

Sophia Mundi Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6, 2019

Our vision is to educate individuals who can meet the future out of a sense of inner freedom and purpose.



Dear families and friends of Sophia Mundi community,

This year Steiner/Waldorf Education experiences it's Centenary year across the World. While it is a year of celebrations, the anniversary brings a time for reflecting on our curriculum to ensure we stay true to the central tenets of Rudolf Steiner's philosophy but do so in the context of our modern world.

At Sophia Mundi, Primary students are participating in the celebrations by creating and sending postcards to other Steiner schools around the world. In September Middle School students will have an opportunity to participate in **The Waldorf 100 Australian Youth Conference** in Brisbane. Students and Staff will be participating in a National performance by Dale Jones (composer and music teacher at Samford Valley Steiner School). The Youth Conference will explore social renewal as its major theme, focusing on issues of our times – racism and prejudice, divisions and world conflict, Indigenous perspectives, minority groups, Australian and world-wide response to refugees, the environment and sustainability, education and imagining the future, the role of the Arts, money and ethical business. It will be open to students from Classes 10 & 11 along with students involved our Justice Collective.

As part of the festivities a number of videos have been created to showcase the incredible work of our colleagues around the world. One version: www.waldorf-100.org/en/ shares a humbling picture of our collective responsibility to the children of the world.

A question parents often ask me is "How can I explain Steiner education?". At Sophia Mundi we develop the physical, emotional and intellectual capabilities of the developing child through an age-appropriate and integrated curriculum. The Arts (movement, performance, practical and visual arts) are embedded in the study of Humanities, Science, Mathematics and Technology. We strive to educate our students in a healthy and balanced manner in harmony with our vision – An Education Towards Freedom: where individuals can meet the future out of a sense of inner freedom and purpose. I hope this helps 'unpack' a little of our shared task together.

Warmly, Fiona Cock – Principal

Next Newsletter deadline: Wednesday, 20 March.

IMPORTANT DATES: Please see our online website calendar

UPCOMING DATES: March & April

Mon 11 Mar Labour Day (Public Holiday)

Tue 12 Mar Open Day 2019 - Planning Meeting, 7pm

Fri 15 Mar Cls 9/10 Arnold Sports Festival, 11am-3:30pm

18 – 22 March CAMP: Class 8 Glenelg River

Tue 19 Mar Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews, 2:30-8pm

Sat 23 Mar School Tours. 10:00am/ 11am/ 12noon

25 – 28 March CAMP: Class 9 Great Otway National Park

Fri 20 Mar Cls 7-10 Athletics Day, 8:45am-3:30pm

Wed 3 Apr Cls 10 Music Concert. 5:30-7pm

SOPHIA MUNDI WELFARE & CHILD SAFE PERSONNEL:

Raquel McConnell – Secondary Welfare and Child Safe Personnel

Madonna Holmes – Primary Support and Extra Lesson Education

Dianne Paull – Child Safe Personnel and Head of Primary

Tanya Rao – Respectful Relationships Coordinator

Please see our **Child Protection and Child Safe Policies** on the School website. Unfortunately, we occasionally do have the need to seek peak bodies for clarification and advice. While our community is very safe, I ask that all parents do read through these two policies and contact personal at any time you have concern for the safety and wellbeing of a child.

Thank you all. Fiona Cock – Principal



Class 10 Outdoor Education
"I follow River" Murry River Camp



Sophia Mundi Steiner School

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@sophiamundisteinerschool

JUSTICE COLLECTIVE - GLOBAL GOALS PROJECT

The **Justice Collective** is Sophia Mundi's student action group. We have entered a competition called The Global Goals Project. There are 17 Goals that were created by the United Nations to make the world a better place that we must follow. They include stopping climate change, fighting against inequality, quality education and no poverty. These are the goals that we are to follow.

We realised that the Yarra River was very polluted and decided that would be a vital problem to help solve. Up to 350,000 cigarettes get into the Yarra a day from storm water runoff. Some companies still use the Yarra as their dumping grounds. As a whole school, we are



planning to go out in canoes and collect the rubbish along the Yarra River. We are going to involve the local Indigenous community and they will explain how important the Yarra is for them as well. We will sort and recycle as much of the rubbish that we collect as possible.

We will be doing the clean up around the end of the Term 1 and will be letting the school know the exact date. We are doing something small that will help the community a lot. *Lili Kodama Hamilton, Class 8 student.*

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS CLASS 7-12 TUESDAY 19 MARCH, 2:30 - 8:00PM

This year we are using an on line booking system - Microsoft bookings - for all the parent/ teacher meetings.

Parent/ Teacher Interviews: Term 1, 2019

The link address for this is: <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/SophiaMundiSteinerSchool@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au/bookings/>

Interviews are 15mins each and students are encouraged to attend with their parents. **Please make individual booking for each teacher you wish to meet with.**

How to book once on line:

- **Choose the date:** Tuesday 19 March
- **Choose the staff member from the drop down menu.** The default "Anyone" will not make an accurate booking.
- **Choose a time:** interviews are only 15mins. The only available times are those that you can see.
- **Enter your contact details.** Emails are required as this is how your booking will be confirmed and managed.
- **A confirmation email will be sent.** Use this calendar invitation to manage/ change or cancel your Parent/ Teacher Interview on line.

If a particular staff member is not listed, or for any questions please contact Reception via email.

SHROVE TUESDAY



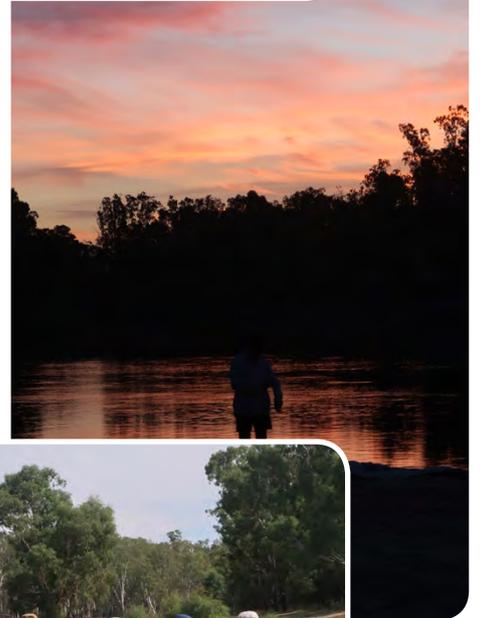
CLASS 10 CAMP - MURRAY RIVER

The River journey program in Class 10 is unique in that we have a route mapped with a specific start and finish point, but everything in-between is a process of discovery! Every bend of the river provides a new beach to swim at, a new tree inviting a place to pull in for lunch, a new spot to set up camp for the night.

This was us last week, out on the Murray River adventure. The class and staff set off from Cobram in handmade canoes that effortlessly glided through the water. We smoothly made our way through the Barmah Forest, where some students once visited Padge and Debbie in Class 7 on a horse-riding camp. We encountered a lot of wildlife, in particular some large Koala's which greatly delighted to our exchange students from France!

During the day, we found opportunities to swim in the magnificent Murray, and by night we lay around the fire and gazed up at the stars - eventually falling asleep to their shimmering rhythm. Thank you all again for a wonderful camp and I look forward to the next adventure later in the year!

Nic Andreatta - Outdoor Education Teacher



EDUCATION SUPPORT



Engagement, enrichment and extension (EEE) teachers have expressed the need for soft second hand jumper sleeves to make socks! These are for children to slip on after they receive a foot bath during craft or other classes. All soft second hand woolen jumpers can be delivered to the textile room or to Class Teachers. *Madonna Holmes - EEE Teacher*

INSPIRED LEARNING - BEE KEEPING



Sophia Mundi Steiner School **OPEN DAY 2019** PLANNING MEETING Tuesday 12 March, 7PM

This is the first meeting to plan the Annual Open Day for the School! We will give an overview of the event, review the roles and responsibilities and look at how the Class Carers can support this event. It is an open forum for ideas and feedback

See you there!

NAPLAN

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy

Dear Parents of Students in Classes 3, 5, 7 and 9

The nationwide NAPLAN assessments for students of Classes 3, 5, 7 and 9 are scheduled to take place next Term – during May 2019. If you have any specific questions regarding NAPLAN, please contact your Class Teacher or madonna.holmes@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au. Alternatively visit the website for the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority- www.vcaa.vic.edu.

With warm regards - Madonna Holmes - NAPLAN coordinator

Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

UPDATING YOUR PERSONAL AND FAMILY DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

You will have recently received an email from the School asking you to review and update your family information on our School Database, Edumate. In addition to ensuring that we are able

to contact you, storing up-to date information is important for the **purpose of the School's compulsory government reporting.**

Our first reporting obligation for the year is the **2019 Student Residential Address Collection.** For more information, please read the *Notice of Collection* and *Collection FAQ's* hyperlinked to this PDF or on the School blog.

Should you have any questions or concerns with regard to updating your details, please contact the Registrar (registrar@sophiamunid.vic.edu.au).

FREE SPORTS & ACTIVITIES 5-17 MARCH



The Arnold Sports Festival runs from 15-17 March at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and is a wonderful opportunity for children and students to experience a large variety of sports activities. From AFL, Basketball and Cycling through to Fencing, Mixed Martial Arts, Parkour, Tennis, Wheelchair Sports and Yoga - there is something for everyone!

ALL children & teens under 15 accompanied by an adult are admitted FREE OF CHARGE for all three days of the expo. Who knows, you may even catch a glance of Arnold Schwarzenegger!

<https://arnoldsportsfestival.com.au/kidsandteenzone/>

Streets Alive Yarra

are parents who want their kids to be able to walk or ride to school.

We can publish your ideas for improving the streets in your area. Contact us to be a champion for your school.

www.streets-alive-yarra.org