

**MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am and 9.30am. All welcome!**

28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

## DIARY DATES

<b>Friday 29 May</b> PUPIL FREE DAY
<b>Sat 30/Sun 31 May</b> Reconciliation Lesson
<b>Thursday 4 June</b> Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
<b>Sat 6/Sun 7 June</b> Reconciliation Lesson
<b>Wednesday 10 June</b> Celebration of Learning 9.15-10.15am  Confirmation Parent Meeting 7.30pm
<b>Thursday 11 June</b> K-6 Athletics Carnival Parker Street  Confirmation Parent Meeting 7.30pm (repeat)
<b>Friday 12 June</b> Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass, 9.15am  Half Yearly Reports Sent Home
<b>Mon 15 to Fri 19 June</b> Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
<b>Thursday 18 June</b> Reconciliation, 5.30pm  Sat/Sun 20/21 June Confirmation Enrolment Mass
<b>Mon 22 to Fri 26</b> Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
<b>Tuesday 23 June</b> P & F Meeting
<b>Thursday 25 June</b> Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day
<b>Sat 18/Sun 19 July</b> Confirmation Lesson
<b>Tuesday 21 July</b> School Photo Day (winter uniform)

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Friends,

Last Sunday we celebrated one of the great festivals of the Church. It is not nearly as well-known as Christmas or Easter, but for Christians it is profoundly significant. Christianity didn't start with Jesus' birth, his death or even his ascension into heaven. It started with Pentecost. It marks the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and their transformation from frightened and confused people to men who would face martyrdom for what they believed. This is the event that makes the church...the church!



Pentecost is from the Greek meaning 'fifty'. It is the 50th day after Easter. It is also referred to as the 'birthday of the church' and marks the beginning of Christianity as a purposeful movement and a new community. The scripture readings for this event proclaim the coming of the Holy Spirit, which changed everything. It filled the original followers of Jesus with spiritual gifts that transformed them from timid individuals to people who were prepared to get up and go forward with love and courage to serve. This same Holy Spirit has been breathed into us at birth and is strengthened sacramentally through our lives.

The challenge for us as modern day Catholics is working out how to bring our faith to life in our homes. It is one thing for children to learn what the gifts of the Holy Spirit are, but it is quite another thing to have the children understand and recognise the gifts in themselves. It is our job to help them!

For this we can rely on the Gifts of the Spirit – Wisdom, Knowledge, Courage, Understanding, Right Judgement, Reverence, Awe and Wonder to discern what is true, good and important in our lives.

God Bless  
**Mrs. Sue Veling**  
Principal



### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR WEEKS 4 & 5



Maddison Prendergast, Cooper Bahlmann, Isabelle Moran, Ella Keigan, Daisy Andersen, William Filla, Mia Urquhart, Tahlia Robinson, Nadeesha Borg, Charlotte Ahern, Chloe Luczak, Kees Muller, Alexander Hawkes, Riley Bahlmann, Alyssa Gardner, Adriana Marakovic, Hunter



Grima, Owen Tait, Milayna Brace, Alex Godwin, Larissa Stewart, Jack Prendergast, Noah Clifford, Bianca Jordan, Alex Hayward, Ashton Clark, Cara Smith, Brody Green, Ethan Houlihan, Jessie Whitely, Matthew Barnes, Jasmine Moffit-Bourke

Important DATE!

## PUPIL FREE DAY - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY TOMORROW!!! Friday 29 May 2015

Important DATE!

Newsletter of Our Lady of the Way Catholic Primary School, Emu Plains

49 Forbes Street, Emu Plains 2750 Phone: 4735 1930, Fax: 4735 6221, Email: [OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:OLOW@parra.catholic.edu.au), Web: [www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/](http://www.olowemuplains.catholic.edu.au/)

**"To act justly, To love tenderly and To walk humbly with our God"**

## **DIOCESAN WORKS FUND (DWF) APPEAL**

The DWF Appeal is a Diocesan pastoral care appeal to fund a number of works and ministries in the Diocese of Parramatta. The schools program provides opportunities to deepen the understanding of Catholic social teaching for students, families and staff, as well as provide much-needed funds for these essential ministries of the Catholic Church.

The DWF appeal contributes to many diocesan ministries and agencies including the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), Holy Spirit Seminary and Vocations Office, Chaplaincies, Commission for Ecumenism & Interfaith Dialogue, Institute for Mission, Office for Worship, Social Justice Office, Ephpheta Centre (for hearing impaired), Tribunal, Catholic Youth Parramatta and Catholic Care who offer social services including:

- Emmaus Disabled Persons Catholic Services
- Blacktown Neighbour Aid
- Financial Counselling
- Relationship Education (including Pre-Marriage Education)
- Responsible Gambling Counselling Service
- Relationship and Family Counselling
- Solo Parents' Ministry

**Our Lady of the Way School community participated today in the Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) appeal - a key focus for our charitable giving. We thank all the children who participated in the mufti day. We raised \$633. Thank you for your generous giving and continuing support.**



## **OLOW WINTER UNIFORM**

All children should be now wearing their full winter uniform including:

- Girls wearing black tights with their tunic;
- Boys in Kindergarten to Year 5 wearing long pants and a long sleeved shirt;
- Year 6 boys wearing long pants.

A reminder that sports shoes should be predominately white in colour with white shoelaces. There are some unusual colours starting to appear and we ask parents to support the schools policy by making sure children are wearing the correct uniform at all times.

## **PHOTO DAY**

Our school photo day is in Term 3, Tuesday 21 July. All children will be photographed in their winter uniform.

## **TOMORROW - PUPIL FREE DAY (But not for the staff)**

The upcoming staff development day on Friday will be on Mathematics and furthering our professional development around effective numeracy teaching. We will be focusing on the use of mental strategies in line with our 2015 numeracy goal.

## **EXTENDING MATHEMATICAL UNDERSTANDING (EMU for short)**

One of our school learning goals this year is for every student to apply efficient mental computation strategies. The school is supported towards the achievement of this goal through a Diocesan initiative called Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU). This research-based learning and teaching approach is not a program but relies on obtaining quality student data about numeracy understanding through an annual one-to-one interview conducted with each child by the grade teacher. The information gained from this interview is then used to inform teaching and measure student progress.

At the beginning of this year every student underwent a Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI). Our teacher learning in numeracy continues to focus on implementing specific whole school strategies, which includes warm up activities and rich tasks. This approach has shown to have the most effect on student numeracy acquisition. The team leading this initiative in our school comprises Mrs Kakoschke as lead numeracy teacher, Mrs Flanagan and Mrs Kuipers as Numeracy Specialist Teachers and Mr Mifsud, who supports students throughout the school.

## **OLOW ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

On Thursday 11th June, our combined OLOW Athletics Carnival is to be held at Parker Street Athletics Field. A note went home earlier this week outlining the events and asking for parent helpers. A day like this needs a lot of support for it to run smoothly, so if you are free to help out we would be most grateful. In case it rains, our backup day is Tuesday 23rd June.

## HALF YEARLY REPORTS

I have had the pleasure of reading your children's reports this week. I just wanted to acknowledge the professionalism, time and effort the staff have used in analysing work samples to grade the subject areas and composing report comments.

Your child's Half Yearly Report will be sent home on **Friday 12 June**. This year OLOW will be using the CEDP's new 'FACES' report for Years 1-6 based on the A-E scale. Kindergarten will be receiving a criterion report based on skills/indicators of success.

It is always very easy to focus on the grades received. And while these are important, we need to look beyond these and celebrate the whole child. There are so many special qualities that a child has that cannot be graded and recorded on a school report. One of the best measures we have as parents is not something that can be graded as A, B, C, D or E – it is in fact, our child's personal growth, their happiness at coming to school and their willingness to persevere. These behaviours show learning attitude, the ability to engage with their learning and experiences here at school. If a child is truly eager about their learning they will keep giving their very best, whatever grades they receive. Yes, as parents we want our children to do the very best but a 'personal best' is not always something that can be measured.



## PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Our Parent, Teacher and Student Conferences will take place in Weeks 9 & 10 (15 June – 26 June). A booking information sheet will be sent home on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Interview times will be available through our booking app on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 6pm. Each interview will be allocated 15 minutes where your child will explain the goals they have been working on and the progress they have made this semester. If

you have other concerns that you would like to discuss with your child's teacher of a more personal nature, please make another interview time.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### Caritas Fundraiser



Thank you so much for your generosity! A total of \$533 was raised for Caritas. Hopefully the money will help the people of Nepal.

A huge thank you must also go to the Social Justice Team who gave up so much of their time to sort and sell the items.



### Mary Help of Christians Feast Day:

On Monday we celebrated the Feast of Mary Help of Christians. Year 3 and their teachers Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. McKeon prepared for us a beautiful celebration. Mrs. Veling helped us celebrate this day as our feast day with a treat for all the children.

### Diocesan Works Fund:



By the assortment of purple, pink and blue today it is easy to see that once again our community has risen to the challenge to support the DWF Mufti Day. Thank you for encouraging your children to support their local Catholic community.



## Feast of the Sacred Heart and Penrith Community Kitchen Collection:

On Friday, June 12 we will celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart together as a school community. Traditionally this feast day is associated with collecting for the poor. It has become our tradition to coincide this feast day (which occurs on a different day each year) with our collection for Penrith Community Kitchen. We will be inviting families to donate during Week 8.



## Pyjama Day:

To help support the St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal we will be holding a pyjama day on the last day of term. More details to follow.

## Carole Day

Religious Education Coordinator

# LEARNING NEWS

## YEAR 1 FIZZICS INCURSION

Year One recently had an Incursion from Fizzics Education called "Little Life". They learnt all about insects and other small animals and how they grow and change. Here are some highlights from the session.

Jake:

I saw a stick insect and I saw a leaf insect. I saw a horn bug, it was awesome. He had a sharp horn.

Miah:

I went to a table with the dirt. We got a bowl and tweezers so that we could look for tiny creatures. I found a middle-sized centipede and ten worms. When I put the centipede under the microscope it looked bigger than normal.

Maya:

I did the picture of a spider because it is my favourite. Next I looked at a picture of a skeleton. After that I looked at my skin on the computer.



Mia:

I went to look in the dirt because I wanted to see little insects. I saw a tiny centipede. They were too fast so I got a worm and I put it under the magnifying glass. When I put it in the magnifying glass it was huge.

Aidan:

Today Year One had an incursion. There was a stick insect and a tree trunk. We got to look at the pictures.

Zac:

We played games like finding bugs and insects. I caught a worm. Then another worm. Next we swapped rotations. We did footprints. I made a chicken footprint.



# SRC'S WAY

This term we have had some more successful meetings with all of the students in our school. The grades have had some very creative ideas. The Year 6 SRC representatives have listened to the different ideas from the grades and the things we talked and asked the students about were the Strengths, Challenges and So What?

If you are wondering why we are asking about the Strengths, the purpose of it is to find and collect feedback from the students' point of view. The main strengths that the students came up with are: that they have many places to play, including grass areas and concrete areas (and now students and teachers are running activities during our breaks). There is great ANZAC wall to show our respect for those who have served our nation. They also love the new and improved soap dispensers. These are just a few of the strengths that the students shared, there are a lot more.

In the meetings, after we talk about Strengths we talk about the Challenges because as the SRC representatives we are here to listen to the students to help improve the school. Some of the challenges that came up in most of the meetings were that they would like to have more shade on the back and cottage playgrounds. Having water on the back and cottage playground and freshly painted lines on the handball courts are other ones. The thing is, we have plans for these issues.

The rest of the meeting we talked about the So What? Which is what can we do about it. The reason we do this is to help us. We need an idea on how we as students of the school can all contribute to help. Some of the ideas the students had were: raise money for the school, fundraisers (like a paper plane competition, colouring competition, have running races, have a BBQ and have more school fetes). There will also be many more creative and fun ideas on how we can help.

Term 2 has been very successful with the SRC helping the school learn and grow in all the best ways. We are very excited to take these ideas from the students and use them to make the school better.

## **GRIP LEADERSHIP DAY**

On Wednesday the 20th of May the four school captains visited Olympic Park for a Leadership Conference. The conference was all about developing new leadership skills and making a difference to our school.

Some people may think that GRIP stands for Gorilla's Really Interest People but, it actually stands for Generosity, Responsibility, Integrity and People.

We did lots of different activities which let us meet and make new friends from different schools, which we now are going to share with the rest of the SRC. They also taught us many different leadership skills which we can use to teach all the members of our school. We learnt how to use our time, treasures and talents for generosity. The leaders loved this day and are excited to share the new learning with others. The school captains were very lucky to experience this fantastic conference.

## ***OLOW SRC Leadership Team***

# QRT

**QUALITY RELATIONSHIPS TIP**

**Stay non-judgemental at all times.**

Refrain from using force and pressure  
to make your child do things.

**Be a good role model.**

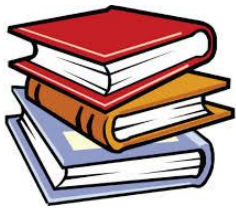
## **HOME READING**

Parents often ask about the best way to help with reading at home. The following are some useful prompts to use that mirror what happens at school.

You might also like print out and cut out the 'Stuck on a tricky word?' card to use as a bookmark. You can find it on the next page.



### **SOME USEFUL READING PROMPTS:**



- Look at the picture. Can it help you? (e.g. What is the bird doing? Where is it?)
- Get your mouth ready with the 1st sound in the word. (e.g. The bird is on the t\_\_\_)
- Think of what word would make sense that starts with that letter. (e.g. tiny? tree?)
- Still stuck? Look for chunks in the word that might help you read it. (e.g. tr-ee)
- Try skipping over the hard word and reading to the end of the sentence. Now go back and reread. Keep thinking about what word would make sense in that sentence. (e.g. The bird is on the t\_\_ in a nest.)
- When you think you know what the tricky word is, crosscheck your reading by thinking: **1 Does it make sense? 2 Does it look right? 3 Does it sound right?**



### **SOME EXAMPLES**

**Get your lips ready-** e.g. Ben can cat\_\_ the big red ball. (1st part of word and reading on. May then be enough information to predict the whole word.)

**Stretch it out-** e.g. r-e-d / red

**Chunk the word-** e.g. c-at-ch / cat-ch / catch

**Skip it, hop back-** e.g. Ben can \_\_\_\_ the big red ball. (Leave out the tricky word. Read on to end. Go back to the start of the sentence and try again with more meaning known.)

**Flip the vowel-** Vowels (a e i o u) can be said different ways. Sometimes the student will need to try more than one way of saying the vowel within a word, before he or she can hear a word that would make sense, e.g. **a** can have the short sound like it has in **catch** or it can have a long sound like it has in **made**.

# GENERAL NEWS

## BUILDING HEALTHY HABITS

Children are learning habits that will often last them a lifetime. Consider the following:

- Breakfast is important. Children who eat breakfast have better concentration. Eating breakfast can reduce snacking on high-energy foods in the afternoon in both adults and children.
- Be realistic about the size of the serve you offer children. Forcing children to finish what is on their plate when they are not hungry may lead to overeating and/or strong food dislikes.
- Avoid giving children processed snack foods high in sugar. Encourage brushing teeth in the morning and before bed to develop good dental habits.

## DISABLED PARKING SPACE – STAFF CARPARK

Please do not use this parking space unless you have a disabled parking permit. We have a number of people that regularly need to use this space and it makes life really difficult for them if an able-bodied driver has parked there. Thank you for your consideration.

## OUR LADY OF THE WAY IS ON FACEBOOK.

The official Facebook page for the school can be found by searching **Our Lady of The Way, Emu Plains**. Please 'Like' the page so that you get updated information in your newsfeed. You should also 'Like' the P&F homepage **Our Lady Of The Way P&F, Emu Plains** for the latest information regarding meetings and P&F events around the school.

Additionally each grade has its own parent run Facebook page which has proved useful for sharing information specific to that year. You can find these pages by searching **OLOW Kinder [insert the year your child started Kinder]**. The exception being the current Year 6 page which can be found at **OLOW Year 6 2015**. These pages are not affiliated with the school or used for official communications, however have proved a useful way of sharing information and asking questions and all parents are invited to join.



## 2015 PHOTOS ARE NOW ON THE OLOW WEBSITE

Please note that photos of the following events are now on the school website: Start of Kinder, Kinder Thinking Photos, Opening School Mass, Year 1 Visitors (Fire Brigade, Police, Garbage Truck, Ambulance), Year 1 Maths, Kinder Celebration of Learning, Nursery Rhyme Day, Kinder Dance Fever, Kinder visit the Farm, Year 1 Celebration of Learning, Year 1 Dance Fever, Grade Awards, Opening School Mass, Ash Wednesday – Infant's Liturgy, Zone Cross Country, Year 3 Visit Lennox Shops, Dance Fever Challenge, String Instruments, ANZAC Day Ceremony, Mothers' Day, First Holy Communion and Year 1 Fizzics Incursion.

To access our website go to <http://www.olowemplains.catholic.edu.au> then select News and Events, then Multimedia Galleries.

## Stuck on a tricky word?

Franklin Public Schools, MA

 Eagle Eye	<b>Look at the Pictures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Look at the picture for clues.</li> </ul>
 Lips the Fish	<b>Get your Lips Ready</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Say the first few sounds.</li> <li>▪ Read to the end of the sentence and say it again.</li> </ul>
 Stretchy Snake	<b>Stretch It Out</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stretch the word out slowly.</li> <li>▪ Put the sounds together.</li> </ul>
 Chunky Monkey	<b>Chunk the Word</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Look for a chunk (-at, -an).</li> <li>▪ Look for a word part (-th, -ed).</li> </ul>
 Skippy Frog	<b>Skip It, Hop Back</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Skip the word.</li> <li>▪ Read to the end of the sentence.</li> <li>▪ Hop back and read it again.</li> </ul>
 Flip the Dolphin	<b>Flip the Vowel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Try the short vowel sound.</li> <li>▪ Try the long vowel sound.</li> </ul>
 Tryin' Lion	<b>Try It Again</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Try to reread the sentence.</li> <li>▪ Try a word that makes sense.</li> <li>▪ Try to switch b/d.</li> </ul>
 Helpful Hippo	<b>Ask for Help</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ask for help <u>after</u> you have tried all of the other strategies.</li> </ul>

Scan with your smartphone or tablet to go to the OLOW website.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

Keep the chill out of your relationship this winter with a weekend together. A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Give the greatest gift, that of your time alone - invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

2015 Weekend Dates: 19-21 June, 11-13 September, 13-15 November

Venue for Weekends: Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

To apply contact: Ardell & Bill Sharpe Tel. 02 4283 3435 or [wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au)



McCarthy Catholic College  
75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

## Trade Training Centre

**INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 11, 2016:**

**Date:** Wednesday 3 June 2015

**Time:** 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Start your trade and complete your HSC –  
with **no** external examinations

### Trades offered:

Automotive	Bricklaying
Electrical	Hairdressing
Childcare	Hospitality
Carpentry	Metal Fabrication

Enrolment Enquiries:  
Mrs Katrina Gill - 4735 3211 (Option 1)

*Holy Family Primary School,  
Luddenham*

*25th Anniversary*

*Mass & Morning Tea*

*Friday 12th June*

*9.15am in the Church*

*Followed by Morning Tea in the School Hall*

*RSVP - 22nd May to*

*Marie, Monica or Despina in the School Office*

*For further information contact the*

*School Office on 4773 4485*

*Email - [Luddenham@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Luddenham@parra.catholic.edu.au)*



Penrith  
Symphony  
Orchestra

A lively entertainment for  
all the family: Prokofiev's  
enchanting musical tale,  
and an up-close symphony  
orchestra experience.



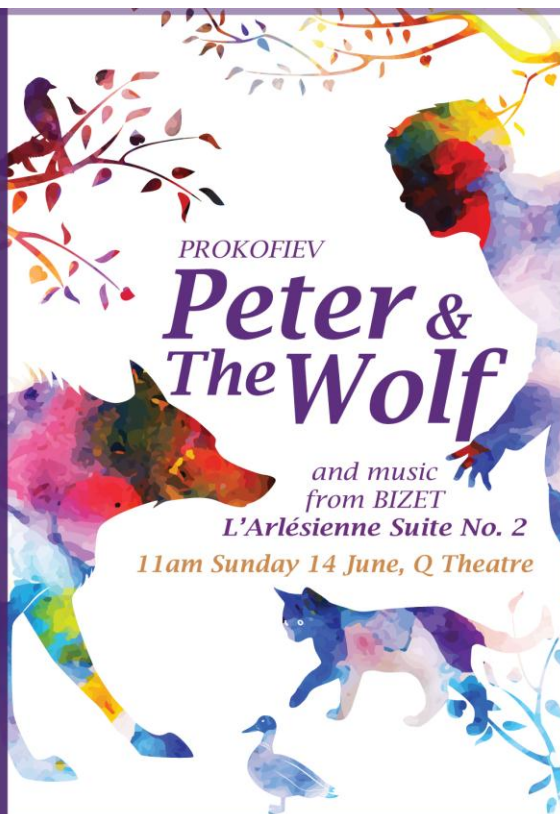
**George Ellis** conductor  
**Murray Cook** narrator  
(former Red Wiggle)

### TICKETS

Adult	\$25
Family (2+2)	\$75
Child under 16	\$20
Infant under 2	Free

### BOOKINGS

[www.thejoan.com.au](http://www.thejoan.com.au)  
or 02 4723 7600



**Boys and Girls, 7 – 13 years  
are invited to join**

## **Penrith City Children's Choir**

**for its next project**

## ***Songs of the Sea***

**directed by Lucy McAlary**

**applications close 17 June!**

**If you love to sing, please join us.**

No auditions.

For further information,  
contact the Administrator:

Liz Strasser  
0418 202 849

[pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au](mailto:pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au)



## JULY KIDS HOLIDAY

### WORKSHOP PROGRAM 2015

Bookings essential 4735 1100

All materials supplied

Pay by credit card over the phone

Wear old clothes and BRING A SNACK



Inspired by *RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW*, an exhibition of colourful, experimental abstract art.

#### **Japanese Paper Marbling (Suminagashi) Workshop**

**Wednesday, 1 July, 10am – 12 noon, 7 – 10 yrs \$20**

Using Japanese Paper Marbling techniques this class will create A3 artistic backdrops inspired by Justene Williams' *Volcano Tree*.

Tutor: Paula Perugini

#### **Hyper Neon Animal Portraiture**

**Thursday, 2 July, 10am – 12 noon, 7 - 10 yrs \$20**

Get super contemporary with high impact neon paints and create bold animal portraits inspired by artist Louise Zhang's *Veriform Streaks*.

Tutor: Paula Perugini

#### **Lewer's Clay Bowls Family Workshop**

**Friday, 3 July, 10:30am-12 noon, \$15 per child, adults don't pay but must stay**

Families will sculpt decorative clay bowls that incorporate shapes, motifs and form inspired by the ceramic sculpture exhibition, *On Site: Notanda* and the plants in Lewer's Garden.

Tutor: Paula Perugini

#### **Watercolour Painting Workshop**

**Wednesday 8 July, 10am – 12 noon, 6 - 9 yrs \$20**

Have a watery and colourful time experimenting with this vibrant medium and create a series of miniature watercolour paintings, along with a tiny easel ready to display your artworks.

Tutor: Naomi McCarthy

#### **Rain Stick Percussion Instrument Workshop**

**Thursday 9 July, 10am – 12 noon, 5 – 8 yrs \$20**

Using a hammer, nails and a thick cardboard tube make a Rain Stick that sounds surprisingly like falling rain. Paint your rain stick in colours and patterns inspired by the current exhibition.

Tutor: Naomi McCarthy

#### **Decoupage Box Workshop**

**Friday 10 July 10am – 12 noon 8 – 12 yrs \$20**

Use acrylic paint, cardboard and decoupage to make a multi-colored, bejeweled, keepsake box.

Tutor Christine Hali

**Penrith Regional Gallery & the Lewers Bequest, 86 River Rd Emu Plains 2750 p 47 35 1100**