

Sophia Mundi Newsletter

Term I Week 6, 2018



Dear Parents and Community,
I have been pondering on how we see goodness in the world.

It is a challenge to do so, particularly when we follow the news. News, such as the recent traumatic incident from Florida, which, although a continent away, is yet another reminder of the random violence that characterises our times. It's one thing to deal with the shock of natural disasters or even the violence of political conflict. But how do we live with the trauma of random and meaningless violence perpetrated on innocent human beings?

The impact on children and young people can be a sense of anxiety, insecurity, fear and ultimately, meaninglessness of life itself. Our easy access to continual world news and information plays a big part in the way we view the world. Children are aware of events which once may not have touched their lives. Paediatricians warn parents against overexposure to media newsfeeds, as children do not have the same capability to process negative events as adults do. Adults can rationalise and process negative events and objectively integrate the negative into a world view, while children cannot. Please be rigorous about protecting childhood.

One important contribution parents and teachers can make is to help children see the goodness in the world, as an antidote to the negative. A colleague recently shared with me an article by Susan Weber entitled "How do I find and Create Goodness for My Children?" <http://thewonderofchildhood.com/2011/08/how-do-i-find-and-create-goodness-for-my-children-2/> It was written after the tsunami and earthquake in Japan in 2011, but its gentle message is so pertinent to the recent news that it is worth quoting.

Warmly,
Fiona Cock – Principal

Next Newsletter deadline: Tuesday, 20 March.

IMPORTANT DATES: Please also see our online website calendar

UPCOMING DATES:

- Mon 12 Mar PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Labour Day)
- Tue 13 Mar *postponed* Community Conversation: "Communication & Technology" - date TBA
- Wed 14 Mar Cls 7 & Cls 10 Immunisation, 11am
- Wed 14 Mar SEA's National Survey "Focus Groups"
- 19-22 Mar Class 9 Camp: Otways
- Fri 23 Mar Athletics Day with LYSS & MRSS 8:30am – 3:30pm
- Sat 24 Mar School Tours, 10am/11am/ 12pm/1pm
- Wed 28 Mar Prep Festival & Prep Last day of Term I**
- Thu 29 Mar Harvest Festival & Last day of Term I (Cls 1-12), 2pm**
- Thu 29 Mar Cls 5 Indian Celebration, 6:30pm
- Fri 30 Mar Good Friday (Public Holiday)
- 31 Mar-02 Apr Easter (Public Holidays)
- Mon 16 Apr First Student Day Term 2: Cls P - 12**

NATIONAL SURVEY

"FOCUS GROUPS"



Wednesday, 14 March

We need our parents and students to share their thoughts and experiences of Steiner Education.

The sharing will be conducted in small "focus group" format (approximately 6-8 participants) and each session will be approximately 45 minutes long. Focus Group discussions will be undertaken by the Managing Director of the A.P.A, Tracey Cain.

If you are able to participate in a "focus group", please book at the School office (admin@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au) for the following times:

8:15am Parents - Secondary (Cls 7-12)

9:00am Parents - Primary (Cls 1-6)

10:00am Teachers & Staff

11:15am Class 11 Students

12:00pm Class 8 Students

1:00pm Teachers & Staff

2:00pm Parents - Prep

5:00pm Alumni - Parent & Students

6:00pm Board Members



NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE

Next week is National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence – <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/NationalDay>

With the heightened issues around bullying, as a leading school for change in the world, we as a Community must role model the good, inspire our youth to have a voice and listen to their calls for help.

We will not tolerate any form of violence. We are actively working with government programmes (Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships). It is important to remember as adults that our children and young people are very sensitive to the adult world. Our feeling life can be sensed without the physical or verbal communication – they experience our conveyed insecurities, feelings, gestures and thoughts.

We all have the responsibility to support and protect the healthy development of human beings in our Community. This is emphasised at Sophia Mundi through our restorative conversations which encourage tolerance, respect and listening with heart and soul.

BHAKTI SUNSET VISIT CLASS 5

Sophia Mundi's Class 5 students experienced the practice of 'Kirtan' when *Bhakti Sunset* musicians Cinnamon Evans and Andre Macky visited during Main Lesson on 2 March.

Currently learning about the myths and legends of Ancient India, students were taught about the meaning of Kirtan in terms of classic mantras, call and response chanting and traditional instruments. Using the harmonium, mridanga (drums) and khartals (hand-cymbals), the Class 5s chanted and clapped in response to Andre and Cinnamon's moving performance.

For more information on *Bhakti Sunset*, go to: www.facebook.com/bhaktisunset/



PARENT COLLEGE

Tuesdays, 9:00am - 10:30am
Aftercare/ Cottage - All Welcome!

Next week will be:

Matthew Cunnane, our new Assistant Principal, joining us in conversation

This is a great opportunity to meet Matthew if you haven't already, to hear about the work he is currently engaged in here at the school and to engage in some inspiring discussion.

Parent College is a unique opportunity for Sophia Mundi parents and carers to come together in conversation around ideas and issues that are important to us and our evolving community.

This is an informal, relaxed, weekly gathering for whomever is keen for a cuppa and conversation. Please feel welcome to come regularly or whenever you have the inclination and opportunity!

For more information: contact Anneka
annekafarrington@yahoo.com.au



PLAYGROUP UPDATES

Our Playgroup parents are enjoying weaving their Easter harvest baskets. Thanks to Vanessa Snaith, craft teacher at Kamaroi Steiner School in Sydney, for the inspiration for the project. Nikki and Vicky attended the Playgroup Leaders Regional meeting held at Freshwater Creek Steiner School on 03-04 March. The next meeting will be hosted by Sophia Mundi during Term 2.

INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS FRIDAY, 23 MARCH

8:30am - 3:30pm

Sophia Mundi students are involved in the upcoming annual event: Inter-School Athletics Day competing with Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School and Little Yarra Steiner School students from Classes 7-10.

The bus will depart at 8:45am sharp as the event is at the Ringwood Athletics Centre (AC Robertson Field Ringwood Athletics Track, Proclamation Park, Sylvia Grove, Ringwood VIC 3134). Parents are welcome to attend and watch the competitions and activities.

It is important that students come prepared for their Athletics Day with: full sports uniform, Water (2L), Hat (wide brim) and Sunscreen.

If any parents are also available to take photographs on the day - please advise the School Office.

CHRISTOPHER ROACHE

Christopher Roache joined the Sophia Mundi staff in 2017 and this year as an IB Music Teacher for Class 11 and 12.

A tenor and countertenor, with a Bachelor of Music (Honours) from The University of Melbourne, he has spent two years singing in the UK - as an alto and tenor choral scholar at

Wells Cathedral and at various renowned choirs in London and Oxford. Christopher performs regularly as a soloist at the Melbourne Festival, Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Festival, Woodend Winter Arts Festival, Peninsula Summer Music Festival, St John's Southgate Bach Cantata Program as well as Newman College's Advent Festival. He also sings regularly with The Consort of Melbourne, The Australian Chamber Choir and Ensemble Gombert.

In addition to teaching at Sophia Mundi, he currently works as a voice tutor at Trinity College, The University of Melbourne and is Assistant Musical Director at St James' Old Cathedral, Melbourne.

Christopher and colleague Nicola Eveleigh are currently singing in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra's performance of The Dream of Gerontius by Elgar until 10 March at Hamer Hall, Southbank.



Music Corner

HELLO TUT TUT - with band members Alexandra Keusch & Stefanie Gumienik - are set to release their highly anticipated debut album "World Music Dance Band" on Friday 09 March 2018 (opening 8:00 PM) at The Gasometer Hotel in Collingwood. Joining them on the night will be Turkish gypsy group Galata Express and electro-carni master Ungus Ungus Ungus DJ. For more information and to book tickets: www.hellotuttut.com/

RUSSIAN MASTERPIECES

A recital of glorious works for cello and piano by Prokofiev, Miaskovsky and Shostakovich

Chien-Hsiu Ong - Cello
Leigh Harrold - Piano
Alister Barker - Cello

Sunday 25 March 2018 at 3 pm

Camberwell Uniting Church
314 Camberwell Road
Camberwell

Adult \$25 Concession \$15 Family \$60

Tickets available at the door from 2:30 pm

For further information and bookings please call 0406 320 857

Class Music Concerts

Class 10

Wednesday, 28 March

5:30-6:30pm

The Dream of Gerontius

Edward Elgar

Hamer Hall

Saturday 10 2018 - 2:00pm

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO)

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Chorus
including Nicola Eveleigh

The Choir of Trinity College, Melbourne
including Christopher Roache

"Receive children in reverence, educate them in love, and let them go forth in freedom."
RUDOLF STEINER



Little Sophia
Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten

Please visit our website or contact us if you are interested in a tour or the programmes we offer.
Places available

p: 03 9417 2537
e: admin@littlesophiakindergarten.org.au
w: littlesophiakindergarten.org.au

**EARLY MORNING
MATHS TUTORING**
Thursdays 8.00am – 8.45am
Where: Physics Lab (L2)

**BABYSITTERS
REQUIRED**

Do you have experience or qualifications in babysitting or childcare? Are you available for after School pick-up? If you (or a friend) are interested - please email your details and brief resume to Reception - reception@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

IMMUNISATION
Class 7 & Class 10
Wednesday, 14 March - 11am

If you are wishing for your son/daughter to be immunised please complete the registration forms available at Reception & via Class emails.

**Sophia Mundi Steiner School
2018 HARVEST FESTIVAL**



Thursday, 29 March 2018 2pm - 3pm
In the courtyard
All welcome!

**TECHNOLOGY NOW
AND IN THE FUTURE
- A YOUTH EVENT -**

PARALLEL PROGRAM
On the Sunday of the 4 day Moral Technologies Conference (moraltechnologies.com.au) there will be a parallel program for youth (14-21 year olds).
The older generation's conversation around current technologies is different to the one shared by young people. What is still wrestled with by some is taken as given by the young.
On this 'Youth Sunday' there will be a talk directed to the future, a presentation on the 'good news' of modern technologies and a space will be given for young people to discuss their future, and the role they see played by technology.
Interesting people are already registered. It's a great way to meet other young people and talk about this topic that has so much to do with our lives now and in the future.

**SUNDAY
8TH APRIL 2018**

**TEMPLESTONE
MELBOURNE**

9AM - 5PM

REGISTER
by contacting Rose at
rose.nekvapil@gmail.com




**Positions
Vacant**

**Support Education
Extra Lesson
Primary Classroom Assistant**

Full details are listed on the School's website
www.sophiamundi.vic.edu.au/employment/
**HR contact: Dilys Hannaford
admin@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au
Tel: +61 3 9416 3011**