

From *Calendar of the Soul*
by Rudolf Steiner

To fan the spark of thinking into flame
By my own strong endeavour,
To read life's inner meaning
Out of the cosmic spirit's fount of strength:
This is my summer heritage,
My autumn solace, and my winter hope.



Senator Jane Hume with
Principal Fiona Cock

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The interest in Sophia Mundi as a "first choice" School is exciting to witness. We are currently arranging enrollment interviews for our 2018 Prep and Class 7 students. We are becoming known as a place of academic excellence and also where students can develop their talents and interest in the world, keeping their hearts and minds open. The feedback from prospective parents is heartening and bodes well for the future for Sophia Mundi.

The Secondary Information Evening is on Wednesday, 17 May at 7:30pm. I invite all parents from across the School to come along and hear about our outstanding academic results from the last 4 years, the fabulous feedback from the International Baccalaureate Organisation regarding our inclusive access arrangements and innovative integrated programmes. We are viewed as a model IB Diploma School, particularly with regard to what can be achieved in a small school.

While the external interest in Sophia Mundi and Steiner Education is positive, I look forward to hearing your views on how we as a learning community are meeting your current needs and expectations. There is always room for improvement in what we do so I would appreciate your patience and honest feedback by completing the 2017 Sophia Mundi Parent Satisfaction Survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/82LWFD

With strong interest in positions for Class 7 in 2018, we remind current Class 6 families (as per the 2017 Fee Policy) that two terms notice (in writing to the Registrar) is required if they are intending to leave at the end of 2017.

Lastly, we have three **Evening Talks** scheduled for this Term as well as the Tuesday evening **Parent Training Workshops**. Please invite friends and extended family to these quality presentations. I highly recommend attending as many of these events as you can. I always come away inspired, nourished and with much food for thought.

Best Wishes, *Fiona Cock – Principal*

School Newsletter

Next Newsletter deadline: **Wednesday, 17 May.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Please see our online website calendar

Fri 5 May Library/Mezzanine Opening, 8:45am

1 – 5 May Class 6 Camp– Anglesea

9 – 11 May NAPLAN for Classes 3,5,7 & 9

Tue 9 May Evening Talks Series: Susan Laing
Supporting Respectful Relationships Through an Understanding of Child Development and Behaviours at Different Stages of Childhood - *Creative Living with Children*, 7:00-8:30pm

Fri 12 May Prep - Martinmas Meal, 2:30pm

Mon 15 May Report Writing Day (student free day)

Wed 17 May Alliance Francais Incursion
Parent/Teacher meetings: Cls 4,5&6, 6:00pm
Secondary Information Evening, 7:30pm

Wed 18 May Parent/Teacher meetings Cls 9, 7-8:30pm

22-26 May Class 9 Camp – Kooyoora

Tue 23 May Music Concert - Class 7, 5:30-6:30pm

Thu 25 May Lantern Walk Festival
Primary (Cls 1-6), 5:30-7pm

Sat 27 May Principal School Tour, from 10am

Tue 30 May Evening Talks Series: Dr Rob Gordon
The Developing Sense of Identity in Adolescence:
The Key to a Strong Self, 7:00-8:30pm



The Sophia Mundi Library & Mezzanine Opening with Senator Jane Hume, Principal Fiona Cock and IB (Class 12) student/event MC, Domenyk La Terra.



Musical performances from Gerard & Aksel and the Accelerando string ensemble.



Sophia Mundi Steiner School



@sophiamundisteinerschool

INTER SCHOOL DEBATING NEWS

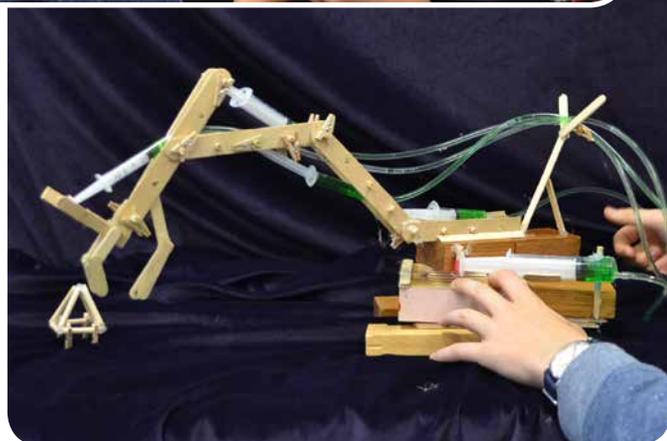
Two quotes that have been particularly inspiring of late:

On the implications of technological change, a recent report recommends Education, *“Focus less on pure academics, and more on creativity and presentation skills. Communication skills, creativity and the ability to adapt to change are hugely more valuable...”*¹

Arthur Zajonc is a physicist and educator whose research investigates the frontiers of science to serve a reorientation towards human life and ethic. He says for education to be vital we need; *“To live the world views of others, and even further to sustain in our mind and heart the contradictions that are an inevitable part of engaging the beautiful variety of cultures, religions, and races that populate this planet.”*²

¹ *Technology at Work v2.0: The Future Is Not What It Used to Be*, produced by the Oxford Martin School and Citi, 2016

² *Contemplative and Transformative Pedagogy* Arthur Zajonc Published in *Kosmos Journal*, Vol. V, No.1, Fall/ Winter 2006.



Class 8 Main Lesson: Class 8 have been studying hydraulics and pneumatics in main lesson and are finding out about the way water and air work in nature and in our human realm.

Hydraulic excavator, created by Tobi and Aksel.

The preparation for the latest debate topic, *“That we should ban children from playing professional sport,”* involved vigorous lunchtime discussions with a group of 10-15 year olds and their teachers. Students imagined the impact of specialised training on themselves and their peers and how their values could be affected by outside influences. Ideas were ordered and shaped and given colour through the efforts of students, teachers and parents talking together.

Sophia Petropoulos, Madeleine Chadwick and Yani Ioannidis spoke for 5 minutes each on the topic at Ivanhoe Girls Grammar on Thursday 27 April. The adjudicator commented on the team's, 'Great arguments, and understanding of the harm done to children's education, health, lifestyle, balance and relationship.'

The team won against Kew HS by 3 points. Yani was awarded 'Best Speaker' for his confidence in front of a crowd, his wit and his understanding, due in large part to the contributions of his fellow students especially; Ben, Tara, Artemis, Ella, Jasper, Max.

The next inter-school debating topics are:

- Round 3: *That we should allow development in Antarctica*
- Round 4: *That we should fear the development of artificial intelligence*
- Round 5: *Those museums should offer to return historical objects to their country of origin*

If you would like to contribute to discussions on the next Inter School Debating topics please email me at:
fiona.couttie@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

Fiona Couttie – Debating Teacher

LANTERN FESTIVAL

Thursday 25 May : Classes 1-6, 5:30-7pm



On the evening of Thursday May 25, the children and parents of the Primary school will gather with their teachers to celebrate the Lantern Festival. The fires and our lanterns will warm and gladden our hearts and souls as we gather around, enjoying a bowl of soup and singing songs as we walk a path lit by a hundred lanterns. There will be further information in the next newsletter and Class Carers will soon be in touch to organise details for the evening.

Music Corner

MUSIC CONCERTS & EVENTS 2017

Class Concerts & Annual Music

Concert Dates

TERM 2

WEEK 6 – Secondary Class Concerts in Eurythmy Hall

Tue 23 May

Class 7, 5:30-6:30pm

WEEK 8 – Primary Class Concerts in Eurythmy Hall

Tue 6 June

Class 3, 4:00-5:00pm

Class 4, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Class 5, 6:00-7:00pm

Wed 7 June

Class 6, 5:30-6:00pm

Class 8&9 (combined), 6:30-7:30pm

NEW PERCUSSION+DRUM TUTOR

We are delighted to welcome our newly appointed percussion and drum tutor **Brent Miller** to the Sophia Mundi Music Department. Brent has recently relocated from Queensland where he has been a passionate educator for many years: presenting school workshops, professional development sessions for Education Queensland, private teaching and tutoring and examining for the AMEB. He has an international profile as a timpanist, percussionist and conductor with ensembles including the Melbourne, Adelaide and Queensland Symphony Orchestras, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic, Ensemble Kanazawa (Japan), Singapore Symphony, Auckland Philharmonia and the YouTube Symphony.

Through his freelance engagements, he has had the privilege of performing alongside artists such as Kristin Chenoweth, Idina Menzel, Diana Krall, Tim Minchin, The Wiggles, Kate Miller-Heidke and Gurrumul Yunupingu. www.bmpercussion.com

Brent is looking forward to taking the percussion students on exciting musical journeys! If your child is interested to take up percussion/drumming lessons please contact Music Coordinator Myfanwy Hunter on 0424 148 880 or via email: myfanwy.hunter@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au



The Sophia Mundi Library & Mezzanine Opening

Some of the School's refurbished Library and new Senior school IT study facilities in the Mezzanine.



CONNECTING TO COUNTRY : THE SEVEN SEASONS OF THE KULIN PEOPLE

Sophia Mundi is situated on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri people, part of the Kulin Nation. The Kulin people have a detailed local understanding of the seasons and the environment. Each season is marked by the movement of the stars in the night sky and changes in the weather, coinciding with the life cycles of plants and animals. The Kulin calendar, as described at the Melbourne Museum is a modern interpretation, pieced together by Aboriginal people and academics.



April to July 'Waring' – Wombat season

Temperatures are at their lowest. Rainy days follow misty mornings. Waring emerge to bask and graze in the sunshine. The lyre birds perform their courtship dances. Their tail feathers stretching out and curling over.

The hearts of the soft tree-ferns are the major food source when no fruits are available. Days are short and through the long nights the constellation of Sagittarius rises in the south-east after sunset – indicating the midpoint of the cold weather.

We love to share our news. Please forward this Newsletter onto friends, family – aunts, uncles, grandparents and interested others.

*You may also like to invite them to attend the Secondary Information Evening:
Wednesday, 17 May - 7:30pm*

EVENING PARENT WORKSHOPS

alternating TUESDAYS 7:30-9:30pm

PARENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

Tuesday May 16 & 23

7.30pm to 9.30pm - Sophia Mundi Hall.

- Practicing perception
- Developing understanding
- Enabling decision making

Cost \$15 per session plus \$10 for the manual.

To register please call 0458 124 088 or email cherylnekvapil@yahoo.com

Cheryl Nekvapil and Jennifer West will facilitate these workshops, following on from the sessions held in Term One. New comers most welcome. Participants can purchase a manual translated from the German edition.

The aim of the course, developed by Meineke and Schreiber from Havelhohe in Berlin, is to encourage parents to find confidence and joy in wholistic parenting.

This Term in the scheduled sessions, we will explore the topics of our own biography informing our parenting, bonding in parental/child relationships, communication, rules and freedom.

You are most welcome to join the course as a newcomer this Term. We look forward to seeing you there!

EVENING TALK SERIES

alternating TUESDAYS 7:00-8:30pm

Sessions are generally held on a Tuesday evening, commencing at 7.00pm to 8.30pm - Sophia Mundi Hall. Cost: \$15 cash / session

Tuesday 9 May: Susan Laing

Parenting for Happier, healthier children and parents. Supporting Respectful Relationships through an understanding of child development and behaviours at different stages of childhood
www.creativelivingwithchildren.com

Tuesday 30 May: Dr Rob Gordon

The Developing Sense of Identity in Adolescence: the key to a strong self.

Wednesday, 21 June: Dr Lakshmi Prasanna

Forming School Communities in which all children thrive

Enquiries – Sophia Mundi Office 9419 9229

PARENT COLLEGE

TUESDAYS 9am-10:30am

Topic discussed next week: Tuesday 09 May
“How do we articulate an understanding of Steiner Education?”

At last week's meeting, Gregorio Noakes's stories about entering a classroom and relating to different age groups brought us fresh perspectives on the developmental stages of children, and their teachers. Thank you Gregorio, for your honesty and generosity about being a teacher and a parent.

If there is something you would like to discuss and share as part of Parent College, please bring it along next Tuesday.

All welcome, in the Cottage/Aftercare room.

Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) Parent Seminar Keeping Safe on Overseas Travel

Wednesday 24 May 2017, 6.30pm – 8.30pm
ISV Building - 40 Rosslyn St, West Melbourne, 3003

The overseas trip has become a rite of passage for young people. With it comes adventure and excitement, but also increased risks. How can young people stay safe? Parents are invited to attend the next free Parents' Seminar at Independent Schools Victoria, where Kate Fitzsimons will present on this important subject.

Kate is the Director of the Nicole Fitzsimons Foundation – established in honour of her sister who was killed in an overseas accident during 2012. She has delivered her powerful Travel Safety Education presentation to more than 20,000 Year 11 and 12 students, and this is the first time she will present to parents, followed by a Q & A session.

Light refreshments will be served.

The seminar is free, but bookings are required. Send an email with the words 'Parent Seminar' and your name in the subject line, to: student.services@is.vic.edu.au

Understanding Human Anatomy and Physiology As an Inner Pathway to Waldorf Pedagogy

A course for deepening Waldorf Education

Offered as continued professional development
for those working in education or in education support
27 June - 2 July 2017

At Noosa Pengari Steiner School
Nyell Road, Doonan, QLD

with Lakshmi Prasanna
and Patries Orange

Please contact Cristina Rubsamen for registration
and or further information, mobile 0413 502 589
email: cristina.rubsamen@gmail.com

Cost \$900 (+\$90 GST)
including lunch & dormitory accomodation / camping



Full Day Hold the Vision Workshop



Saturday
17th June
8.30am
to 5pm

Explore who you are and your learnings

Learn new strategies and techniques
to support you and your child

Share in an open and safe environment

For parents, educators and all those who are
interested in learning

Book now at learningfromchildren.com

Contact Louise on 0428 194 609 for further information

Beautiful timber house for sale in Mullumbimby near Shearwater Steiner School



Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom timber house for sale 2mins from Shearwater Steiner School in Mullumbimby. The house is on 1.5 acres with stunning views in a quiet no through road. The house has a large back and front veranda and is inside and outside timber, with large open plan living/dining/kitchen area and a little pond with waterfall in the front. There is also a self contained large 1 bedroom flat (downstairs) which is presently rented out for \$ 295 pw. More pictures are available upon request. House Price \$ 955,000.

Please phone Inge on 0413 422 997 for details.



SOPHIA MUNDI

Steiner Education
& IB World School



Outstanding results for
IB students in 2016 -
Above world average scores!

40% of Students: notional
ATAR of 90 or above

100% achieved
the IB Diploma

SECONDARY Information Evening

Wednesday
17 May 7:30pm

SOPHIA MUNDI | 03 9419 9229 |
www.sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

