

The Wheeler Word

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Term 4 Wk 10

11 December 2014

Christmas Showcase and P&C BBQ

Thank you to the P&C for the delicious free BBQ last Thursday. Well done to our new P&C executive group who catered superbly with over 650 sausages for almost 600 people!!

The Christmas Showcase was a great success with a lovely mixture of Band, Dance, Choir, Public Speaking, Italian and Film projects.

Sports Presentation Assembly

Congratulations to all award recipients at today's Years 3-6 Presentation Day and last Friday's Sports Presentation.

Special mention to School Dux Maya Turner and Winner Citizenship Award winner Lauren O'Brien.

2015 School Leaders

Congratulations to our new school leaders for 2015, just announced this morning. **Captains** are *James Clark and Alice MacDermott*, **Vice Captains** are *Zac Frankham and Ella Bowles* and **Prefects** are *Luke O'Donnell, Bailey Swain, Jem Sykes, Kahli Johnson, Brianna Wassell and Frankie Webster*. We know the leadership team will do a fabulous job in 2015.

Tomorrow at 9.39am will be the K-2 Presentation day.....could all K-2 students please remember to wear full school uniform.

Pedlar's Parade

Congratulations to Year 6, their teachers and parents for a wonderful Pedlar's Parade on Tuesday. It was one of the most successful parades I can recall with a great variety of foods, services and activities and excellent behaviour by all. Well done Year 6. The money raised will go towards the Year 6 gift to the school.

Farewell to Staff

At the end of this term we say farewell to two of our long serving staff. Mrs **Robyn Hill**, our Senior Administration Manager (SAM) retires after 25 years at Wheeler Heights. Robyn has been an invaluable assistance to the past five principals and enrolled, billed, band aided and assisted literally thousands of children and their parents.

Wendy Fairweather also retires after almost 19 years at Wheeler Heights P.S. as a classroom, Reading Recovery and RFF teacher and this year as the part time librarian. We wish both Mrs Hill and Ms Fairweather a very happy and healthy retirement. You will be greatly missed at our school.

School Reports

School reports will be sent home tomorrow with your child. We do endeavor to send a copy of the report if a family has requested two reports. Please let your teacher or the school office know if circumstances have changed.

Principal Breakfast

On Monday morning I will be having a special breakfast with Alanah Romain and friends James, Eleanor and Annabelle. The Romain family were the generous winners of the 'Breakfast With The Principal' auction at the recent Trivia night.

Early next year the Cook family (the generous winners of the 'Principal For The Day' auction) Ben, Arabella, Harrison and Alannah will be 'running the school' for a day....or perhaps longer!!

Drama Performances

Our amazing Drama performances finished this week. Congratulations to Year 1, Year 2 and Kindergarten who performed to large appreciative crowds. Every child in the grade performed with creative costumes, catchy songs and every child had a line!! Congratulations to Ginny MacPherson, our Drama specialist who coordinated these wonderful performances.

COMING EVENTS

Fri 12 Dec

K-2 Presentation Day 9.30

Yr 6 Super Hoot Morning
Tea 1pm

Reports sent home

Mon 15 Dec

Nameing of 'New Student' sculpture

Wailers Choir to Plateau
View 2.30pm

Yr 6 Farewell 6pm

Tues 16 Dec

Yr 6 Graduation 2pm

Wed 17 Dec

Class Picnics

Students last day!!

2015

Sat 17 Jan

Uniform Shop Open
9 -11am

Wed 28 Jan

School begins for Years 1-6

Kindergarten Best Start interviews begin (3 days – Wed, Thurs, Fri)

Mon 2 Feb

Kindergarten students begin

Tues 3 Feb

Yr 3- 6 School Swim
Carnival @ Manly



The Wheeler Way

Super Hoot Morning Tea

This week the final round of Principal morning teas have been held for the diligent students who have collected 25 Super Hoots throughout the last term or two. Almost 400 students have attended a morning tea, well done boys and girls.

PCS Calendars

Calendars have just arrived for students whose artwork was selected for the special PCS calendar featuring art from the ten primary and three high schools. Congratulations to Maya, Meg, Olivia, Kiera, Alyssa, Jade, Lillie, Gabbie, Brianna and Declan whose artworks were featured in the calendar.

IGA Supermarkert Collaroy Plateau

Thank you to the IGA Collaroy Plateau for the recent donation of \$557 as part of the Community Chest program which supports local schools. We greatly appreciate the continued assistance of our local businesses, please try to support them.

Stationery List 2015

Many parents have asked about purchasing stationery for their children's class for next year. We will be publishing an initial stationery list on the website and by email later this term. It will include the majority of items needed and consequently parents may be able to buy things on sale or for Christmas!!

PD/Health/PE Video

You may remember a project organised by Ms Cindy Waldock earlier in the year where a number of classes were filmed doing physical activity for the DEC PD/Health/PE Curriculum Unit. The excellent video featuring many of our children is now on you tube at <http://youtu.be/htBcFNHushE>. The website that includes the case study will be available at the start of next year.

ArtFest Masterpieces

Unfortunately there are still a number of quality artworks available from the school Artfest held in September. At the end of next week we will be donating selected works to local nursing homes and agencies. Please consider purchasing your child's individual artwork if you have not done so already. They would make a very original gift for a parent, sibling, grandparent or even a friend. Please see the office or your class teacher.

Holiday Chicken Roster

Once again we are looking for a number of school families who would like to look after the chickens during the upcoming holidays. Duties include letting out & re-housing the chickens each day, ensuring food & water is available and collecting (and using!!) the eggs. Please let Mr Scotter or the office know when you may be available.

2015 Bell Times

Next year we will be making a minor change to the bell times. From 2015 the start of lunch will be 1pm (instead of 1.10pm) and the end of lunch will be 1.50pm (instead of 2pm). This change is being made to more equitably divide up the three learning sessions of the day.

2015 Term Dates

Term 1	Wednesday 28 January - Thursday 2 April	(Kindergarten start on Monday 2 February)
Term 2	Tuesday 21 April - Friday 26 June	
Term 3	Tuesday 14 July - Friday 18 September	
Term 4	Tuesday 6 October - Wednesday 16 December	

**Please note all dates are for students.*

David Scotter – Principal



School Banking

Please note that there will be no school banking next week (15/12/14) and that it will resume in week 3 of 2015.

TOYS 'N' TUCKER



Thank you for your generous support of the "Toys 'n' Tucker" collection. There are lots of fantastic toys and food items that will bring smiles to many faces over the festive season. The donations have now been collected with great appreciation.

Thank you.

Tracey Mavromatis
SRC Coordinator



SPORT AND EXTRA CURRICULAR GROUP PHOTOS

Our extra-curricular group photos were taken recently and are now ready to order online. These photos included photos of PSSA teams, school leadership groups, and a wide variety of extra-curricular groups.

This year the photos will only be available for ordering online. To do so, please visit www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the 9 digit online order code VV6 AZM K8X.

Online ordering allows you to view each photo before placing a secure online order at the discounted online price of \$14.00 per group. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

LIBRARY NEWS

It's a busy time in the library at the end of year as we stocktake and chase up overdue books. Please can you help by checking at home for any 'missing' books. We need them back!

Our other news is that of the 164 students who completed the 2014 Premier's Reading Challenge, 2 keen Year 6 readers (Alyssa Logan and Ryan Dixon) are receiving Platinum Certificates for 7 years of participation and 22 students have been awarded Gold Certificates for 4 years of participation. Congratulations!

Thank you,

Ms Wendy Fairweather and Mrs Fiona Bevan

A VISIT TO MR CULLEN'S HOME

Year 6L were lucky enough to be invited to the home of Mr Cullen, Adam Cullen's father, where they viewed some of Adam's original art pieces. Mr Cullen talked to them about Adam's early pieces and showed them art Adam completed at primary school. Adam was always passionate about drawing and as a teenager drew cartoons for a local newspaper. He stated that firstly Adam demonstrated that he could produce traditional accurately structured pieces such as Still Life and portraits, but then Adam turned to being different and not constrained by tradition. He began creating his unique traits of plain iridescent coloured backgrounds, bold images, black outlines, limited lines and drip marks.



Mr Cullen was impressed with Alyssa Logan's painting of Mary Mackillop as she paid so much attention to the extra details Adam included in his original drawing, including the smudged lipstick. Mr Cullen also told the children that Adam had given his image of Mary, the face of his mother.

Linda Williamson



WHPS New Student

Our wonderful new sculpture, expertly designed and crafted by Mr Gorman, will be officially named next Monday morning during our K-6 Assembly. Thank you to all of the students and families who submitted names.



Congratulations to both Junior and Senior dance groups who performed at the end of year showcase last week. It was fantastic to see all the hard work being put in pay off up on stage.

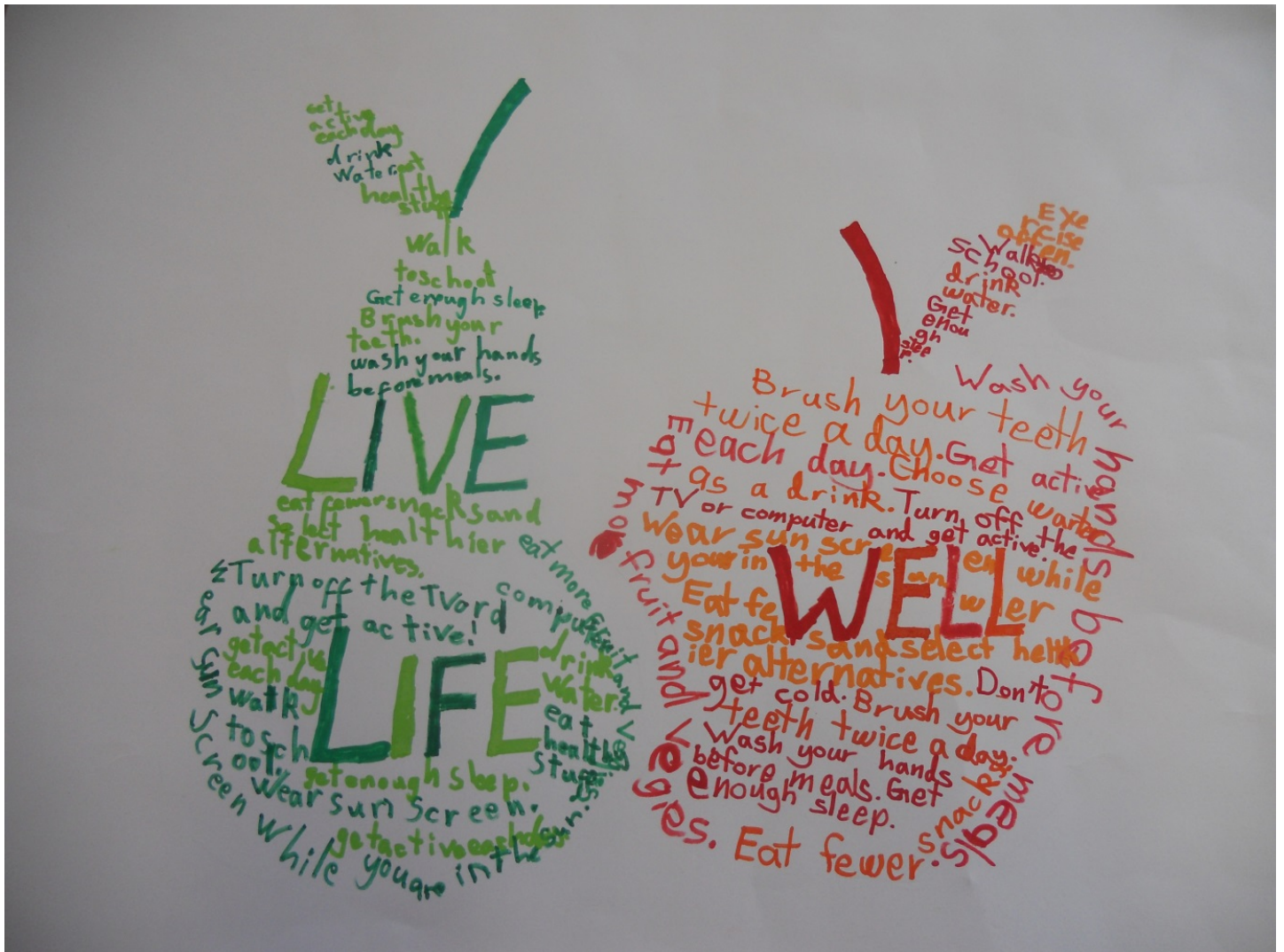
Dancing will resume back in Term 1 (date to be advised). Senior dance will be on Wednesday mornings 8-9am in the hall, Junior remain the same Friday morning 8-9am.

A black and white silhouette illustration of seven people of various ages and builds, all captured in dynamic, celebratory poses with their arms raised. They are arranged in a slightly curved line against a plain white background. Below them, a faint, light gray reflection of the group is visible, suggesting they are standing on a polished floor. The overall mood is one of joy and collective celebration.

Kind regards,

LIVE LIFE WELL!!

Tracey Mavromatis
SRC Coordinator



Ethics Teachers

THE LOW-DOWN



Mandie



Susie



Belinda

Why did you volunteer to be an Ethics Teacher?

Mandie: I love the values that Ethics brings to my children & to me. It's something we can discuss together at home too.

Jane: My sister in-law was already teaching ethics and the curriculum sounded wonderful, something the children would certainly benefit from.

Susie: I always wished I had gone into a teaching career so this has given me an opportunity to fulfil an aspiration I would never have achieved had this opportunity not arisen.

How did you find your first lesson go?

Mandie: Great! I was a little nervous but they students were great, I've found they have settled very quickly.

Susie: Surprisingly well! I think the students were in shock when we sat in a circle instead of at the desks! My son was very proud and excited that his Mum was teaching at his school which was very cute.

What has been the biggest challenge?

Mandie: Learning the tools for controlling the class.

Susie: I agree that was the most challenging but after a few weeks you learn the signs to look out for with restless or chatty children and use the skills from training to diffuse the issue before it becomes disruptive. There is always a teacher at hand, if you require assistance, and we are permitted to give our Super Hoots to reward positive behaviour which always motivates the students as soon as you give one out!

What has surprised you about the role?

Susie: How much I have benefited from the role as well. One of the main aims of Ethics is promoting how to form, listen to, respect, and build on opinions. It has definitely improved my parenting and listening skills!

Jane: How much the children have enjoyed the information and how much they want to contribute. I too have loved being a part of these classes.

What advice would you give to anyone thinking about volunteering?

Mandie: Do it! It is so rewarding. At first the prep I found was a little hard to fit in but you soon get into the practice of it and you know where to get the files etc it is only an hour each week and is so worth it!

Jane: I would highly recommend it, the time it takes to prepare and take a class is well worth the time being a part of the children's "world".

Susie: Its much easier than you think and less work that I feared. Its t's a good feeling when you know you are playing an active part in the education of the children in our community.

How much training and work is involved?

Mandie: I have my own business and Susie has three young children so, both being quite time poor, we opted to job share the largest and most popular class – kindergarten. This meant we were both able fit the work into our busy schedules and cover each other if needed.

Susie: The two day training course was comprehensive. I was quite nervous at first, unsure I would have the skills to teach well but everyone there is in the same boat and the Lecturer was great. We learn the basic tools for engaging students and managing behavior. We also discovered that we were provided with scripts to follow for every lesson so it generally takes between 30-60 minutes to prepare for each class. Volunteers share tips & ideas via email too which is very useful.

Jane: I too was concerned, from a time perspective, both working & having 3 children; however, the two day training was very enjoyable & there is plenty of information at your fingertips if you need assistance. The program we work from is extremely thorough & if you take the time to prepare prior, (1hr. approx.) the class runs well. It's well worth it!

If you are interested in becoming an Ethics Teacher and want to find out more please call Belinda Reed, Ethics Coordinator: wheelerheightsethics@gmail.com | 0438 827 186



Primary Ethics exists to develop and deliver philosophical ethics education for children who do not attend scripture classes in urban, regional and rural schools.

BAND NEWS



BAND EVENTS

www.whpsband.wordpress.com

END OF YEAR BAND CONCERT GOES NUTS!

This was the real deal! Out came the red carpet, the sparkling mineral water and the great spirit of music at our school. All bands performed a wonderful concert to family members, friends and relatives. The *music* was top class and the outcome was testament to a year of *hard work* by our volunteers, conductors and band children.

What a great occasion to farewell parents *Mako Turner*, *Sue Miles* and *Joob Kofoed*, who have been the heart and soul of the WHPS band program for so many years. Thank you guys for your tireless contribution to music at our school.

JAZZ BAND GIGS

The *Jazz Band* nailed it. Last week they performed three gigs in three days – the End of Year Band Concert (Tuesday), the Volunteer Helpers' Morning Tea (Wednesday) and the School's End of Year Showcase (Thursday). On all accounts the band performed (and behaved) like *seasoned professionals*. Over the course of this year the unique personality and spirit of this band have been a pleasure to work with. *Congratulations!*

OUR EXPANDING BAND PROGRAM

We are very excited to have so many *new students* joining our Band Program in 2015! There are just a few of our new students who have not yet paid the *deposit*. Please make sure this is done by *Friday 12th December* as we make purchases and arrangements so our new students are ready to go when school returns.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK

Congratulations to *James Kofoed* (Senior Band percussionist) who got 87/100 in his drum exam at the "*School of Rock*". Great work James! I am sure everyone wants to be a student at the School of Rock!

Huge congratulations and *good luck* to those who have *auditioned* to participate in either the Regional Band and/or NSSWE. Well done for making the effort above and beyond. Don't be disappointed if you missed out, just sitting the audition was *a huge accomplishment*.

We also wish our *Year 6 graduates* all the best as they go on to high school. Thank you for your contributions to the band program over a number of years. We hope you *continue your musical journey* and remember the great start you had at WHPS.

LAST BAND NEWS FOR 2014

This being the final band news for 2014, we would like to say a big *thank you* to our wonderful, hard working *band committee*. There are also a number of *parents* who are fantastic *band helpers* and always happy to help out conductors at rehearsals. The band program only runs on all this volunteer effort.

Thanks everyone – Merry Christmas!

ANTHONY MACDERMOTT

whpsband@gmail.com / 0417 277 89

SLIP SLIDING AWAY – MANLY WATERWORKS

And so it happened. On Friday afternoon 29 November, the WHPS Bands held this annual family social event at the *Manly Waterworks*. This was a great fun opportunity to catch up outside the context of the Band. There were many happy faces and lots of squealing (mainly by the parents).

INSTRUMENT COLLECTION

For *Senior and Intermediate Bands* all hired instruments will be returned after school on *Thursday 11th December*.

For the *Training Band* all hired instruments are to be returned immediately after their final performance at the K-2 Presentation Assembly on the morning of *Friday 12th December*. Please help your child clear out their case of personal items before they come to school that day. If you know of any problems with the instrument, please let us know in person or send us an email so we can have it attended to during the annual maintenance

It is *essential* to have the instruments collected by these dates as they are then collected by our repairers. Let us know by email if, for any reason, you can't make the date as we need to get your instrument earlier.

REHEARSAL TIMES FOR 2015

Our *final rehearsals are this week*, with no rehearsals in the final week of school

We will contact everyone in late January with finalised details about picking up hired instruments in Week 2. *Rehearsals will start again in Week 3 in Term 1*. Students are expected to attend BOTH rehearsals each week. Here is a reminder of the *2015 rehearsal schedule* to help parents who are making arrangements for before and after school activities in the new year.

Training Band – Monday morning 8-9am;
Wednesday afternoon 3.15-4.30pm (including time for an afternoon snack before band begins)

Intermediate Band – Tuesday morning 8.15-9.15am; Thursday afternoon 3.15-4.30pm

Senior Band – Tuesday morning 7.30-8.45am; Thursday afternoon 4.30pm-5.15pm

Jazz Band – Thursday morning 8.00am-9.00am

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

3-6 Presentation Assembly

Senior Band

Thursday 11th December 9.30am

K-2 Presentation Assembly

Training Band

Friday 12th December 9.30am

MONA JOHNSON

whpsband@gmail.com



UNIFORM SHOP NOTICE

We have a great selection of 2nd Hand uniforms & accessories available for sale.

Please consider donating your old school uniforms & accessories for re-sale; all money goes back to the school. These can be dropped off at the Uniform Shop any Friday morning or at the office any other day.

Please make sure your items are clean & undamaged.

We are seeking new volunteers for the Uniform Shop for 2015

8:30am – 9:45am Friday 1 – 2 shifts per term, to suit you!

Please email your details to whpsuniform@gmail.com or come in and see us any Friday morning ☺

Thank you

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CHRISTMAS TREES!

Please support the Cromer
Dee Why Scout Group
through our fundraising
Christmas Tree Sale!

SATURDAY
13TH DECEMBER

MAY ROAD SHOPS

**Corner of May Rd
& Warringah Rd
Narraweena**

FROM \$60

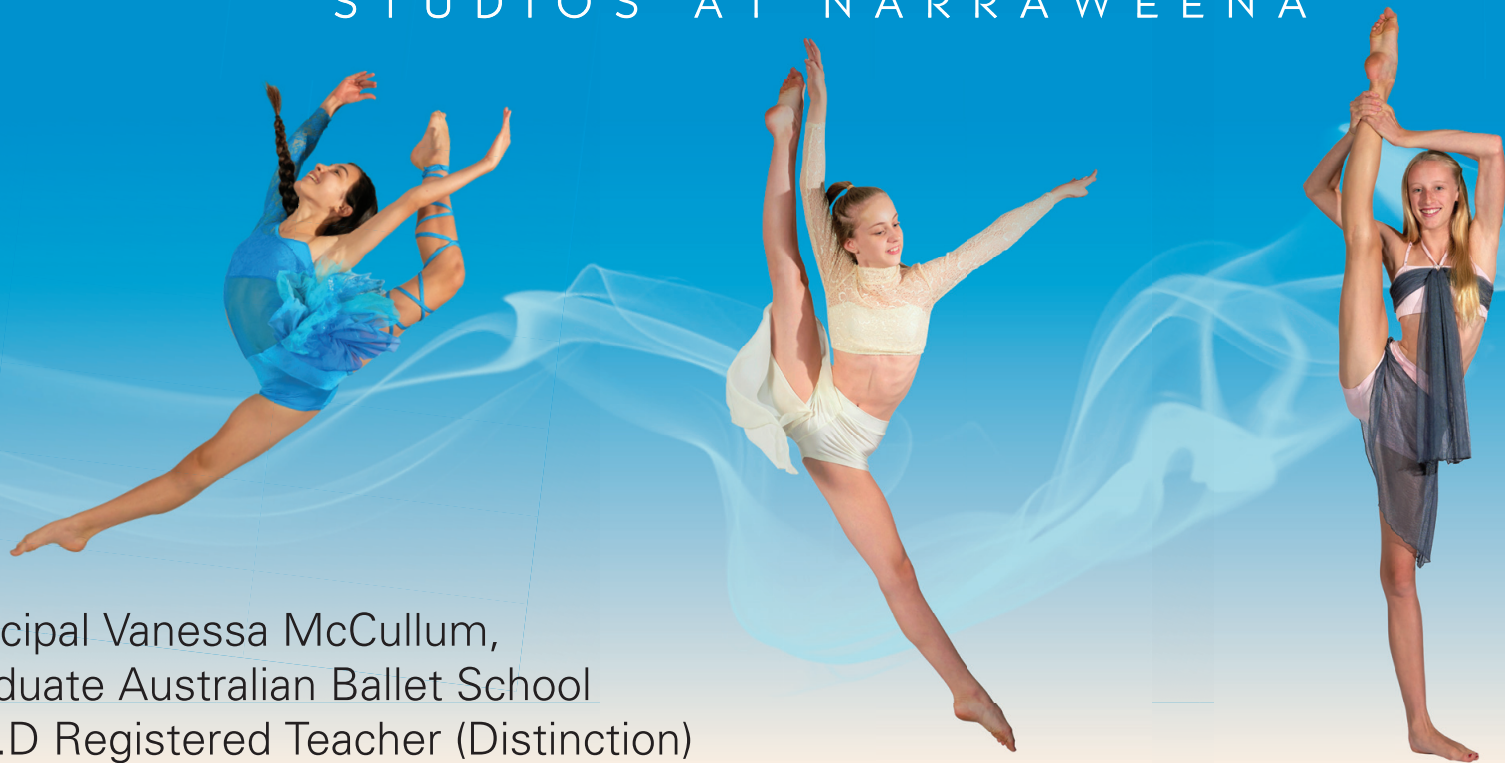
Tree Stands Available!



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