

# THE ponds REFLECTION

Issue number 19  
month December  
year 2023

## PRINCIPAL REPORT



### Time to Celebrate

Who can believe that there are only two more weeks of school left for 2023 for students! Staff have two busy days on December 18 and 19 with organisation and curriculum planning for 2024. It is exciting that some of our new 2024 staff will be joining us for planning on these days. Many people ask whether we are winding down but in the next two weeks we have Celebrating Success, Year 11 Camp, Presentation Evening, STEM week and Lifesaving. This means that all hands are on deck, and we continue to provide the best experiences we can for students at The Ponds High School right until the end of the year.



### P&C final meeting

Many thanks to parents who attended our final meeting On Monday 27 November. There was a lovely spread of snacks organised by ex-student Stephanie Lahood and her mother Vice President Maureen Peberdy. It was a pleasant evening and minutes can be found on the school website. Here is a very reduced summary of KLA highlights shared on the evening.

We hope to welcome more parents in 2024. Remember the P&C at TPHS has NO fundraising. It is an opportunity to have your say and get insight into secret business that is not shared in the newsletter. Weeks 3 and 8 at 7.15 each term in the Library hub.



## Faculty High Lights

### MATHEMATICS

Australian Mathematics competition

16 Distinctions and 78 Credits. Distinctions included as below:

Year 10 x 2

Year 9 x 1

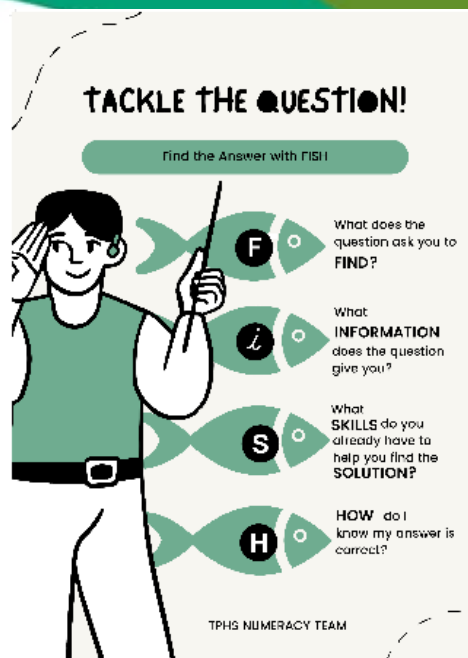
Year 8 x 8

Year 7 x 5 (including first in school)

Our whole school FISH strategy to better assist mathematical understanding.

#### Year 9 Inquisitive Minds Excursion

Thirty-nine Year 9 students travelled to the Inquisitive Minds excursion for an enriching day of mathematical problem-solving. TPHS Year 9 students won the competition, achieving the top overall score out of all 5 schools represented, as well as being represented in the pair which won first place! We brought home medals, plaques and chocolates.



### LANGUAGES

#### Welcoming overseas visitors

In Term 1 this year, The Ponds High School had 10 visiting Japanese students with us experiencing life in Australia, and at The Ponds. This was our first visit since Covid, so a first visit experience for many of our TPHS students. We were very grateful to the ten TPHS families that hosted these students in their homes for the week. Students participated in EAL/D lessons each morning, cultural lessons, and class activities with their buddies. They also attended a Year 12 Japanese lesson, where our Year 12 students had the opportunity to practise their Japanese, and all students were able to learn about each other's culture. During the week, the students had many experiences with their host families and new friends at The Ponds.

#### Competition success

Daniel D of Year 11 participated in the NSW Japanese Language Speech Contest, which was held at The University of NSW. He competed against Year 11 and 12 students from across NSW in the High School Senior Division. The subject, content and form of the speeches was left open to each contestant. Daniel presented a very successful speech, and he achieved 3rd place. This year we also had a number of students enter the ALC Japanese Competition. Our students received many awards including high distinctions, distinctions, and credits.



#### Practical learning

Year 7 students participated in the Sushi Incursion. Chef Dekura, a very experienced Sushi chef, came to The Ponds to demonstrate and teach students how to make flower rolls and inside-out rolls. Chef Dekura has been visiting The Ponds every year since 2015. Students enjoyed watching the demonstrations and were able to create their own sushi rolls which they later enjoyed eating. They also watched demonstrations on how to creatively carve vegetables to create beautiful garnishes for their dishes.





## HSIE

Broad involvement for our students included.

Commerce Market Day

Tournament of Minds - HPGE

Economics Stock Market Game

NSW History Competition - State Winner

Australian Geography Competition

Models UN - Year 10

LSA Mock Trial Competition - Year 10, 11

NSW Constitutional Convention - Year 11



## PDHPE and SPORT

Carnivals and whole-school events

Organised and successfully ran the following carnivals and whole school events:

Swimming

X Country

Athletics

Year 8 Lifesaving (upcoming)

Year 7 Gala Day

Annual Sports Presentation



A broad range of success

We registered no less than 80 teams across a multitude of gala days, knockout sports, and the various sporting carnivals.

Won Macquarie Zone Swimming Carnival for the fifth consecutive year.

Won Macquarie Zone Athletics carnival for the second consecutive year.

Won some of the Macquarie Cup Gala days.

Our students regularly trialled for Macquarie Zone, Sydney West and NSWCHS squads, with a number of successful individuals and teams representing TPHS at these levels.

Grade Sport Premiers and Champions across Season 1 and Season 2.

Rugby League and League Tag Referee Program.

Built strong links with our neighbouring primary schools, Riverbank and John Palmer, where the Sports Leadership Team has facilitated successful K-2 Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals.

Added a variety of options to Wednesday sport.

Added Cheer to Wednesday sport – the group has been very successful in their competitions throughout the year.

TPHS had some exceptionally consistent efforts from teams such as Open Girls Football, 15s Boys and Girls Basketball, Opens Boys Volleyball, Opens Boys Basketball, and Opens Girls Softball. The 13 Years Boys 100m Relay, the 12 Years/14 Years/16 Years Boys 4 x 50 Freestyle Relays, and the Open Boys 6 x 50 Freestyle Relay all competed at their respective CHS Carnivals. For the first time, our Open Boys and Girls Hockey teams progressed to the state rounds.



Not to be outshone, our elite individual swimmers made waves in the pool at all levels up to All Schools, as well as many notable performances at Zone, Sydney West and CHS cross country and athletics carnivals. Just as equally impressive were our individual athletes competing in their respective State Titles. These included touch football, hockey, softball, rowing, cricket, football, and volleyball. To top it off, our superstar gymnasts and trampolinists were again triumphant in their individual events at CHS.

## SCIENCE

### Competitions and experiences

National Science Week Celebrations- Science showcase (part of Community connections program)

Stage 4 and Stage 5 ANSTO Hackathon

Mars Rover Challenge during National Science Week

Victor Chang Awards- four students

Year 8 and Year 10 VALID assessment (Year 8 mandatory, Year 10 optional)

Science Olympiads

Big Science competition

CSIRO Generation STEM - Western Sydney International (WSI) Experience Centre excursion for Year 10 (merit based)

ANSTO Think Science Competition Years 7-10

ANSTO excursion on Radioactivity for top 80 students in Year 9

Accelerated Earth and Environmental Science class - HPGE program

Planetarium incursion for Year 7

Taronga Zoo excursion for Year 7



## CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

### Amazing talent and high performances include.

Year 12 Showcase.

MADD night. Huge success in 2023. Improved numbers by 250 seats.

Substantial increase in Stage 5 and 6 elective numbers for 2024, in particular Stage 6 Visual Arts with 3 classes.

Stage 6 Visual Arts excursion to Art Gallery of NSW to view Art Express.

Stage 6 Drama excursion to view On Stage Exhibition.

Dance - Pulse Alive (96 students), Synergy Dance Festival (72 students)

Dance - HSC Callback Excursion

Dance - Callback nomination

Stage 5 Pom Team - Winners and first in Division at AASCF Winterfest Competition.

Substantial Clubs in 2023 CAPA: Art Club, Digital Media, Jazz Band, Band, Senior and Junior Rock band, Choir and Chamber, Year 7 Dance, Year 8 Dance, Stage 5 Pom/Cheer, Dance Senior Ensemble, Music Lunch and Drama Club.

Music staff lunch supervision roster - growth in the need for access to Music Rooms due to popularity of Stage 5 and 6 Music.

Purchase of a "Massive Kiln" for the Visual Arts rooms due to increasing cohort numbers.

Orientation Taster Lessons for Year 6 students.



## TAS

### Accomplishment across our diverse KLA

Increase in Computing classes from 1 SDD and 1 IPT to 2 of each in 2023 and a further one class added in 2024 for a total of five Stage 6 computing classes.

Obtaining a Textiles and Design technology class in Year 11 class in 2023 and maintaining that with another class in 2024

Twenty major works completed in Design and Technology.

Thirty-four Major Works completed in Industrial Technology.

Seven students nominated from Industrial Technology and





Designing and Technology for SHAPE (an annual exhibition of exemplary Major Projects developed by HSC Design and Technology, Industrial Technology and Textiles and Design students.)

Three new syllabuses programmed and resourced for 2024 (Stage 6 Enterprise Computing, Software Engineering and Stage 5 Computing Technologies (This is six individual, 50-hour electives))

Game Changers Team led by Mel Daveson won the Grand Final of Game Changers.

Three new staff orientated into the faculty.

An increase in all Stage 5 elective areas, specifically Materials, Computing, and Food Technology.

Planning and resourcing completed across TAS practicals has allowed us to keep course fees low and unchanged despite the increase in costs.

Improved Metal opportunities with the purchase of a metal bandsaw and a new welding bay completed in T.03.

Existing welding bay upgraded to better meet students' needs.

STEM week organised for over 800 students in Week 9 of Term 4, completing a paper - based F1 in Schools Program, as well as numerous other activities from friction and forces experiments, balloon drop challenge, and investigating aerodynamics in a wind tunnel.

Successful integration of a plotter purchased for TAS by the P&C into Stage 5 and Stage 6 Design and Technology.

Successful integration of a new router table to improve Stage 6 major works, resulting in significantly better joints and finishing in timber.

Annex dust extractor upgrade and new extractor added to improve air quality and safety for teachers and students.

Upgrade of kitchen facilities, including one fridge and freezer, to accommodate the increase in practical lessons.

Build a Bridge Program completed by 36 students across all year groups, with great success.

Discover Engineering Program, including industry links with 'Cool Aeronautics', 'CSIRO' and 'Engineers Australia', involving 42 students.

## ENGLISH

### Our year in review

The English faculty has been busy preparing for the new curriculum for 2024. We have decided to roll out all years as we have a large team and can get that done. Obviously, we will be refining units as we teach them to make sure we are meeting the needs of our students.

Our debating teams have been successful this year. The Year 9 team made it to the State Finals, but unfortunately did not win. Our Year 8 team has made it to the State Finals, which will occur in early December 2023 including students being invited to the Debating State Camp.

The new Stage 5 Elective Philosophy course was run for the first time in 2023, with a full class and a waiting list. Writing and resourcing the course meant that a lot of interesting conversations were had in the staff room, which provided a good challenge for the English team. We look forward to further refining the program next year with the next group of students.



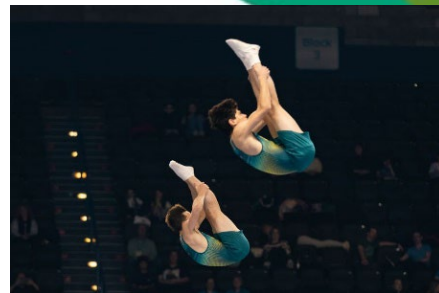
## CHS and Sydney West Blues

Congratulation to our superstar sports men and women who achieved recognition at the recent Combined High Schools (CHS) Events. Held on Monday 27 November and Tuesday 28 November a Sporting Blue is the highest accolade that a student can receive from NSW Department of Education Sports. Students at this level compete at NSW, Nationally and even Internationally in their sports and carry this commitment to school sports.



Recognised at CHS level at a formal event at Homebush was Jayda Lorrigan- Softball extraordinaire. Jayda has completed Year 12 in 2023 and we look forward to following her softball journey as we know there are talent scouts searching for her prowess in the USA.

Also recognised was Nicolas Diaz Ballas our current 2023-4 Sport Captain. Nicolas also received the scholarship to support his growth as a rising Australian star. Nicolas has just returned from World Championships where he won a gold and a silver medal for Synchronised trampoline at Age and Junior Elite level. This photo shows the precision needed with extreme skill to execute a ten skill routine. We are very proud of these students and hope them the best for their future.



At the Sydney West Blues Nicolas Diaz Ballas was again recognised but so were our rising stars Taylor Gates, outgoing Year 12 student, for her excellent skills and attitude in Touch Football and Matthew Lorenzo for his outstanding contribution to Volleyball. At TPHS we are very proud to promote excellent sportsman and women ship. Thank you for the opportunity to share this experience. Also thank you to Miss Blissett who assisted and coordinated the awards for these organisations.



## Late start for 2024

A reminder that from 2024 WEDNESDAY morning classes will start at period 2. Roll call will commence at 9.23 every Wednesday. An audit of learning hours ensured The Ponds High is still well over the required hours of study for NESA and the Department of Education. The one hour delayed start will be used for curriculum development allowing teachers planning time to design material and lessons to suit all students. We thank you for this cooperation.

We understand that some students need to catch buses and need to bring siblings. (We have been negotiating with Busways who have informed us they MAY be able to modify a timetable) but no Supervision will be provided for these students in the playground from 8.30 to 9.23 am.

## Attendance data and Uniform data.

We hope that the parent community have received and appreciated feedback on student attendance and uniform. There are still some teething issues around some class reporting, but we are working to improve this for all reports. The P&C support TPHS being a uniform school, assisting students to recognise the importance of being professional and presenting a positive image of self and the school. We ask that you support students wearing the correct uniform on the correct day. There are many options for students, and we have a new year 7-10 grey trouser for girls using the style of the senior pants. This will be rolled out in early 2024.

Any students growing out of uniform we ask you to kindly donate them if they are in good condition for other students to wear who do not have access to uniform.



*Mrs J Weal*  
Principal







## AUSTRALIAN MATHS TRUST

In the first week of August, students nationwide competed in the prestigious Australian Mathematics Competition, organised by the Australian Mathematics Trust. This included students from Years 7 to 11 from The Ponds High School.

The results have arrived, and we are proud to announce that our students performed exceptionally well in the competition. Out of 242 entries:

28 students received a Certificate of Participation

120 students received a Certificate of Proficiency

78 students received a Certificate of Credit

16 students received a Certificate of Distinction (see photos below)

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition. We encourage all students to participate in next year's competition.

*Mr V Hathi*

Mathematics Teacher

### Best in School

Arnav K

### Receipients of Certificate of Distinction

(From Top to Bottom, Left to Right)

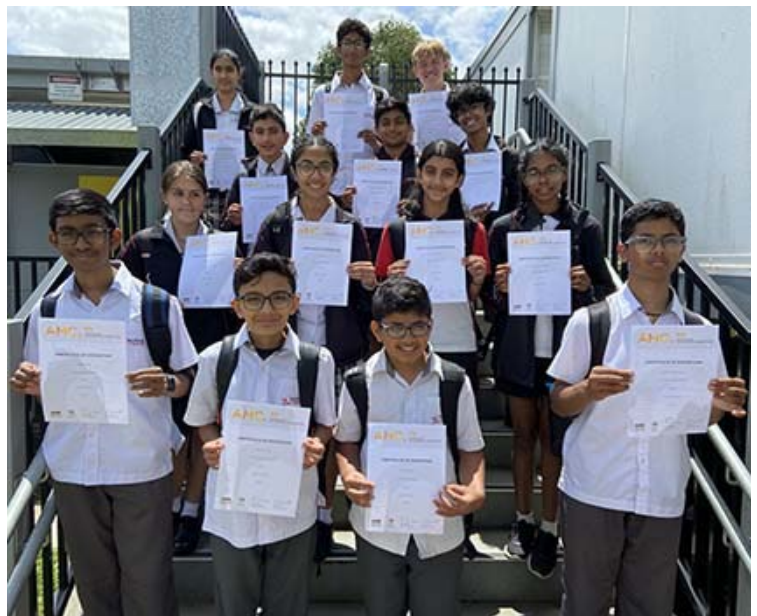
Thehara, Dhyey, Cooper,

Jatin, Binura, Aayan,

Heike, Chahat, Avanitha, Nikithasakthi

Aditya, Darsh, Hersh, Sreyyus.

(Not in photo: Kushal)



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## NOTE TO PARENTS

### LOST PROPERTY

Dear Parent/Carers,

We have a lot of items in our lost property box:

Sports jackets  
Sports bags with shoes  
Pencil cases  
Plastic containers  
Drink bottles  
Shoes  
Glasses  
Keys  
Jewellery

Please ensure your children's belongings have a label with their name and write their name in the plastic containers so we can return items to your child.

If your child has lost an item, please ask him/her to ask at the Students Window in the Front Office.

**Items not collected will be disposed of at end of term.**

### FORGOTTEN ITEMS

**We do not accept, send items to class, or call for students to come to the Front Office to collect forgotten items.**

This interrupts learning and is not the best use of the Front Office staff's time. For this reason, we request that you encourage independence and support the school in following up on consequences.

**This means only bringing emergency items such as medication to the School Front Office.**

Instead support your children by providing a checklist on the back of the door and encourage them to get organised and pack their school bag the night before.

Check List:

Before you leave home for school you should have:

Books for the correct day  
Charged laptop  
TPHS Hat  
PE Uniforms – if needed  
Hard shoes – if you have Science or Technology (on a sports or mufti day)  
Equipment – calculator, protractor, coloured pencils, pens, pencils, apron, etc  
Lunch  
Drink Bottle  
Permission Notes (online)  
Homework and Assignments due

**Thank you for your support in encouraging your children to independent and self-reliant.**



## IMPORTANT DATES 2023 TERM 4

### Week 9

#### Monday 4 December

Breakfast Club Stage 5  
T1 & T2 Week 9 – Community Access – Luna Park  
STEM Week begins  
Communication and Conflict Resolution Skills  
Attendance Reward Day

#### Tuesday 5 December

TPHS Presentation Evening (Gym)  
Korean Armistice Exhibition and Flag Raising Event

#### Wednesday 6 December

Celebrating Success Assembly Year 11 P1 & 2  
2023 Premier Debating Year 7 & 8 State  
Championship  
Breakfast Club Stage 4  
Personal Leadership Program

#### Thursday 7 December

Stage 5 & 6 Minimum Standards Testing  
Year 8 Lifesaving Day 1  
2023 Premier Debating Year 7 & 8 State  
Championship  
English Extension 2 Viva Voce  
Open Boys & Girls Rowing

#### Friday 8 December

2023 Premier Debating Year 7 & 8 State  
Championship  
STEM Week concludes  
Year 8 Lifesaving Day 2  
NRL Rugby League & League Tag Referee Program  
PCYC Fit for Life

### Week 10

#### Monday 11 December

Celebrating Success Assembly (Gym) Year 9 P1 & 2,  
Year 8 P3 & 4  
Breakfast Club Stage 5  
Communication and Conflict Resolution Skills  
Year 11 Camp – Tea Gardens

#### Tuesday 12 December

Celebrating Success Assembly (Gym) Year 10 P1 & 2  
Year 7 P3 & 4  
The Ponds School – Christmas Party  
Indigenous Pathway & Deadly Education  
Year 11 Camp – Tea Gardens

#### Wednesday 13 December

Breakfast Club Stage 4  
Year 11 Camp – Tea Gardens

#### Thursday 14 December

Christmas Celebrations  
Open Boys & Girls Rowing

#### Friday 15 December

Year 7 – 10 reports issued  
NESA: HSC Results Release  
Christmas Activities (Splash of Christmas)  
NRL Rugby League & League Tag Referee Program  
PCYC Fit for Life  
Last Day of Term 4 for Students

#### NSW Education Parent App

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/strategies-and-reports/schools-digital-strategy/projects-and-initiatives/nsw-education-parent-app>

## Blacktown Girls Model UN Conference 2023

On Sunday, November 5, a group of committed TPHS students with the oversight of Ms de Jesus, applied and were accepted into the very first Blacktown Girls Model UN Conference 2023 (BGMUN).

Depending on the students' level of MUN experience, they each were allocated into one of the corresponding UN committees, SOCHUM (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee), and ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council). Delegates worked in pairs, with each committee sophisticatedly debating an assigned topic in the form of one seen, and two unseen resolution papers, with the goal to create a holistic, agreed upon final resolution. Students were encouraged to briefly research their country's stance on various policy issues such as climate refugees, and military coups d'État in sub-saharan Africa. Furthermore, students actively engaged in the final general assembly, a combined debate with both committees on communism vs capitalism.

As the conference progressed, the delegates passionately engaged in debates and negotiations. With well researched arguments and eloquent speeches, they articulated their countries' positions while collaborating with others to draft resolutions. Each TPHS delegate grew in confidence as they addressed the assembly and defended their countries' stances. During the conference, each delegates performance and contributions were evaluated based on specific judging criteria. This criteria was used to assess each individual's understanding of the issues presented, diplomatic skills, public speaking, respect and professionalism, and overall engagement. An animated moderated caucus broke out between the delegates of North Korea, and Tunisia, whose conflicting ideologies created a tense atmosphere, but gave each participant experience in continuing diplomacy even under duress.

Each TPHS student should be commended for displaying invaluable skills that will continue to aid them in their future endeavor's, and professional success. The awards ceremony saw this success inevitably granted. Specifically, through the consistently mild - mannered, and well-spoken efforts of Vivian (Year 11), as she was granted the awards for the best-spoken delegate in her ECOSOC committee. A special congratulations to Anoushay (Year 10), who persevered as an individual delegate, and gained recognition by also being awarded best speaker in the SOCHUM committee. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to their continued success.

We are excited about witnessing our students seize this experience and evolve into empathetic, knowledgeable, and proficient global citizens.

Sinethma K and Sanjana C Year 10

*Ms R de Jesus*

HSIE Teacher

## Market Day Semester 2

"The Consumer and Business World" elective course for Stage 5 students have just completed the highly anticipated event – Market Day.

This semester, on 16 and 17 November, our school's hall buzzed with entrepreneurial spirit as students unleashed their creativity and business acumen. Market Day, a Project-Based Learning opportunity, provided a platform for Stage 5 students to collaboratively design, market, and sell a product of their choice to Stage 4 students. The event seamlessly integrated various aspects of business, from operations and finance to marketing and human resources.





The diverse array of products on display reflected the students' innovation and enthusiasm. From tantalising snow cones to delectable baked goods like brownies and cookies, trendy bubble tea, coveted pop vinyl toys, irresistible lollies, and quirky spider drinks, Market Day was a kaleidoscope of entrepreneurial ventures.

Tanvi G, a Year 9 participant shared the following, "On 16 November, Market Day was held, and I realised again why I picked the commerce business elective. I felt that Market Day is truly the best thing this elective offers. I learnt a lot such as how to plan, buy, and strategies to come up with to sell. Along with a great experience on market day due to realising the perspective of the person on the other end of the table I loved doing something different advertising my product. I have really learnt a lot from this elective and the whole process of planning, executing, payment, and advertisement, it was a new experience that I know I would love to do again. I enjoyed setting up our stall because we got to design our table and put cute labels on the items we were selling. This helped attract a lot of consumers to our stall to purchase products. I also enjoyed working with my friends to encounter problems and find solutions and I loved how I was able to build a great relationship with my team members to decide on the actions and divide roles.

I was the team leader and marketing manager of my team and as I have a love for designing and orienting various texts I felt that my qualities best fit the title of the marketing manager. As a marketing manager, I had the job of designing posters, pages, and cups to advertise our business to our fellow year 8's as Market Day came nearer. As a team leader, I had a second job which was to make sure all the people in my team knew what to do and coordinate with them to ensure they completed the set tasks under their roles. Communication and problem-solving were the two great strengths of my team that allowed us to successfully achieve a great result for our business. Hence, I learnt a lot from this elective and would highly recommend trying this elective."

Anoushay Z, another participant from year 10, echoed Tanvi's sentiments and shared that "prior to the day itself, Market Day seemed like an intimidating event that would be too overwhelming to handle. However, the day itself was incredibly smooth-sailing and a truly enjoyable, one of a kind experience! I learnt how to interact with people in an orderly, convenient fashion whilst being polite and aiming to provide the best customer service experience possible. For me, working together with my friends to curate a business that was deemed successful was the best part. I loved receiving and giving input regarding various business ideas, and working off of each other's creativity and innovation. My friends and I were able to work together in class and even at each other's houses to perfect our business idea, purchase all our required items, and get ready for an amusing Market Day!"

Market Day proved to be more than just a simulation; it was a real-world application of classroom knowledge. It equipped students with skills beyond textbooks, fostering teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and a keen understanding of the intricacies of business.

As we reflect on this semester's successful Market Day, we encourage future students to consider "The Consumer and Business World" elective, as it not only imparts valuable knowledge but also nurtures the entrepreneurial spirit within our school community. Thank you to our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, and the broader community for contributing to the success of Market Day.

*Mrs E Wilson*

HT Teaching and Learning  
HSIE Teacher













## Busways Update

From Sunday, 10 December 2023, the bus services providers previously known as Busways Western Sydney will change their name to Busways R1 Pty Ltd.

There will be no change for students with an existing Opal card. Transport will update these student entitlements to be listed under the new operator and have Busways R1 Pty Ltd.

For new SSTS School Opal card applications, students, parents or guardians will need to nominate Busways R1 Pty Ltd as their bus operator.

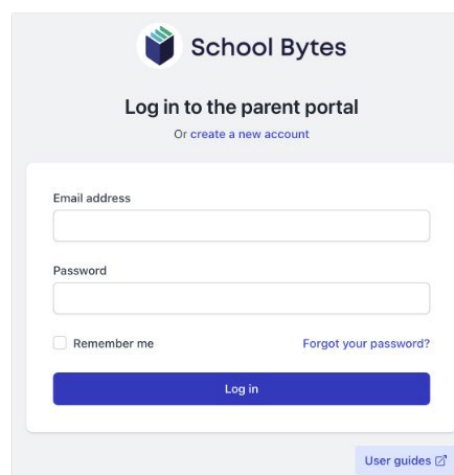
If you have any questions or concerns, please submit your enquiry via [transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/fares-concessions-tickets-feedback](https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/fares-concessions-tickets-feedback)

## Statement of Accounts

End of year Statement of Accounts (SOA) were emailed this week School Bytes. Unpaid Semester 2 Elective Course fees are included in this SOA. Payment of these agreed elective fees as soon as possible is appreciated and ensures the school can continue to offer these valuable elective courses to our students.

All payments can be made via the link in your SOA, the School Bytes parent portal or paid at the Student Counter. An explanation of the various contributions, subject fees and other charges applicable was attached to your SOA.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the school regarding possible assistance or payment plans.

The image shows a screenshot of the 'School Bytes' parent portal login page. At the top, there is a logo for 'School Bytes' and the text 'Log in to the parent portal' with a link 'Or create a new account'. Below this are input fields for 'Email address' and 'Password'. There is a 'Remember me' checkbox and a 'Forgot your password?' link. A blue 'Log in' button is at the bottom. A 'User guides' link with an external icon is in the bottom right corner.

## staying at home while sick

We would like to remind you of the importance of keeping your child at home if they are displaying cold/flu-like symptoms or if they are feeling unwell.

By keeping your unwell child at home, not only are you assisting their recovery, you are also preventing the spread of viruses causing cold, flu, and COVID-19 illnesses within our school.

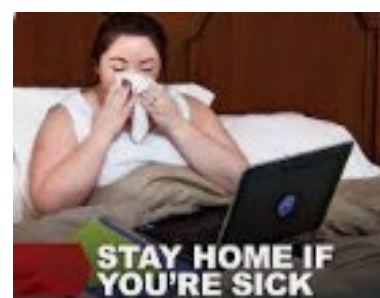
If your child displays any symptoms associated with COVID-19, even if they seem mild, they should take a COVID-19 test. If the result is positive, please notify the school office and follow the advice from the NSW Government on managing COVID-19 safely at home.

Parents and carers who have children with persistent or ongoing symptoms of COVID-19 are encouraged to have these assessed by their local health care professional. These symptoms may be related to other illnesses (e.g., allergies or hay fever) that require treatment and management by a doctor.

Your child should only return to school when they are symptom-free.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

*Mrs D Gili*  
SAM





## The Learning Hub

The Learning Hub at TPHS provides all students with the opportunity to borrow daily laptops, chargers, and headphones.

Please note the following new procedures on our daily loans.

### DAILY LOANS: Laptops, Chargers and Headphones

Students are to borrow laptops, chargers or headphones before school, recess and lunch NOT during class time.

All daily loans MUST be returned after 3pm to the library OR during recess OR lunch.

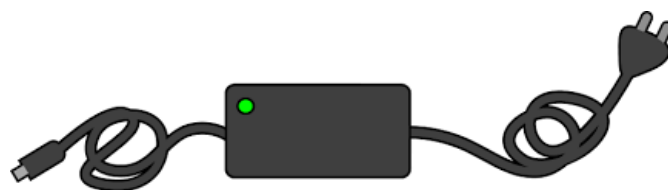
Students who do not return equipment will incur the following penalties:

**Overnight = 1 day ban**  
**Over the weekend = 1 week ban**

Students who repeatedly forget to return library equipment risk possible ban of borrowing laptops, chargers, and headphones until further notice. This will be at the discretion of the Head Teacher of I.T.

### Lost and/or damaged library equipment:

Any lost or damaged library equipment including laptops, chargers and headphones will incur a replacement fee. To avoid this, please use all devices safely and in a respectful manner.



### IS YOUR LAPTOP IN REPAIR OR DAMAGED?

The Learning Hub offers long term laptop loans for TPHS students whose:

- Personal laptop/device is **damaged** or is undergoing **repairs**.

*See the library staff about our long-term laptop charter agreement form.*



Learning  
the Hub

The Ponds  
HIGH SCHOOL

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### Monday 11 December (Week 10)

No daily laptop and/or charger and/or headphone loans

#### Tuesday 12 December (Week 10)

- No daily laptop and/or charger and/or headphone loans

#### Wednesday 13 December (Week 10)

- No daily laptop and/or charger and/or headphone loans
- Long-term laptop loans and chargers MUST be returned.

#### Thursday 14 December (Week 10)

- No daily laptop and/or charger and/or headphone loans

#### Friday 15 December (Week 10)

- All library resources including books MUST be returned including Year 12, 2023.
  - Last day of borrowing library books.
  - Last day of school for students.

## BOOK DISPLAYS

The library staff in the Learning Hub have been busy putting together our final book displays for 2023. We have several new books on display just in time for the summer holidays. If you need assistance or a book recommendation, please see our friendly library staff. Last day for borrowing books is **Friday 15 December in Week 10**. Happy reading! 😊

### MY SUMMER IS BOOKED





## FANTASY



## BOOK CLUB 2023

In Term 4, book club members have been reading the book *'How It Feels to Float'* by Australian author Helena Fox. The story is about love, grief, family, and friendship, about intergenerational mental illness and about how living with it is both a bridge and a chasm to the ones we've lost. The author explores the hard, bewildering, and beautiful places loss can take us, and honours who hold us tightly when the current wants to tug us out to sea.

### The Learning Hub



#### IT Help

Tim and Jackson are available at Recess and Lunch to help with hardware, programs and passwords



#### Printing

Use your Sentral account to print from your laptop. Make sure you have a PDF and credit to your account. Account top ups through Flexischools.



#### AV room

Sound reduced room for recording, furnished with equipment and programs to enhance your product. See library staff for access.



#### Loans

Books, laptops, chargers, headphones, calculators, adaptors and much more.



#### Help

Learning support, IT and library staff are available to answer questions and help where possible.

### LIBRARY LOANS



#### BOOKS

Two weeks

#### LAPTOPS

Return at 3pm on the day of loan

#### CHARGERS

Return at 3pm on the day of loan

#### EQUIPMENT

Headphones  
Adaptors  
Calculators Etc.

Return at 3pm on the day of loan

#### LONG TERM LOANS

Ask library staff for information



**PREPARED**

**I AM EQUIPPED  
AND READY  
TO LEARN**

**Be Prepared - Bring your laptop Charged everyday**

## **LAPTOPS**

Are available for loan

- before school
- Recess
- Lunch

## **CHARGERS**

are available for loan

- Recess
- Lunch

## **LONG TERM LOANS**

Available for 2 weeks or more  
Ask library staff for information

**PONDS  
PRIDE**

**LATE  
RETURNS**

Next day

- No loans  
that day

Weekend

- No loans for  
a week

*Mrs O San*  
Relieving Teacher Librarian

*Ms M Kelly*  
Teacher Librarian



## Girls Cricket

On Friday, November 24, The Ponds High School's girls cricket team played in the final of the Sydney West knockout against The Hills Sports High School at Pearce Reserve, Kings Langley. There was a slight delay to the match due to rain. Hills Sports won the toss and elected to bat. They amassed a huge total and were bowled out in the 40<sup>th</sup> over. The Ponds High School were bowled out before the rain started again in the afternoon. Despite being defeated soundly in the final, the girls can hold their heads high after a superb year of cricket. They reached the furthest any girls cricket team has made it in the Marie Cornish cup and should be very proud of their efforts.

*Mr C Burns*

Sydney West Team Manager





# TPHS SCIENCE 2023 AT A GLANCE









**The Ponds High School**

# The Breakfast Club



**ROOM AG32**

CHEESE TOASTIES, JUICE & FRUIT

• STAY TUNED FOR AN EXCITING ONE  
OFF BREAKFAST THIS TERM

- Thank you Bakers Delight at Stanhope Gardens
- Thank you P&C for their continued support
- Thank you to staff & students for assistance

**ALL YEAR GROUPS  
7:45am-8:15am  
Every Monday  
Wednesday  
& Friday**





# AUSTRALIA'S LEADING CHILDRENS SOCCER PROGRAM

## MINIS

For boys and girls aged 2.5 - 3 years

## PRESCHOOL

For boys and girls aged 3 - 5 years

## JUNIOR

For boys and girls aged 6 - 8 years

## PREMIER

For boys and girls aged 9 - 11 years

## HOLIDAYS

Exciting school holiday programs

## BIRTHDAYS

Soccer themed birthday parties

Classes now running at The Ponds High School

[www.soccajoeys.com.au](http://www.soccajoeys.com.au) | 1300 781 735



Principal: Mrs Jenny Weal  
Deputy Principal: Mr James Laird  
Deputy Principal: Mr Phil Scandizzo  
Deputy Principal: Mrs Rachel Jack  
Deputy Principal: Mr Andrew Fitzgerald  
Deputy Principal: Miss Kate Blissett

## Advertising Space Available

Please email [theponds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:theponds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) to request an Advertising form.

### 2024 NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING FORM

ORGANISATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ABN: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PLEASE TICK THE REQUIRED BOXES BELOW

ADVERTISING IN: ONE OFF ☐ in TERM 1 ☐ TERM 2 ☐ TERM 3 ☐ TERM 4 ☐

WHICH ISSUE: WEEK/S 2 ☐ 4 ☐ 6 ☐ 8 ☐ and/or 10 ☐

SIZE: 1/4 page ☐ 1/2 page ☐ 1 page ☐

#### 2023 Advertising Costs per Newsletter Issue

A4 size page \$35 plus gst 1/2 A4 size page \$20 plus gst

1/4 A4 size page \$15 plus gst

ADVERTISER'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY PRINCIPAL: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Notes:

- Newsletters are published on a fortnightly basis – on weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 of each term. Currently goes to 1,900 families and contacts in other local schools.
- Advertisements **must fit the correct template** on page 2 and 3.
- Advertisements must be provided as PDF or JPEG.
- Payment is required before publishing via a link that will be emailed to you, once you have completed the above information:
- Please email page 1 of this form and your ad to [theponds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:theponds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)





# 4 in 1 Communication Classes & Workshops



Give your teen the tools to become  
the best version of themselves

5-17year olds | no experience necessary

## 4-in-1?



Public Speaking



Creative Writing



Debating



Drama

## BENEFITS

- ✓ 1 hour class per week
- ✓ After-school & Weekend
- ✓ Talented, passionate coaches
- ✓ Develop your personal speaking style!
- ✓ **Creative** Lessons Plans!

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KIDS**

REGISTERED PROVIDER  
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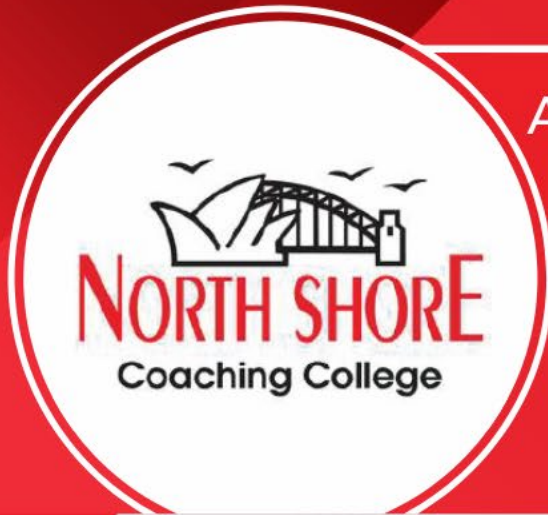
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## **Accommodation is available with Farm house experience in the Schofield**

**SIL** - Supported Independent Living House

**MTA** - Medium - Term Accommodation

**STA** - Respite/Short-Term Accommodation

**Property Overview:** Located in Schofield – A safe, peaceful property on Acres surrounded by farms, no traffic, close to Marsden Business Park, big front and backyard to play outdoors. The large size of bedrooms with full ventilation and with farm view from each room window. Large and spacious hallways, multiple living areas, fully accessible bathrooms, spacious kitchen, air-con and accessible vehicle.

Participants' and their family satisfaction is our strength.

- Live where you feel safe and independent, enjoy your freedom and maintain your privacy.
- We acknowledge your beliefs and our professional team will support you in taking your own decisions in your day-to-day life.
- Have the opportunity to make new friends
- 24x7 care from Support Worker
- Participant-focus activities
- Skill development program to become more independent
- Special weekend and school holidays activities, like social gatherings, craft activities, pamper parties, and dance parties in ample space with a separate large hall
- Wifi, TV, Netflix and Xbox.
- Our experienced team is always support you.



**For more information call our friendly team 24/7**



**1300 291 500**

[info@personcentredapproach.com.au](mailto:info@personcentredapproach.com.au)