Parent Group Meeting

**Thursday 14
September**
Charity Challenge
Golf Day

Tuesday 19 September
Mufti Day

**Wednesday 20 -
Friday 22 September**
Senior Retreat

Friday 22 September
Last Day of Term

TERM 4

Tuesday 10 October
First Day of Term
(Students)

Tuesday 17 October
Swimming Carnival

Thursday 2 November
Men's Group

Friday 10 November
Eddie's Got Talent
- NEW DATE

Tuesday 14 November
Mufti Day

Saturday 18 November
Charity Challenge
Gala Ball

Tuesday 21 November
Parent Group Meeting

Friday 24 November
Abbotsleigh Concert

Tuesday 28 November
Year 12 Formal

Tuesday 5 December
Presentation Day

Friday 8 December
Last Day of Term
Year 12 Farewell Mass

AWARDS

Student of the Week

7G	Alex and Aaliyah
7M	Kwasi and Maxyne
8S	Olive and Jackson
8V	Daniel L and Daniyal
9C	Sienna and Isaac
9F	Bridie and Christopher
10M	Ella and Amie
10N	Antonio and Laure
11J	Harry and Kate
11S	Kavya and Annamieke
12G	Victoria & David M
12O	Mikayla and Johann

Eddie's Best

Daniel
Holly
Fred
Charlie L
Mia
Christopher
Alessio
James
Moses
Hugh
Lachie
Sam

congratulations

PDHPE & SPORT

CSBB Athletics Championships

The Catholic Schools Broken Bay Athletics Championships will be held on Monday, September 4 at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre.

Congratulations to the following students on being selected into the 2023 St Edmund's College Athletics Team:

Harley, Daniel N, Dylan, Sophia, Indigo, Holly, Matthew, Isabella, Arpita, Cameron, Isaac, Ben F, Lucy, Ella, Will, Bradley, Nathan A, Michael, Zane, David T, Ben P, Dom, Mikayla, Teena, Sonnet, Chloe.

We wish the team all the very best for the Athletics Championships in September.

National School Swimming Championships

Ben P competed in the 2023 National School Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre from August 21 to August 26. He competed in the 100m Breaststroke and the 50m Breaststroke, managing a personal best time for the 100m event.

100m Breaststroke: 8th

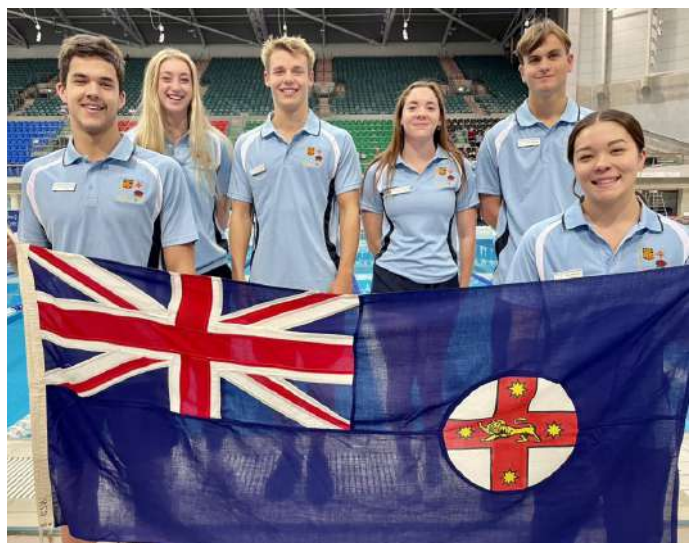
50m Breaststroke: 9th

6 x 50m Freestyle Relay: 2nd – silver medal

He fulfilled his duties as the NSW All Schools Multi-Class Team Co-Captain over the 5 days of competition extremely well. Ben began his duties by reading the Oath and carrying the NSW flag at the Opening Ceremony. He assisted with the organisation of the NSW team dinner at the Novotel and helped other multi-class athletes competing in numerous events for the duration of the carnival.

Congratulations on such an amazing overall achievement Ben!

Lois Horne | PDHPE and Sports Coordinator



FROM THE PARENT GROUP

Some key dates have been changed to our calendar as they now coincide with some scheduled year group camps.

The Parent Group Meeting has been changed to Tuesday 12 at 7pm. Our Acting Deputy Principal, Head of Wellbeing and Allied Health Team will be presenting the So Safe Program. This program is the framework that is used at Eddies to teach our children the foundations of social safety to be used across all environments. This is a valuable insight for us as parents and carers to be equipped with the same information so we can reinforce these key strategies and learnings for our children. The boundaries and social safety awareness learnt by our children in this program are amongst the most essential learnings they can have. Please update your calendar.

Our famous Eddie's Got Talent event has also had its date changed to Friday 10 November. Please update your calendar.

This week the students and staff celebrated World Teacher's Aid Day. Thank you very much to all the Learning Support Staff here at Eddie's. You all make such a huge difference in our children's school lives and your hard work, patience and caring nature is greatly appreciated.

Some interesting information regarding Disability Trusts and Beneficiaries with an Intellectual Disability has been passed on to us as a parent community by a fellow parent. There is an invitation to a free webinar on this very relevant topic.

This morning our dads, grandfathers and carers experienced Father's Day Breakfast with their children at school. Thank you St Edmund's staff for putting on such a special event. It is very much

appreciated by all the families and students. Being part of such a close community filled with shared experiences is one of the many things that makes St Edmund's so special.

Wishing all of our Dad's in our school community a very Happy Father's Day. We hope your special day is full of love, family and hopefully breakfast in bed enjoying your gifts from the Eddie's Fathers' Day Stall.

Janine Eastham | Parent Group Leader, Tom's Mum (Year 12)



ST EDMUND'S PARENT GROUP MEETING

TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER AT 7PM

St Edmund's College

presents



Please Join Us

Come and hear our team present the So Safe program which is a set of visual and conceptual tools designed to promote social safety for people with an intellectual disability

held at

St Edmund's College

Vanessa Dillon (Acting Deputy Principal), Judi North (Acting Head of Wellbeing) and Caitlin Hassell (Speech Pathologist)

RSVP TO:

<https://www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/parent>

Book Week: Thank you

Thanks to the support of students, parents and staff, the College raised over \$150 for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. The money donated will be used to buy books and literacy resources for remote communities. You can find out more about the ILF here:

<https://www.indigenoussliteracyfoundation.org.au>



Book Week Parade



CLUBS & MORE



Book Club

DON'T FORGET!

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
for Parents

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
08.09.23

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON
Google play

Download on the
App Store



\$1 Milkshakes

Thursday Yr 7, 8, 9
Friday Yr 10, 11, 12

Lactose free & Rice milk
available

Vanilla Caramel Chocolate Strawberry



**LUNCHTIME
IN U5
EVERYDAY!**

**MINECRAFT
CLUB!**

MINECRAFT
EDUCATION EDITION



ABBOTSLEIGH

R O B O T I C S

CLUB

**MAKE LEGO ROBOTS
MONDAY LUNCH
LAB 2
EAT YOUR LUNCH IN THE
QUAD
FIRST TO ARRIVE WILL JOIN**

CLUBS & MORE



With the ePlatform by Wheelers app, students have access to:

EBOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS AT HOME!

1. Download the app:



Apple



Google



Windows

2. Look for Edmund Rice Special Education Services library
3. Login using College login and password and start borrowing!

OVER 3000
TITLES AVAILABLE
OVER 1000
AUDIOBOOKS
PRIMARY &
SECONDARY
LIBRARY
AVAILABLE

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

We have a group of students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. They will be receiving the sacrament on Friday 8 September at Holy Name Church. Please see a prayer for those students below.

Prayer for Confirmation Candidates

Heavenly Father, God of power and love.

We pray for all the children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope and love and may they come to know you as the one true God who loves them without limit. May their hearts welcome you gladly;

May their ears hear your voice in the scriptures;

May their eyes see you in all things;

And may they proclaim your glory

As they walk in the ways of Jesus Christ,

Our Lord and Saviour.

Amen





CHARITY CHALLENGE GOLF DAY

SUPPORTING ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Terrey Hills Golf & Country Club

Kingfisher Drive, 116 Booralie Road, Terrey Hills

8am shotgun start

\$350 per player - incl breakfast, golf, lunch & drinks



GOLD \$5,500

3 Teams of 4 players + 3 Hole Signage
inclusive of carts

SILVER \$3,300

2 Teams of 4 players inclusive of carts

DRINKS \$4,000

3 Teams of 4 players inclusive of cart

HOLE \$1,600

1 Team of 4 players inclusive of carts

TEAM \$1,400.00

Team of Four, \$50 per cart

Gary Dawson • 0412 600 062
smokey@ozemail.com.au
thecharitychallenge.com

COMMUNITY

Please note any external events or organisations listed in the Community section are not necessarily endorsed by the College, but are included as they may be of interest to our families.

Photography Exhibition

Hear Me
See Me

An exploration into the connection between community engagement and mental health, and giving an insight into the experience of those with adverse mental health

October is Mental Health Month

6 - 11 October, 2023
11 am - 6 pm Daily

Private group bookings available for community groups – incl artist talk and light refreshments –
call 0414 559 011 to book
\$20 per person

Pulse Life Library
9 The Crescent
Wentworth Point

Free entry – donations to the **Be Unstoppable Foundation** gratefully accepted

Official Opening: Saturday, 7 October, 2023

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
\$20 per head donation to
BeUnstoppable Foundation
Light refreshments will be served



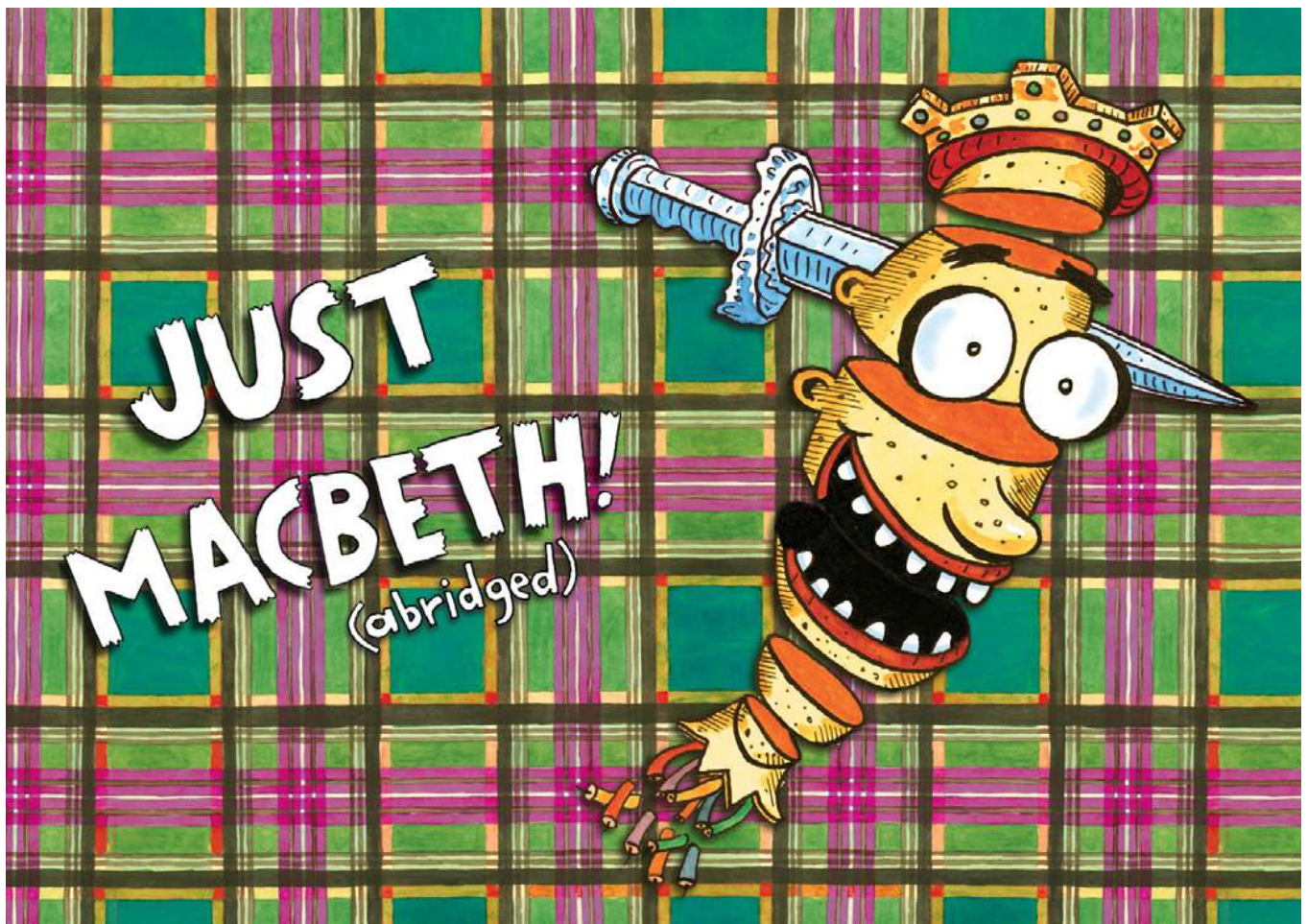
Melissa Alderton, Photographer

I started working at St Edmund's in 2009 as a teacher's aide. Part of my role was capturing the day to day life of the college in photographs.

I left in 2018 to pursue other interests. This continued until early 2020. Due to the pandemic, my employment status changed, and I returned to studying, completing a Certificate IV in Photography in 2020 and a Diploma of Photography in 2021 at Ultimo TAFE.

A personal loss in early 2021 led to my own experiences with adverse mental health. It was whilst navigating this I came to understand the true value of connection to community in supporting someone at this time. My return to St Edmund's in 2021 as a casual and the support and understanding I have received from this community has been instrumental in my own healing.

This exhibition sets out to show the reality behind the words and the façade, and how simply walking beside someone can change how they feel.



4 – 7 OCTOBER THE SEED PIER 2/3 SYDNEY



A new theatre production from Andy Griffiths and Bell Shakespeare is coming to Sydney these holidays!

Just Macbeth! (abridged) is a really silly version of Shakespeare's great big gory tragedy starring Andy, Danny and Lisa from Andy Griffiths' *Just!* series, packed into a pocket-sized play just for kids. The fun continues after the show – each performance of *Just Macbeth! (abridged)* is followed by a host of engaging activities based on the play, so your kids can get up close and personal with Shakespeare!

Join us at Sydney's most spectacular new theatre space at Pier 2/3 overlooking the Sydney Harbour Bridge in the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct.

Recommended for kids aged 8 – 12.

BELL





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

DISABILITY PENSION

- Your child may be eligible for the disability pension once they are 15 yrs and 9 mths old.
- Go to <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/disability-support-pension> to see if they are eligible

GOLD OPAL CARD

- If your child receives the disability pension, they may be eligible for a gold opal card
- This card allows for travel on public transport for no more than \$2.50 a day
- Go to <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-gold-senior-pensioner-opal-card> to see if they are eligible

COMPANION CARD

- Your child may be eligible for a Companion Card
- The Companion Card allows a cardholder's support person free entry into participating venues and events.
- Go to: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/community-services/companion-card>

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- When your child turns 16 they can enrol to vote.
- They cannot vote until they are 18.
- Go to: <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/voters/assistance-for-voters/people-with-disability>

NSW PHOTO CARD

- When your child turns 16 they can apply for a NSW Photo Card.
- This will help give; proof of age, proof of identity and proof of address.
- Go to: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/> and search 'photo card'

COMMUNITY

Kiddo - NDIS Care for Children

Find it hard or stressful to find reliable care for your child?

Looking for a quick, stress-free way to find trusted, reliable and affordable care for your children? Maybe you need assistance around the house, respite or need to make it to therapy appointments - Kiddo can assist!

Here are some reasons why Kiddo is a great option for families:

- Quick and simple registration.
- Support workers, Babysitters & Nannies - we can help ALL your children.
- Book last minute care with as little as few hours' notice.
- Find an ongoing support worker to build meaningful relationships.
- Self-Managed or Plan Managed clients - automated NDIS Invoicing .

To learn more about Kiddo, visit our [website](#) or check out our [Google reviews](#) here! You can download the [Kiddo App](#) on the app stores now!

A promotional banner for Kiddo, featuring a smiling woman holding a young girl. The background is teal with pink and blue circular accents. The Kiddo logo is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, the text 'NDIS Care for Kids' is written in white on a pink background. Further down, it states 'Australia's only inclusive care platform providing Babysitting, Nannying & NDIS Care for children!'. A list of bullet points highlights key features: Plan Managed & Self-Managed, NDIS funded & Invoiced, Working with Children Checked, and More hours of care with low fees!. A QR code with a 'K.' logo is on the left. At the bottom, there's a call to action to 'Learn more here' with the website 'www.kiddoapp.com.au'. On the right, there are buttons for 'Google play' and 'Download on the App Store'.

Kiddo.®

NDIS Care for Kids

Australia's only inclusive care platform
providing Babysitting, Nannying & NDIS
Care for children!

- Plan Managed & Self-Managed
- NDIS funded & Invoiced
- Working with Children Checked
- More hours of care with low fees!

Learn more here
www.kiddoapp.com.au

Google play
Download on the App Store

Autism Awareness

On Tuesday 5 of September, Autism Awareness hosting a breakfast, panel discussion and screening of our DAD documentary at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. Our documentary follows twelve dads of varying ages, stages and backgrounds sharing their experiences and advice around parenting children with autism and other disabilities.

[This event](#) is a fantastic opportunity for parents and carers to gain advice and connect with one another around what can sometimes be a very isolating and challenging experience.

Studio Artes

[Please click here](#) to see the Studio Artes newsletter.