Welcome to Week 10, our final week for Term 3.

As many people have happily commented on this week, the weather is warming up quickly. I would just like to remind everyone that they need to remember to bring their school hats every day otherwise they will be restricted to playing in the shady areas around the playgrounds.

Finally, I would like to welcome back Mrs Rodger who has returned to school from long service leave. She will be taking over on 2K for the remainder of the year while Mrs Kelaher is on long service leave. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday and hope we all return refreshed for a busy final term.

Mr Giles

Congratulations to:

- Robert Pain who will receive the Rotary Club (Lower Blue Mountains) School Community Service Award tonight at a dinner hosted by the rotary club.
- Our 3 students who participated in last week’s Regional Athletics Carnival – Cayden, Marley and Murphy.
- Our 4 students who were representing the school at the Regional Premier’s Spelling Bee – Alek, Harrison, Payton and Corin.
- Elana Gaiyich for her recent achievements at the 2014 GKR State Karate Championships – 1st in kumite and 3rd in kata.

Mufti-Day – Friday 19th September

Year 6 are holding their final fundraiser for Term 3 by holding a "Favourite Footy Colours" mufti-day.

Students are invited, for a gold coin donation, to come to school on Friday dressed in their team’s favourite footy colours. This can be their favourite team in rugby league, soccer (football), rugby union or AFL. Joggers should be worn rather than football boots. If there are any questions then please contact the office.

What’s Happening At Our School ……

TERM 3 – WEEK 10
Wednesday 17th Sept. Commonwealth Games-A-Thon
Friday 19th September Footy Mufti-Day
Captains' Assembly – 1:45pm
End of Term 3

TERM 4 – WEEK 1
7th – 10th October School Swimming Scheme
Tuesday 7th October Staff and Students Return

TERM 4 – WEEK 2
13th – 17th October School Swimming Scheme
14th – 16th October World Education Games
Monday 13th October Gymnastics – Day 1
Tuesday 14th October P&C Meeting – 8pm

TERM 4 – WEEK 3
Monday 20th October Gymnastics – Day 2
Wednesday 22nd October Blue Mountains Chess Tournament
Friday 24th October Summer Games

Thank you to:

- All parents who have helped transport students at recent events, it is a service that is greatly appreciated.
- All students who displayed outstanding school conduct during the CPR workshops. It was great to hear that you were safe, respectful learners for the entire workshop.
- Mrs Sowter and Mrs Dwyer for all of their preparation work for this week’s Commonwealth Game-A-Thon.
- Mrs Redington for her fantastic work in the office whilst Mrs McKellar has been on leave.
- Mrs Phelan for the wonderful job she has done in the library whilst Mrs Turner has been on leave.

Student Banking

Student banking will resume in Term 4 on Thursday 16th October (Term 4 Week 2).

School Banking Committee
**P&C News**

The P&C is in need of somebody to take over as Canteen Treasurer. If you are good with numbers and would like to donate some of your time to assisting the P&C in this way, then it would be very much appreciated. Please contact the school office if you can help.

On the subject of canteen, just a reminder that children are not permitted in the canteen. We recognise that this does mean some parents who would otherwise assist in the canteen are unable to do so as they have younger children, our insurance policy does not permit us to have children in the canteen for safety reasons.

Speaking of volunteers, with only a term to run for the school year, now is not too early to start thinking about how you can assist the P&C next year. Every year a number of parents leave as their children leave the school and office bearers are only able to fill those positions for a fixed number of years. So each year we are in need of new parents to help share the work of the P&C around, to raise funds for our school.

P&C Executive

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**School Swimming Scheme – Term 4**

The “School Swimming Scheme” will be operating during the first two weeks of Term 4. Notes have already gone home to students in Years 2-6 for all interested students who are unable to confidently swim 50m unaided.

Miss McFarlane, Mrs Sowter and Mr Simone will be the accompanying teachers for the program with students travelling to the pool at Glenbrook by bus each day.

At this stage there are approximately 20 spaces left in the program.

The program will cost $80 per student that incorporates pool entry and bus hire. **Notes should be returned as soon as possible with payment needing to be finalised by Wednesday 10th October.**

If there are any questions or if families would like to be able to make this payment by instalments please contact the office.

Miss McFarlane

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**School Gymanastics Program – Term 4**

Our school gymnastics program will run for 8 weeks during Term 4. Coaches from the Activated Group School Gymnastics conduct the program and we are very fortunate to have access to skilled and trained specialists to work with children for this part of the PE curriculum.

Notes have gone home and we have already had a high percentage of families return their notes. Please remember that all permission notes are **due back to school by Wednesday 8th October.** It is very important permission notes are returned on time as students will be unable to participate until this is received.

The cost of the program is $25 with final payment due by Wednesday 12th November.

Students are allowed to wear their sports uniform during the gymnastics program. If there are any questions about the program then please contact the office.

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**Sun Smart Research Project**

As a “SunSmart school” we have been accepted into a research project that is looking into what impact being a SunSmart school has on the school community, specifically students, teachers and parent/caregivers.

The project is being conducted by Macquarie University, Charles Sturt University, University of Sydney and the Cancer Council NSW. The project will commence in Term 4, 2014 and end in Term 1, 2016. The research project is being conducted to help determine the future direction of the SunSmart program (over 75% of primary schools in NSW are not part of the SunSmart program).

Throughout the project our school will continue to operate as per our current sun smart policy. During this time researchers will visit the school on three random days to observe student, staff and parent behaviour in our playgrounds in regards to sun safe practices.

A smaller group of randomly selected schools from within the project will become part of an “intervention” group. If chosen, this group will also participate in interviews/focus groups to help design a SunSmart policy support intervention. This will then be implemented in the school.

Regardless of which group our school will be in during this project, no student, staff or community member will be identified at any stage.

If there are any questions regarding our involvement in the project please contact Mr Giles.
**Sport Report – Primary Schools Tennis Challenge**

On Thursday 11th September 2014, Cayden, James, Alek, Elana, Justin and I travelled to the Nepean District Tennis Association in Penrith to compete against several other schools in the inaugural *Primary Schools Tennis Challenge*.

We were split into three teams – Cayden/James, Alek/Elana and Justin/myself. The format was simple: best of eight games (which later became 6, then four because time was getting too late) in five matches. It later became four in two of the teams because, once again, the fifth one would have gone overtime.

On courts 9 and 10, Cayden/James lost their first three matches and drew their last match. On courts 13 and 14, Alek/Elana lost 3, won 1 and had a draw. At the same time, on courts 11 and 12, Justin and I lost two and had 2 draws. However, the scoring system was questionable and unsophisticated: rather than have umpires read out and keep track of the scores, it was up to the kids. This was in Cayden and James team’s (and our team) opinion a disaster. No child could – a) keep up with the score, or b) let Mt Riverview do the scoring 😊

Despite obvious first-time around shortcomings, all was made up for between our second and third matches with the sausage sizzle and available drinks from the hall. We all enjoyed having some court time with other schools and came away with a better understanding of how to play doubles tennis.

Robert Pain

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**Blaxland High School Uniform Shop Sale**

*FOR FAMILIES OF YEAR 6 STUDENTS*

Shop stock only. No refunds. No exchanges.

20% off all items in stock, excluding woollen and p/c jumpers.

Sale begins 8 September during normal shop hours (last two weeks of Term 3).

Mondays: 8am to 12pm

Thursdays: 10am to 2pm

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**Student Assistance, We Can Help**

During the course of the school year there are many financial demands upon parents. Excursions, uniforms, shows and textbooks are just a few. As a parent I understand the constant pressure that these costs can bring to a family budget and that as parents we want to provide our children with all opportunities made available to them. Each year the school is provided with a small budget to help any parents who may require some financial assistance for school related expenses. *If parents require any assistance with school related expenses please contact Mr Giles or your child’s teacher. All enquiries are confidential.*

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**Lost A Copy Of A Past Educom Issue??**

*The Educom Is On the Internet*

Our bi-weekly Educom can be accessed from the internet on our web site –


If you are not receiving your fortnightly issue of the Educom please contact the office and update your email contact.

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**School Security, You Can Help**

If parents or community members observe any destructive or suspicious behaviour in the school grounds please ring the School Security phone number listed below. All reports are treated discreetly; names do not have to be left with the operator.

**School Security - 1300 880 021**
Do you want to be an Aboriginal Foster Carer?

Community Services is looking for Aboriginal people willing to become a foster carer. You can be single, married, in a de facto or in a same sex relationship. You can be renting, buying or you may own your home. You can be working or not working.

As an authorised carer of a child or young person, you will receive ongoing support and you may be entitled to a carer allowance to assist you with providing care. Standard Care Allowances are detailed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Allowance per fortnight ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children 0-4</td>
<td>$455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 5-13</td>
<td>$513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 14-15</td>
<td>$688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 16-17</td>
<td>$459</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information on becoming a foster carer please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member in the Aboriginal Foster Care Recruitment Team based at the Mt Druitt Community Services Centre on (02) 8887 7400 or you can email to:

james.conaty@facs.nsw.gov.au

Anaphylaxis – a shared responsibility

Being the start of a new school year it is just the right time to remind everyone about this issue. We now have a couple of students at our school who have a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. This anaphylactic reaction is likely to be life-threatening. For this reason we ask that peanuts are not brought to school. This includes peanut butter, nut spreads (nutella), and nut bars.

The inconvenience to some children is recognised and appreciated, but the consequences to children with this severe allergy are extremely serious.

All members of our school community are asked to be aware of the dangers of even the slightest contact with peanuts or tree nuts for these children. To help minimise the risk, simply washing hands and cleaning teeth before coming to school would really help.

UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
Great Western Highway, Werrington North
(Building AO)

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS PROGRAM
Saturday 27th September (7-9pm)
School Holiday Astronomy Night

The night will include a multimedia presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University’s 0.6 metre and 0.25 telescopes (weather permitting).

Wednesday 1st October (10am-12 noon)
KIDS FUN DAY – Rockets

Lots of fun for kids of all ages. Make and launch your own paper rocket and watch water rockets being launched.

The program will also include a short presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and SAFE viewing of the sun.

Saturday 4th October (7-9pm)
Our Place in Space

Become more familiar with our neighbourhood and have a closer look at our solar system, sun and moon.

The night will include a multimedia presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University’s 0.6 metre and 0.25 telescopes (weather permitting).

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession & $40 family
Bookings essential:

Enquiries:
Phone: (02) 4736 0135
(Mon, Wed or Thurs)
or email: r.mccourt@uws.edu.au
HAWKESBURY HOOPSTERS
TWO HOLIDAY SKILLS CLINICS THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
- BASIC SKILLS: 9AM TO 12AM
- TRANSITION TO A TEAM: 1PM TO 4PM

$10 each

Two skills clinics for kids who are ready to join a team, and those who are already playing but would like a little bit more confidence and skills to improve their play.

These are fun clinics with a game sense approach to teach kids basic basketball skills and then how to play in a team and the basic rules of basketball.

Open to kids who have played in Hoopsters already AND any kids who would like to join our under 12s or 14s competition in Term 4 as well as those already playing.

The clinics go for three hours and will be run by Ben Garland, one of our representative coaches. The first clinic covers basic skills and the second covers basic rules and mini basketball games.

Please bring water, a ball if you have one (balls can be supplied) and wear running shoes and clothes suitable for playing sport (shorts and t-shirt/singlet). Please ring and book: 0448 525 651 to be sure of a place.

HAWKESBURY AND DISTRICT BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium 16 Stewart St South Windsor
Ph: 45 878 105 or Mobile: 0448 525 651 or Email: hdba@bigpond.net.au

ZANY YARE
LOWER BLUE MOUNTAINS YOUTH CIRCUS
PRESENTS
THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

VENUE: Winmalee High School, High School Dr, Winmalee
SHOW TIMES: Sat 27th Sept 1pm and 7pm and Sun 28th Sept 1pm
COST: Adult: $15, Concession: $10, Family: $40 (2xAdult - 2xCon)
BOOKINGS: info@zanyyare.com.au

Step through the looking glass with Zany Yare, as they re-imagine Lewis Carroll’s classic tale Through the Looking Glass. Follow Alice in a circus adventure as she crosses Wonderland in hopes of becoming a Queen. Zany Yare’s talented cast use acrobatics, clowning, juggling, silk walking, hula hoop, aerial skills, traps, Spanish web and aerial ring to bring the characters of Wonderland to life.

www.zanyyare.com.au
Sydney’s largest school holiday program returns this spring and celebrates 10 years! There’s a bumper 60+ fun-filled activities to keep your kids active, outdoors and entertained. A range of activities are free or under $20, making it affordable to discover Sydney’s most exciting playground this holidays!

Archery – Kids on Target & Little Archers
All Day Holiday Recreational Program
Art, Cooking, Writing Workshops
Cheerleading & Gymnastics
Circus skills & Flying Trapeze

Fizzics Science Workshops
King Tut’s Mystery Maze show – FREE
Sport & Adventure Camps
Sport Star and Dance Star - FREE
... and lots more

Full details at www.kidsinthepark.com.au

It would be greatly appreciated if you could include the above activities in your school newsletter.

Kind regards

Sydney Olympic Park Team
# Canteen Menu

**Summer 2014**

## Sandwiches & Wraps
Wraps wholemeal bread, white bread, toasted option

- Cheese **1.70**
- Ham, cheese, tomato **2.20**
- Ham, salad **2.20**
- Chicken, lettuce **2.80**

## Hot Food

- Chicken Tender **1.10**
- Beef lasagna **3.00**
- Ricotta pastizzi – cheese & spinach **0.50**
- Pizza muffin – ham pineapple cheese **1.00**

## Salads

- Chicken pasta salad **2.50**
  (+ capsicum, corn, carrot, coleslaw dressing)
- Chicken garden salad **2.50**
  (+ lettuce, tomato, cucumber, Italian dressing)
- Tuna Salad **2.50**
  (tuna, corn, tomato – no dressing)

## Recess

- Raisin toast (café style) **0.50**
- Cheesy roll **0.60**

## Drinks

- Bottled water **1.00**
- Big M - chocolate, strawberry **2.00**
- Up & Go – chocolate, vanilla **2.00**
- 100% juice – apple or orange **0.90**

## Snacks

- Snack box – carrot, cucumber cherry tomato, cheese, rice crackers (choose 3) **2.00**
- Fruit salad & yoghurt **1.50**
- Popcorn (pkt) **0.50**
- Ovaltines **0.80**
- Sunrice mini rice crackers **0.90**
- Piranha Vege Crackers (GF) **0.80**
- Red rock – sea salt **1.10**

## Frozen Treats

- Smooze – mango, pineapple **0.90**
- Frozen yoghurt **1.50**
- Frozen oranges/strawberries **0.50**
- Quelch Fruit stick **0.50**

## Extras

- Lunch bags **0.10**
- Tomato sauce **0.20**

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Please ensure clearly labelled on the bag is – your child’s name, class and order – add 10c if you don’t have a bag

We are trying to adhere to the NSW schools NSW must meet the Fresh Tastes @ School Policy which is available to view in the canteen or upon request. Summary ✓ always food, ✓ sometimes food ✓ twice a term food

**Canteen Opening Times: Wednesday & Friday**
CHILDREN’S WEEK ACTIVITIES
Monday 20 – Friday 24 October 2014

- Monday 20: Mark Leece Fields, opposite St Clair shopping centre 9.30 - 11.30am
- Tuesday 21: Grass area between lake and sales centre, Jordan Springs 10am - 12noon
  Magic show and storytime at St Marys Library 10am - 12pm
- Wednesday 22: Grass area in front of Penrith Library 10am - 1pm
- Thursday 23: North St Marys Neighbourhood Centre 9.30 - 11.30am
- Friday 24: Claremont Meadows Community Centre 9.30 -11.30am

To celebrate Children’s Week, every venue listed above will have free activities including, an animal farm, roaming clowns, balloon artist, Rooby Roo, a ball pit and Penrith Council’s Mobile Playvan.

**Wednesday Storytime** will be held on the Mondo grass area in front of the Library. The celebrations start at 10am and there will be plenty for families to do on the day, including jumping castles, arts and crafts stalls, an animal farm, roaming clowns, mini golf, photo booth, Penrith Council Mobile Playvan, Penrith City Toy Library and a visit from Rooby Roo. Come and say hello to the Library crew and do some fun craft with us.
FAMILY SHOWS

**MAGIC SHOWS**
with Joel Howlett
Wednesday 24 September
Joel is back with an all new show! He will wow you with his spectacular showmanship and a unique, fresh style of magic. Joel’s use of magic and humour astounds and amazes, you will be left laughing and wondering how he did it, weeks later. There is lots of audience participation, so get ready to join in the fun.

For the whole family
Two shows
10.30 - 11.30am
12.30 - 1.30pm
Tickets: $5 per person
Children under 2 free.

**FLOATING ON A SEA OF STORIES**
with Bronwyn Vaughan
Wednesday 1 October
Using dramatised storytelling, beautifully designed costumes, puppets, props, an exotic array of musical instruments, and a mixture of contemporary and traditional children’s stories from Japan, Bronwyn presents a show about the sea and the people and creatures who dwell above and beneath it.

For the whole family
10.30 - 11.30am
Tickets: $5 per person
Children under 2 free.

Get your tickets from Monday 25 August
Workshops are supervised by professional performers and library staff.
All accompanying adults can attend our workshops for free.
Family shows are $5 per person and every adult attending must have a ticket.
Your feedback is appreciated. If you would like to provide any feedback about our family shows or workshops please email the Library’s Children’s team, bkaur@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

WORKSHOPS

**WILDLIFE SHOW**
with Featherdale
Tuesday 23 September
Featherdale Wildlife Park’s, Wildlife Wanderer brings some of Australia’s most cuddly and unique animals to you! Meet a lizard with two heads, learn how Tawny Frogmouths scare away predators, face your fears and learn why snakes really aren’t that scary, and cuddle up to an adorable joey.

For 5-13 year olds
10.30 - 11.30am
Tickets: $10 per child.

**EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP**
with Del White
Tuesday 30 September
Gain a lifelong skill and learn the basics of handmade needlecraft. Embroidery is fun and easy and it’s a hobby you can be proud of. In this two hour workshop you will make Christmas decorations to celebrate the upcoming season.

For 7-13 year olds
10.30am - 12.30pm
Tickets: $10 per child.
WORKSHOPS

CARTOON WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG CARTOONISTS
with Roger Fletcher, Thursday 25 September
Learn how to draw some famous cartoon characters by using simple shapes and how to draw animals and turn them into cartoon characters.
10 - 11am, for 7-10 year olds. Tickets: $10 per child.

CARTOON WORKSHOP - LEARN THE BASICS
with Roger Fletcher, Thursday 25 September
Learn how to draw famous cartoon characters, how to draw animals and then turn them into cartoon characters, and then learn how to create your own characters!
11.30am - 1pm, for 10-12 year olds.
Tickets: $10 per child.

PLANETARIUM WORKSHOPS
with Skyworks, Friday 3 October
The spectacular night sky is displayed inside the Skyworks dome exactly as you will see it that night. You will discover what you are really seeing when you look up into the night sky, visible planets are identified and you will be shown how to tell the difference between stars and planets and how to find them in the night sky.
Two sessions
10 - 11am & 11.30am - 12.30pm
For 7-13 year olds, tickets: $10 per child.

THE DINOSAUR WHO LOST HIS ROAR, PUPPET SHOW
with Bamboo Theatre, Saturday 27 September
Rexy the dinosaur has no manners. He never says please or thank you and he spends his day roaring at the other animals. Dymera, the magic tree fairy decides to teach Rexy a lesson. She removes his roar and takes him on a magical journey in time to Australia, where the native animals teach Rexy a thing or two about manners.
For the whole family
10.30 - 11.15am
Tickets: Free, please collect from St Clair Library.
PENRITH COUNCIL’S MOBILE PLAYVAN

The Mobile Playvan is free for parents/carers and children under 6. Just turn up with a drink, a hat and cut up fruit for your child. Sessions are up to 2 hours long so remember to apply sunscreen before joining us. We don’t run on wet or very hot days, public holidays or during the school holidays. We provide wet weather packs to families if the Playvan isn’t running due to weather conditions. For more information please call 0419 976 917 or 4732 7836.

Roster for Term 3, 2014

Monday       9.30am Wallacia – Blaxland crossing, Silverdale Road
Tuesday      9.30am Thornton Estate – Smiths Paddock, Sydney Smith Drive, Thornton Estate
             12.30pm Jordan Springs – Illoura Village, Illoura Way, Jordan Springs
Wednesday       9.30am North St Marys - North St Marys Neighbourhood Centre, Debrincat Avenue
                 12.30pm Glenmore Park - Public Reserve, between Glengarry Drive and Torquay Terrace
Thursday     9.30am Jordan Springs - Watergum Park, Watergum Drive.
Friday       9.30am Claremont Meadows - Community Centre Sunflower Drive

Term 4 starts on Tuesday 7 October

HOW TO BEAT THE EXAM SEASON BLUES

More homework, additional study expectations and heightened pressure at school can be a recipe for study ‘meltdowns’ and household arguments. Penrith City Library has come up with some key tips for local families looking to beat the exam season blues:

Plan it out
If you plan out your study timetable, you will be able to factor in rest, down-time and relaxation as well as study. It allows you to be in control of your own time. Getting plenty of sleep and making sure you take breaks and relax can reduce stress, as well as increase efficiency.

Get out of the house
Taking some time away from your normal surrounds is a great way to refresh. Penrith City Libraries are an excellent places to get some space but still be able to stick to your study timetable and get things done - with all the great resources available and our friendly staff on-hand to assist.

Ask for help
How exactly do you ‘study’ anyway? Sitting in front of an open textbook for three hours doesn’t mean three hours of study. Sometimes you can get stuck on something, or may just hit a wall. Don’t forget parents, teachers and librarians are there to help - and you have free access to expert tutors online, on-demand, with the yourtutor service from your library.

Whether you need assistance with study skills, or school subjects like maths, English and science, a live expert is available to help you work through a question and figure it out. All you need is your library card, and you can log in online to yourtutor Monday - Friday and Sunday 4pm - 8pm, from home or at your library.
FAMILY FUN DAY

26TH SEPTEMBER 2014

COME ALONG FOR A LOOK AT AUSTRALIA’S FIRST AND OLDEST PARLIAMENT HOUSE

NO NEED TO BOOK
ALL WELCOME!
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MACQUARIE ST. SYDNEY
www.parliament.nsw.gov.au
ENQUIRES: 02 9230 2047

FUN ACTIVITIES
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY INCLUDING:

- PHOTO AND DRESS-UP OPPORTUNITIES
- TOURS OF THE LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS
- MYSTERY OBJECT GUESSING COMPETITION
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE (MINIMUM CHARGE)
- ROVING HISTORICAL CHARACTERS
- ART AND OTHER DISPLAYS

FREE ENTRY
FREE

School Holiday Kid’s Gardening Classes

Pot your own seedling to take home!

11am Weekdays
Mon 22 Sept - Fri 26 Sept
Mon 29 Sept - Fri 3 Oct

Kids under five MUST have an adult helper.
The Hills Sports High School
Talented Sports Program

GOLF

Tuesday 14 October 2014
1.00pm
Fox Hills Golf Club

Trials will be held by AAA Professional,
NSW & Australian PGA member
Jamie Atkinson

Trial is by application only: application forms are available from the schools website: hillssporthigh.com.au or contact Mr Garry Duffy on 9622 7300.

The Hills Sports High School offers a world-class Talented Sports Program (TSP) designed to provide students who excel in particular sports with elite coaching and an academic framework that enables them to reach both their academic and sporting goals.
SIDING SPRING OBSERVATORY
50TH ANNIVERSARY

STARFEST
3rd-5th October 2014

PROGRAM

SCIENCE IN THE PUB—Friday 3rd October 2014, 7.30pm, Coonabarabran Bowling Club
An evening of banter and debate with science broadcaster and journalist, Robyn Williams, internationally acclaimed astronomers Dr Amanda Bauer, Dr Charley Lineweaver, Prof Joss Bland-Hawthorn and Prof Fred Watson. There’ll be live music and a bbq on the lawns from 4pm. Doors open at 6.00pm.

SIDING SPRING OPEN DAY—Saturday 4th October, 9.30am-4.00pm
For one day of the year, Siding Spring Observatory opens it telescopes to the public. It’s your chance to take a closer look at the operations of Australia’s largest optical telescope site. There’ll be talks by world famous astronomers, talks designed for children, science displays and activities, solar observing, Taronga Western Plains zoo exhibition, rockets, food and refreshments. Come along and make it a great family day out.

MILROY OBSERVATORY—Saturday 4th October, 5.30pm at Milroy Observatory
Milroy Observatory has refurbished the ANU 40” telescope and is hosting an official opening ceremony. Enjoy a champagne at sunset, a cocktail dinner, stargazing and talks by Prof Brian Schmidt, Prof Fred Watson and David Malin.

BOK LECTURE—NASA Astronaut, ANDY THOMAS—Sunday 5th October 2014, 11.00am, Coonabarabran Bowling Club
Australian-born, former NASA astronaut, Dr Andy Thomas, will talk about his 177 days in space. Tickets are free by you must register at starfest.org.au. Seats are limited so be early to avoid disappointment.

For details and tickets: www.starfest.org.au or www.facebook.com/StarfestSidingSpring