

## DIARY DATES

**Friday 23 September**

Stage 3 Touch Football

Last day of Term 3

**Monday 10 October**

School resumes

**Wed/Thurs 12/13 Oct**

First Reconciliation Parent Info Session, 7.30pm

**Sat/Sun 15/16 October**

First Reconciliation Enrolment Mass

**Wednesday 19 October**

P & F Meeting, 7.00pm

**Thursday 20 October**

123 Magic Parent Session 1  
6.00-8.00pm

**Friday 21 October**

Blue & White Mufti Day for Cancer

**Thursday 27 October**

Parent Information and Kinder Orientation Program, 8.45-10.45am

123 Magic Parent Session 2  
6.00-8.00pm

**Monday 31 October**

**PUPIL FREE DAY**

**Thursday 3 November**

123 Magic Parent Session 3  
6.00-8.00pm

**Wednesday 9 November**

First Reconciliation Liturgy, 7.30pm

**Monday 5 December**

Christmas Carols Evening

**Wednesday 7 December**

Year 6 Farewell Mass  
7.00pm

**Friday 9 December**

9.00am OLOW Award Ceremony

6.00pm Year 6 Social Disco

**Monday 12 December**

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass and Thank You Morning Tea

**Friday 16 December**

Last Day of School

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

Thank you to the many, many grandparents who visited us today for Grandparents' Day. This event seems to be getting bigger and bigger each year! It was a beautiful Mass, followed by morning tea and a snapshot of creativity presented by our students. Grandparents also had opportunities to celebrate the learning that is going on in each grade. This was followed by a BBQ organised by our Year 6 parents, book fair and photo opportunities!

We give thanks to all of our grandparents for the love and care they show our children. Grandparents have the experience and knowledge that come from surviving a great many years of life's battles. They have the wisdom to know when to share this experience and knowledge with their grandchildren.

As grandparents are free to love, guide and befriend children without having to take daily responsibility for them, they can often reach out beyond pride and fear of failure and close the gap between generations. Besides being the keepers of family traditions and history, grandparents provide grandchildren with examples of hard work and family loyalty.

Grandparents' stories contribute to family identity by sharing knowledge about relatives, important events, family traditions, the grandparent's childhood and the childhood of the grandchild's parent. As these stories are passed on, the grandchild can gain a positive image of their place within the family and a positive image of ageing.

When we become parents, we automatically give our parents a new position in life, that of being grandparents. At the same time, we give our child the added security of belonging to an extended family. The relationship between grandchild and grandparent can be very life-enhancing: a grandchild can bring love, energy, optimism, laughter, youthfulness and sometimes purpose to the life of their grandparent. At the same time, a grandparent can provide maturity, knowledge, stability, a wise ear and unconditional love to a grandchild.

Nowadays, being a grandparent might not be as simple as you would like. However, whether you are a grandparent, step-grandparent or even a grandparent raising a grandchild, you are an important person in your grandchild's life.

God, our heavenly Father, we ask your blessings on our grandparents.

They are valued links between the past and the present.

They are treasured gifts and strong models.

May they be anchors that provide stability and a sense of identity for us.

May their wisdom guide us.

May their lived example challenge us.

May their witness to their faith strengthen us.

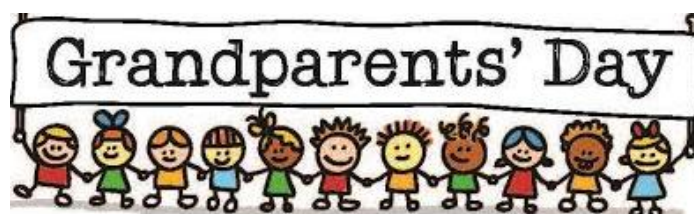
May they always be surrounded by the love, respect and support of their families.

Lord, bless and empower our grandparents.

Keep them in your love.

Give them your joy and peace each day, so that they may forever follow your son Jesus.

Amen



*We again come to the end of another term and what a busy term we have shared together! So many events, liturgies, sacramental opportunities, prayer reflections and educational experiences have occurred this term that it is no surprise that schools are really becoming the hub of our faith communities. I wish to begin by saying a sincere thank you to Fr. Mick for his continual guidance and to our parents for their continued support. Without you journeying with your child through their educational and spiritual life we would not have achieved the many exciting experiences along the way.*

*Teaching children is a very challenging profession. It takes constant dedication, knowledge and passion to do what happens every day. The teaching staff at OLOW is one of the most committed groups I have had the privilege to work along-side. They always strive to do what they can to improve the learning outcomes for all the children in their care. A lot of the role happens behind the scenes and I wish to thank our staff for what they do for your children but also how they go about the day to day of living in this community of faith and hope.*

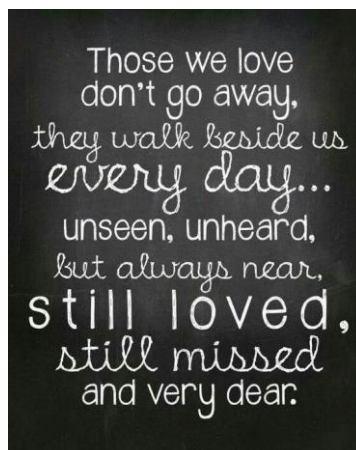
*We are truly blessed to work with the best children in the world. Our children need to be congratulated for all their hard work, for never giving up on the learning they are constantly challenged with and always looking out and caring for each other.*

*God Bless and safe holidays,  
Mrs. Sue Veling  
Principal*

### **WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

It is with much sadness that we advise of the passing of Mrs Linda Prendergast – mother to Jack in Year 7, Daniel in Year 5, Maddison in Year 1 and Ben. Our thoughts and prayers go out to James and his family in this difficult time.

I wish to thank the OLOW community for their compassion and outpouring of love in this tragedy.



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR TERM 3 WEEK 8 and WEEK 9**



Jye Walsh, Layla Pascoe, Ava Palombo, Adrienne Moffitt-Bourke, Sebastian Hayward, Daniel Prendergast, Emma Fowler, Jack Sikic, Maddison Hooper, Abby Godwin, Grace Foster, Sandra Elias, Patrick Urquhart, Alyssa Eekman, Dylan Babbage, Riley Burton, Sienna Footman, James Cremen, Liam Wilding, Declan Casey, Alex Boyd, Isabelle Roots, Sienna Gahagan, Ben Robinson, Clare Roser, Tyra Footman, Holly Penny, Samuel Cashel, Mario Della Scala, Leilahni Isaia, Mia Kuster, Connor Lohan, Lucie McIntosh, Jayden Roots, Taylor Carroll, Lily Fowler, Tyler Clifford, Alex Hayward.

### **WELCOME & FAREWELL**

We welcome to our school the Wilding family with Liam starting in Kindergarten. We also welcome the Miles family with Jayden and Brodie joining the Year 2 cohort. You are now part of a wonderful, caring community.

We farewell the English family after 5 years at OLOW – Carter in Year 2 and Brodie in Year 4 as they head off to new adventures in Queensland.





## CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following children who received that sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday. The ceremony was con-celebrated by Monsignor Ron McFarlane and Father Mick O'Callaghan.



Riley Bahlmann; Brooke Bentley; Mack Boormakin; Liam Darke; Emilia Di Prinzio; Emma Jones; Bailey Latham; Sophia Lusk; Daniel Prendergast; Jack Prendergast; Madeline Renny; Charlize Risse; Kyal Risse; Jayden Roots; Clarice Sagun; Blake Skinner; Kennedy Storr; Logan Sultana; Jorja Tabor; Mia Urquhart; Patrick Urquhart; Jessie Whiteley.

## YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER

Congratulations to Dylan Babbage in Year 3 who won the signed Penrith Jersey raffled by Year 6.



## PAT-R – COMPREHENSION ASSESSMENT

During Week 10 and the first two weeks of Term 4, all students in Years 1 – 6 will sit for the Progressive Achievement Testing - Reading Comprehension. Each year students across the Diocese complete the test in Semester Two. The test provides comparative data on student progress in the important skill of reading comprehension. The test is completed online and comprises the reading of a variety of texts from a range of subject areas and genres, and the answering of multiple-choice questions about these texts. The questions are designed to test students' skills of: retrieving directly stated information; reflecting on texts; interpreting explicit information; and interpreting by making inference.

## BUILDING PROJECT

During the week the concrete slab was poured for the new administration building. Slowly things are beginning to take shape! The builders have also labelled four parish parking spots. These parking spaces are for parish members and visitors to the parish office. Please be mindful of not parking there if visiting the school.

As safety is paramount, please be vigilant around the building site and when moving through the staff parking area, keep to the walkway near the fence. Do not drive into the carpark to drop off children unless you need to utilise the disabled car spot.

## ARE YOU MOVING?

To estimate enrolments for 2017, it would be appreciated if the school could be notified in writing of any children who may be leaving *Our Lady of the Way* at the end of the year from grades other than Year 6.

## PUPIL FREE DAY – TERM 4 Advance Notice

Our final Staff Development Day for 2016 will be on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

This will be a PUPIL FREE DAY.



## NEW SCHOOL ADDRESS

In preparation for our new administration block being built and fronting onto Troy Street, Penrith Council has approved a change to the school street address. The new street and postal address for *Our Lady of the Way School* is **17 Troy Street**. A new mailbox has been installed in Troy Street. If you are writing to the school, or sharing the school address with anyone, please use the new address.

## SUMMER UNIFORM SWAP OVER

Full change over into our summer uniform will be on the first day back in Term 4, **Monday 10 October**. All OLOW students should be wearing their full summer uniform including white sports shoes with white laces on sports days.

Parents are reminded that boy's haircuts should be in a sensible and conventional style. The hair should be one length all over - with no extremes of fashion in hairstyle cut or colour. Shaving of any part of the head, lines or undercuts, and haircuts with a number 1 or 2 blade are not permitted. Rat's tails of any sort and the use of gel and hairspray to spike hair is not permitted.

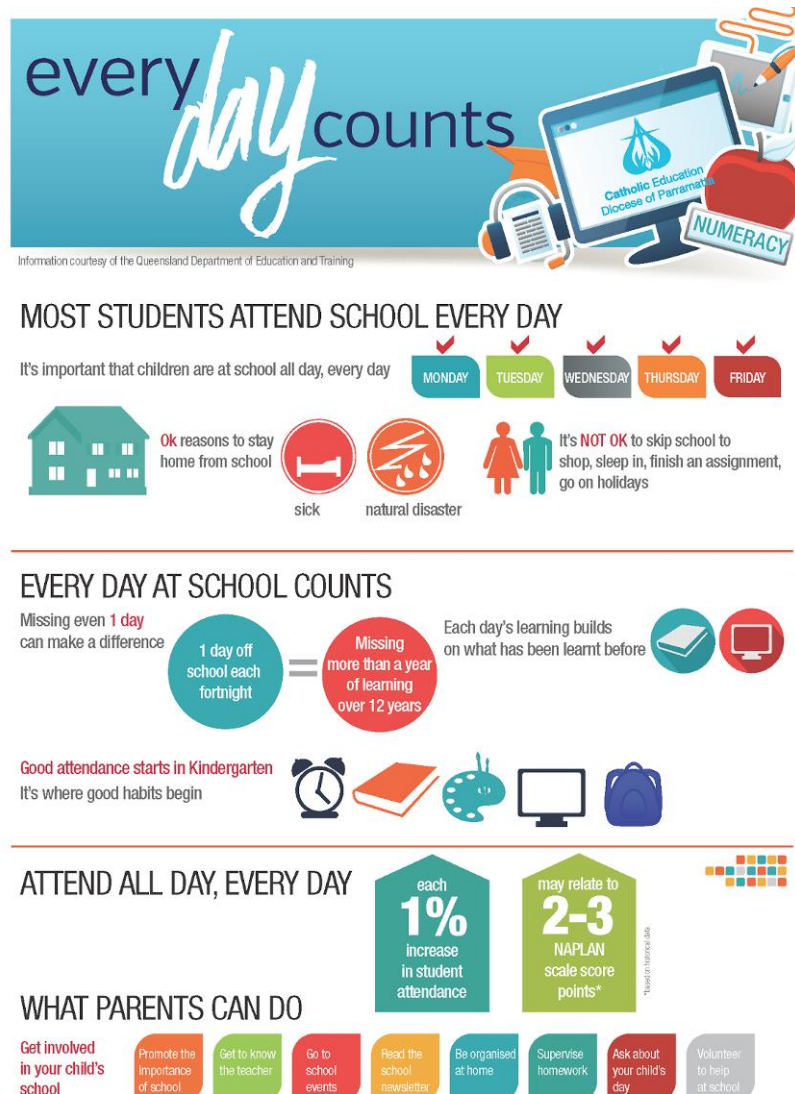
## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Each fortnight a student attendance report is printed. This report calculates the number of days each child has been absent from school and the reason the child was not at school. It also alerts teachers of the patterns of absent behaviour, for example, the children who are away most Fridays or Mondays.

Please talk to your children about the great learning opportunities they receive at school and how important it is for them to attend each day.

Please check out the following information chart regarding the effects of chronic student absences.

Think about the long-term effects of students who do not attend school for reasons other than ill health.





# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



## Way of Mercy:

It was a wonderful privilege to welcome the Mercy Cross and relics of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop and St. Teresa of Kolkata on Monday. Our student leaders did a wonderful job of leading our ceremony and we enjoyed hearing about Miss Reynolds' experience of mercy while she was on her World

Youth Day pilgrimage. She reminded us that mercy has a face and how it could be ours...



- Forgive others
- Carry each other's burdens
- Smile to people you don't know in the playground
- Just as Jesus was the light for the world, be the light in your friends/family's life
- Listen to others not just hear them
- Give your time freely
- Pray for others



In preparing for the Way of Mercy the children were asked to reflect on times when they have had mercy shown to them or when they have shown mercy towards another. The children's responses have formed our 'Wall of Mercy'.



**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Please see the note from the Parish at the end of the newsletter regarding children in Year 3 who have been baptised and wish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Any children in Years 4, 5 & 6 who have not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation are also welcome to join the programme. The programme will commence at the beginning of Term 4.



# SPORTS NEWS

## STAGE TWO TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY:

We had a great day of footy. Our children represented OLOW beautifully by working as a team and encouraging one another. Every team showed huge improvements by the end of the day!

A special congratulations to our Girls Green team who were undefeated and pool winners!

A huge thank you to the parents who helped out by coaching and managing today - we are very appreciative and these days couldn't happen without your help! Thank you!





# GENERAL NEWS

## FOOTY FEVER DAY

A great day on Thursday for Footy Fever Day! It was an eventful day which included the chocolate toss, ice creams and a raffle to win a signed Panthers jersey. We had many different jerseys that represented all the different codes including NRL, AFL, Soccer and even NFL.

Thank you to all the Year Six Students, Year Six Parents and a special mention to the Cleary family for donating the jersey.

Congratulations to Dylan who won the signed Panthers jersey.



# Try these tips to encourage the behaviour you want in your child

*By Raising Children Network*

1. **Children do as you do.** Your child watches you to get clues on how to behave in the world. You're their role model, so use your own behaviour to guide them. What you do is often much more important than what you say. If you want your child to say 'please', say it yourself. If you don't want your child to raise her voice, speak quietly and gently yourself.
2. **Show your child how you feel.** Tell them honestly how their behaviour affects you. This will help them see their own feelings in yours, like a mirror. This is called empathy. By the age of three, children can show real empathy. So you might say, 'I'm getting upset because there is so much noise I can't talk on the phone'. When you start the sentence with 'I', it gives your child the chance to see things from your perspective.
3. **Catch them being 'good'.** This simply means that when your child is behaving in a way you like, you can give them some positive feedback. For example, 'Wow, you are playing so nicely. I really like the way you are keeping all the blocks on the table'. This works better than waiting for the blocks to come crashing to the floor before you take notice and bark, 'Hey, stop that'. This positive feedback is sometimes called '[descriptive praise](#)'. **Try to say six positive comments (praise and encouragement) for every negative comment (criticisms and reprimands).** The 6-1 ratio keeps things in balance. Remember that if children have a choice only between no attention or negative attention, they will seek out negative attention.
4. **Get down to your child's level.** Kneeling or squatting down next to children is a very powerful tool for communicating positively with them. Getting close allows you to tune in to what they might be feeling or thinking. It also helps them focus on what you are saying or asking for. If you are close to your child and have their attention, there is no need to make them look at you.
5. **'I hear you.'** Active listening is another tool for helping young children cope with their emotions. They tend to get frustrated a lot, especially if they can't express themselves well enough verbally. When you **repeat back to them what you think they might be feeling**, it helps to relieve some of their tension. It also makes them feel respected and comforted. It can diffuse many potential [temper tantrums](#).
6. **Keep promises.** Stick to agreements. When you follow through on your promises, good or bad, your child learns to trust and respect you. So when you promise to go for a walk after they pick up their toys, make sure you have your walking shoes handy. When you say you will leave the library if they doesn't stop running around, be prepared to leave straight away. No need to make a fuss about it – the more matter of fact, the better. This helps your child feel more secure, because it creates a consistent and predictable environment.
7. **Reduce temptation.** Your glasses look like so much fun to play with – it's hard for children to remember not to touch. Reduce the chance for innocent but costly exploration by keeping that stuff out of sight.
8. **Choose your battles.** Before you get involved in anything your child is doing – especially to say 'no' or 'stop' – ask yourself if it really matters. By keeping instructions, requests and negative feedback to a minimum, you create less opportunity for conflict and bad feelings. [Rules](#) are important, but use them only when it's really important.



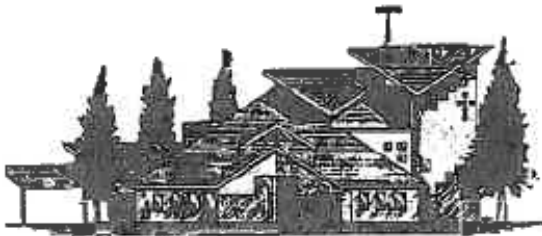
9. **Whining: be strong.** Kids don't want to be annoying. By giving in when they're whining for something, we train them to do it more – even if we don't mean to. 'No' means 'no', not maybe, so don't say it unless you mean it. If you say 'no' and then give in, children will whine even more the next time, hoping to get lucky again.
10. **Keep it simple and positive.** If you can give clear instructions in simple terms, your child will know what is expected of them. ('Please hold my hand when we cross the road.') Stating things in a positive way gets their heads thinking in the right direction. For example, 'Please shut the gate' is better than 'Don't leave the gate open'.
11. **Responsibility and consequences.** As children get older, you can give them more responsibility for their own behaviour. You can also give them the chance to experience the natural consequences of that behaviour. You don't have to be the bad guy all the time. For example, if your child forgot to put their lunch box in their bag, they will go hungry at lunchtime. It is their hunger and their consequence. It won't hurt them to go hungry just that one time. Sometimes, with the best intentions, we do so much for our children that we don't allow them to learn for themselves. At other times you need to provide consequences for unacceptable or dangerous behaviour. For these times, it is best to ensure that you have explained the consequences and that your children have agreed to them in advance.
12. **Say it once and move on.** It is surprising how much your child is listening even though they might not have the social maturity to tell you. Nagging and criticising is boring for you and doesn't work. Your child will just end up tuning you out and wonder why you get more upset. If you want to give them one last chance to cooperate, remind them of the consequences for not cooperating. Then start counting to three.
13. **Make your child feel important.** Children love it when they can contribute to the family. Start introducing some simple chores or things that they can do to play their own important part in helping the household. This will make them feel important and they will take pride in helping out. If you can give your child lots of practice doing a chore, they will get better at it and will keep trying harder. Safe chores help children feel responsible, build their self-esteem and help you out too.
14. **Prepare for challenging situations.** There are times when looking after your child and doing things you need to do will be tricky. If you think about these challenging situations in advance, you can plan around your child's needs. Give him a five-minute warning before you need them to change activities. Talk to them about why you need their cooperation. Then they are prepared for what you expect.
15. **Maintain a sense of humour.** Another way of diffusing tension and possible conflict is to use humour and fun. You can pretend to become the menacing tickle monster or make animal noises. But humour at your child's expense won't help. Young children are easily hurt by parental 'teasing'. Humour that has you both laughing is great.

## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to Nicholas and Eva Curry and their family on the passing away of their Grandfather, Joe Zarb. May he Rest in Peace.

*Like a bird singing in the rain, let loving memories survive in time of sorrow*





# OUR LADY OF THE WAY PARISH

September 16, 2016.

## PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

Dear Parents and Caregivers of Students in Year 3.

As your child has now reached the age for the Sacrament of Reconciliation; we invite you to consider enrolling in the Sacramental Programme at Our Lady of the Way Parish. In this parish we run home based groups for the Sacramental Programme in line with the Parramatta Diocesan Policy. This programme requires a more active participation of parents in the preparation of their children. It is an opportunity to continue to build our faith community and is often a time of renewal of faith in the lives of parents and caregivers.

Each group consists of 6-8 families meeting in the home of one family and one parent facilitating the group. To be involved in the programme parents are required to bring their child each week to the group session they have nominated. The facilitator's role is to guide the group through the programme provided. They are not required to be experts or teachers to the group. Families offering their home for the weekly group sessions will need to provide a meeting space (e.g. lounge room/family room) for approximately 6- 8 children and their parents or caregivers. These families are not required to provide supper.

An information evening will be held for parents and caregivers before the programme begins. **This evening, as well as the commitment/enrolment Mass, is compulsory for all families.** At the information evening we will be also asking you to nominate a group that you and your child will join to participate in the programme. If you are able to facilitate a group please complete the form attached and return to the parish office, your SRE teacher or Our Lady of the Way School Office by Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. There will also be an information session for parents and caregivers who offer to facilitate their group. This meeting will occur in conjunction with the commitment/enrolment Masses.

We ask you to pray and seriously consider taking on the role of facilitator for one of these groups when your child is preparing to receive the sacraments. If you would like to discuss this role, please feel free to contact me in the Parish Office on 4735 1041.

### Dates for Sacrament of Reconciliation:


**Parent information meeting:** Wed. 12<sup>th</sup> October **OR** Thurs. 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm

**Enrolment Mass:** Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> October 6.00pm **OR** Sun. 16<sup>th</sup> October 8.00am/9.30am

**Reconciliation:** Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm

We look forward to working with you and your children in receiving the Sacraments.

Yours sincerely

  
.....  
**Fr. Mick O'Callaghan – Parish Priest.**

15 Troy Street, Emu Plains NSW 2750  
PO Box 27, Emu Plains NSW 2750

[olowpar@pnc.com.au](mailto:olowpar@pnc.com.au)

Telephone: (02) 4735 1041  
Facsimile: (02) 4735 7832



*Primary school kids are invited for the  
re-launch of the Edge Youth Group*

# **THE EDGE RE-LAUNCH!**

*Glenbrook's first-ever COLOUR RUN*

**Sunday 2nd October 5pm,  
before the Youth Mass at 6pm,  
free sausage sizzle at 7pm.**

**Come and welcome our new Youth Leaders:  
Kara and Victoria**

*Bring an old shirt to wear over your clothes -  
it might get a bit messy!!!*

SPRINGWOOD

SCORCHERS

**IGNITE**

*Holiday*

**BASKETBALL CLINIC**

Blaxland High Sports Centre,

Coughlan Rd, Blaxland

**5yrs+**

9am – 3pm

(8:45am for sign in)

Please bring a basketball,  
recess, lunch, plenty of  
water and wear appropriate  
closed-toe shoes.

**\$50**

**26/9/16**

**27/9/16**

**TO REGISTER:** call the association on  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays

via **(02) 47 398 999**

or email **scorchers1@bigpond.com**





## ***Focus Exhibition: Gravity (and Wonder)***

Bounce into our October holiday program to explore gravity in the art studio and the science lab. Plus, for extra fun get on board one of our Gravitation/Animation workshops using the Gallery's new iPads

Bookings for all workshops are essential, and payment can be made by credit card over the phone: 4735 1100.

### **Bubble Space**

**Tuesday 4 October - 10am – 12noon**

**5 - 9 years | \$25**

Explore the planets as you create a bubble art impression of the solar system. Have fun experimenting with this non-traditional artmaking technique whilst enjoying the beautiful effects that it creates.

### **Clay Aliens**

**Thursday 6 October - 10am – 12 noon**

**8 – 12 years | \$25**

Get your hands on the wonderfully malleable material of clay – that's right, use refined mud to sculpt a quirky, space creature, with googly eyes and perky antennae. For a flashy finish, paint them shiny silver or space-alien green.

### **Unleash Your Inner Geek**

**Wednesday 5 October - 10am – 12 noon**

**5- 9 years | \$25**

**Friday 7 October - 10am – 12 noon**

**9- 12 years | \$25**

Our special guest scientist from Western Sydney University's observatory will launch you into a range of hands-on experiments exploring the wondrous impact of gravity.

### **Gravitation/Animation**

**Tuesday 4 October /or Wednesday 5 October - 10am – 12 noon**

**6 - 8 years | \$25**

**Thursday 6 October /or Friday 7 October - 10am – 12 noon**

**9- 12 years | \$25**

Come along to our special gravity-fuelled animation workshops led by one of our House of Wonder artists Katie Turnbull. Use pencils, paper, scissors and tiny treasures to create a stop-frame animation using the Gallery iPads. Develop your digital skills and flex your creativity whilst taking a fun-filled look at the effects of gravity. Take your short film home on a tiny USB (digital storage - another scientific wonder).

Don't Miss out.

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