

Sophia Mundi Newsletter

Term 4 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 the Sophia Mundi community,

STAFFING 2020

We have a wonderfully diverse teaching staff at Sophia Mundi.

Over recent years the School Management have actively employed teaching staff to reflect the diversity of inner-city Melbourne. We employ teachers on the quality of teaching practice they offer to our students, their commitment to Steiner Education and an alignment of values with Sophia Mundi (growth, courage and ethics).

Another aspect of diversity is to have a staff reflecting both a combination of experience and new ideas and training. This has also been consciously achieved at Sophia Mundi and is part of our succession planning for the future. I feel so fortunate to be working with such incredible colleagues.

In this context it is always hard to farewell long term and valued members of staff even when I know they will continue to visit us over the years. Their lives are now taking a new direction and we wish them well.

We say farewell to **Tom Hungerford** who will move into Teacher Education and Training at the Melbourne Steiner Seminar; **Ben Darby** is moving to the Mornington Peninsula; **Brooke Varacalli** has accepted a position in Outdoor Education at Mansfield Steiner School; **Milly Wolski** will be moving 'home' to Queensland.

In 2020 there is an expanded Teaching staff as our student enrolments grow and we focus on Engagement and Enrichment (support and extension) alongside academic and social emotional development.

Next Newsletter deadline: Wednesday 27 November.

SOME UPCOMING DATES: Please see our online website calendar

Sat 16 Nov - Les Misérables Dress Rehearsal#1, 9am - 4pm

Sun 17 Nov - Les Misérables Dress Rehearsal#2, 9am-4pm

For a detailed list of Les Misérables rehearsals see pg6

Tue 19 Nov - Class 3 Music Concert, School Hall, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Tue 19 Nov - Class 4 Music Concert, School Hall, 6:30pm-7:30pm

Thu 21 Nov - Musica e Pizza Concert, Courtyard

Class 9, 10 & IB Music Concert, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Wed 20 Nov - Class 5 Music Concert, School Hall, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Wed 20 Nov - Class 6 Music Concert, School Hall, 6:30pm-7:30pm

Fri 22 Nov - Valedictory Evening: Class of 2019

Thu 28 Nov - Les Misérables Musical, 6pm

Fri 29 Nov - Les Misérables Musical, 11am

Fri 29 Nov - Les Misérables Musical, 6pm

Wed 4 Dec - Class 1 French Cafe, 9am

We welcome the following highly capable and experienced teachers who will join us in the New Year:

- **Pam Tonkin** in Class 1.
- **Michael Caterer** working in Lower Primary woodwork and Class 4 with Katina Kondos
- **Ellen Brown** - Middle School Music and Primary Teacher
- **Rose Winford** - Engagement and Enrichment (Literacy specialist)
- **Leia Wren** - (IB) Environmental Systems and Society and Middle School Science
- **Emma Gillette** - Design Technology (wood and metal work) and Middle School English
- **Marcela Nieves** - Spanish
- **Madeleine Mejak** - Outdoor Education (skills in surfing, water activities and skiing)
- **Joan Morgan** - IB Diploma Literature and Class 10 English (replacing Katherine Connolly while she is on Long Service Leave)
- **Edna Maloney** - Prep Assistant (job sharing with Lola)

Thank you all for walking this journey together.

Warmly,

Fiona Cock - Principal



SOPHIA MUNDI CHOIR VISIT MERCY HOUSE



The choir had their first public performance this week at the Mercy Aged Care Home at the Abbotsford Convent.

It was a great opportunity to perform for the elderly people at the centre, testing out the repertoire they have worked so hard on.

The performance was enjoyed by everyone there and it gave

the choir the chance to step up a notch to perform a varied program for the well-wishing crowd.

Well done to all involved!

Christopher Roach, Choral Director



CLASS TWO WOOL WORK

Class two had a lovely time recently carding, washing and drying wool with Nikki Fletcher. We were lucky enough to have an organic fleece from King Lake gifted by Merelyn and David Carter. It was a wonderful experience and we had a lot of fun learning about the process of creating yarn from raw fleece.

The children have been working with a Morning Circle based upon a popular story by the Swedish author Elsa Beskow, "Pelle's New Suit". This story is adapted from a morning circle activity by Nancy Blanning. Copies of the song and actions are available outside the Classroom. You might like to learn it with your child at home if they don't already know it!

Class Two really enjoyed singing parts of this Morning Circle at the Spring Fair and Open Day.

We hope you enjoy the great photos and Morning Circle activities!

*Nikki Fletcher, Craft Teacher and
Ramana Dean, Class 2 Teacher*



Spring Fair & Open Day



Dear Community,

Thank you all for helping Sophia Mundi celebrate our 35th Open Day and Spring Fair. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to share the unique qualities of our school with the Community at large.

There were stakeholders from across the sectors: Little Sophia Kindergarten, City of Yarra counsellors, teachers from fellow Independent and Government sectors seeking to learn from us, Children's Farm and the Convent personnel. Many extended family members, Alumni students and their families also joined us on the day.

The atmosphere was fabulous with our Community working alongside one other to celebrate our student's achievements. This is what the day is about! I appreciate your support and commitment to co-creating our Community.

With gratitude and love -
Fiona Cock, Principal

Thanks to all who helped make the Open Day on Sunday the success that it was! There was a lovely spirit of positive collaboration from helpers and staff during the planning stage of the event and on the day itself. All those that I asked to assist, did so with a 'can-do' attitude of professionalism and generosity.

Despite the day being a little cloudy, the communal energy was warm and welcoming. The classrooms were beautifully presented, there was an abundance of tasty food, fun activities, inviting market stalls and creative craft on offer. Eurythmy and music, as always, was well received and provided a space for visitors to enjoy and feel part of.

The spirit of Sophia Mundi was lovingly expressed by one and all - it was certainly a day to be proud of!

Colleen Bate, Open Day Coordonator

OPEN EURYTHMY CLASSES: 2-6 DECEMBER

Dear Parents - In Week 9 of this Term, you are invited to a week of Open Eurythmy classes from Monday 2nd - Friday 6th December.

This will be a small sharing of what the classes have been working on over the semester during Eurythmy. I hope that you will be able to joins us and see the students moving some beautiful forms.

Monday 2nd December:

Class 9 (ON CAMP)
Class 10 - 12:05 - 12:55pm
Class 8 - 1:45 - 2:35pm
Class 7 - 2:35 - 3:15pm

Thursday 5th December:

Class 1 - 11:15 - 12pm
Class 2 - 12 - 12:45pm
Class 3 - 1:40 - 2:25pm

Friday 6th December:

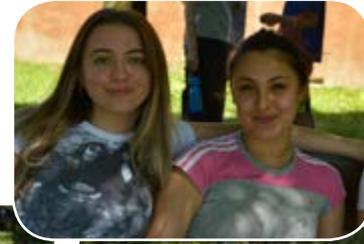
Class II - 10- 10:50am
Class 4 - 11:15 - 12pm
Class 5 - 12 - 12:45pm
Class 6 - 1:45 - 2:30pm



CROSS COUNTRY

Sophia Mundi Middle School students were invited to join LYSS in a Cross Country Run this Spring following the event being postponed in Winter due to heavy rain. Classes 6 -10 went by bus to the Yarra Valley on a beautiful warm day and on arrival walked the boundary of the school, following the 2km track as part of the warm up for the event. Class 6 were first to run, followed by class 7, lining up together with Little Yarra students 5 minutes later at the starting line. All students took up the challenge and completed the loop. While class 6 ran 2km, classes 7 and 8 ran 3 km with a few extra loops around ovals and vineyards. Finally classes 9 and 10 ran 5 km, 2 laps around the school. The weather had increased well into the mid 20's by this stage and while some walked a lap, many of the brave students took up the challenge to run all 5km. Brooke Varacalli (Outdoor Ed) and Ross Richards (Maths, IT) teachers joined the students on the run. It was wonderful to see students keen to run in the warm weather, showing they can really make a good effort when faced with a challenge.

Katherine Ellis, PE and Bothmer Specialist



CLASS 5 GREEK OLYMPICS

Eight schools from around Victoria will come together to compete in the annual Greek Olympics Event on Friday November 8th this term. It will be held at Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School and we will take the class 5 students on a bus, in their tunics, to the school for the whole day. This is an annual event and special to the Class 5 Ancient Greek main lesson studies.

In PE they have been building upon skills in wrestling, standing long-jump, running, discus and javelin. Ask your child for a Greek wrestle and they are sure to give you a challenge.

Some of the deeper ideas behind the Pentathlon events for children:

Running: For rhythm, uprightnes, harmony and to follow a single thought through to conclusion.

Long Jump: One explosive effort - focus and to move smoothly from one thought to another

Discus: Holding the center against centrifugal forces and to gain control of their feelings

Javelin: Focused, directed effort and to understand the most beautiful, harmonious way to come to a point

Wrestling: Holding ones own center against a directed opposing force and showing their ability to debate.



CLASS 6 STILTS

Class 6 have been working on stilt walking over the semester and are becoming most proficient in this circus skill. Class 6 also dressed up and walked around with their buddies during the Open Day & Spring Fair - much to everyone's delight!

Katherine Ellis, PE and Bothmer Specialist



GYMNASTICS - CLASS 4 AND 6

In Term two students from class 4 and 6 learnt gymnastics in the Convent's Rosina Hall. A lot of equipment was brought in and they practiced their strength and flexibility, handstands and rolls along a circuit.



CLASS 7-10 FENCING

Classes 7,8,9,10 are learning Sabre Fencing from an expert visitor who has brought her masks, lamé (breast plates) and gloves in so students can dress up and are fully protected by the swords.

Fencing with Sabre, as apposed to Foil and Épée (swords) requires making a touch (touché) either with the end of the sabre sword or along the blade anywhere on the opponent from the waste up. Fencing has been an official sport in the Olympic games since 1896. Sabre fencing for women was only introduced in the Sydney 2000 Olympics!

Students are also learning stick fencing with heavier swords: wooden staves, to practice their footwork and parry/riposte movements.

<https://whitehorsechevaliers.org.au/home/news-and-events-3/>

Katherine Ellis, PE and Bothmer Specialist





LES MISÉRABLES

Thu 28 Nov - Les Misérables, 6pm

Fri 29 Nov - Les Misérables, 11am

Fri 29 Nov - Les Misérables, 6pm

www.trybooking.com/576729

NOURISHMENT AND REHEARSAL CONDUCT

As the rehearsals after School, or the weekend, can be quite long, students will need to bring a substantial packed lunch, snacks and a drink bottle with them. There will be plenty of time for students to take breaks though. **If parents could provide extra picnic-style food to share with the group, that would be really helpful.**

VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORT

We are well under way with production, however we would still appreciate your support with:

- Parent supervision on weekend rehearsals
- Extra picnic-style food to share at rehearsals
- Front of House for performances
- Extra costumes: peasant style white shirt/ dark trousers (high waisted, wide legged)/ Waist coats/ Cravats/ Bonnets/ Headscarves/ Long skirts/ petticoats/ aprons. Please contact: elizabeth.chandler@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

LIST OF IMPORTANT TIMES AND DATES

Below is the basic list of dates for rehearsals and performances. If you can commit to these rehearsal times it will make the production run smoothly.

- **Saturday 16 November: 9am – 4pm** (at School)
- **Sunday 17 November: 9am – 4pm** (at School)

As per previous communication, this weekend's rehearsals are on both Saturday and Sunday, 9am – 4pm for all students involved, except those who are only in the orchestra. Please let me know if your child will miss any part of this. See an email sent earlier in the week regarding these details.

• **Monday 18 – Friday 22 November: 3:30-4:30pm** (next week - week 7) we will be having extra afternoon rehearsals every day for small groups. You will be notified if this affects your child, and please be as flexible as possible to enable them to attend.

• **Sunday 24 November Theatre Bump-in/ Cast rehearsals 12:00-4:00pm** (Magdalen Laundries – Convent)

We will be bumping-in the venue (Magdalen Laundries) in the Abbotsford Convent. Production students are not required. There will be some Main Cast rehearsals this day though and the required students' families will be notified.

• **Monday 25 – Thursday 28 November: 8:45am – 4pm** (week 8), **Attendance is mandatory.** During this week all students will be rehearsing from 8.45am – 10:45am (Main Lesson time). Throughout the day, groups of students will be rehearsing, alongside a simplified timetable. Some students may be able to leave at 3:25pm time, some will be asked to stay until 4pm.

• **Thursday 28 November: (Magdalen Laundries – Convent) Full production day – 8:45am sharp start.**

Whole day at School and staying until 6pm performance. After scheduled rehearsals are completed at 3:30pm, students will be supplied a shared meal by Sophia Mundi. Students will stay at the School to be ready at the venue by 5:00pm for pre-show preparation. The show doors open at 6pm. Performance begins at 6.30pm.

• **Friday 29 November: (Magdalen Laundries - Convent) Full production day – 9:45am sharp start.**

Whole day at School and staying until 6pm performance Middle School students are required to arrive to school at 9:45am in preparation for the 11am matinee performance. After the scheduled 11am performance, students will stay at School. At the end of the school day (3:30pm) students will be supplied a shared meal by Sophia Mundi to be ready at the venue by 5:00pm for pre-show preparation. The show doors open at 6pm. Performance begins at 6.30pm.

• **Friday 29 November – Theatre Bump-out: 8:45pm- 11:00pm.** We need to bump-out the entire show on Friday night – MANY helping hands will be needed.

More detailed schedules will be provided as soon as we can make them.

Kindest regards,

Rohan Vicars - Director
rohan.vicars@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

Clotilde Berryman – Front of House
clotilde.berryman@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au

Elizabeth Chandler – Costume Support
elizabeth.chandler@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au



CALLING ALL ASPIRING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

The Sophia Mundi Board is looking for parents or guardians in our school community to join the School Board.

The School Board is accountable for leading the governance and strategy for Sophia Mundi. This is a great opportunity for those who want to support the governance of the School, contribute to its long term strategic direction and to develop their skills as a Board Member of an ASIC registered company.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Nicholas Conigrave, one of the current Directors and father of Jasper Class 9, via email

nicholas.conigrave@sophiamundi.vic.edu.au.



Assistant Position

Little Sophia is an independent not for profit and accredited Rudolf Steiner Long Day Care Kindergarten located in inner-city Melbourne

Little Sophia Kindergarten is excited to announce an opening for a **Certificate III Qualified Assistant for our 3-5yr Kindergarten to begin January 2020.**

This position will work within the room amongst our Kindergarten staff and prepare and cook wholesome meals with the children each morning.

The successful applicant will be required to have:

- Certificate III in Children's Services (equivalent or above), or be working towards this qualification;
- Experience in Steiner Early Childhood Education;
- An Employment Working with Children Check;
- First Aid Certificates-working in an education/ care setting;
- Food Safety certificates for:
 - HLTFS001 Follow basic food safety practices
 - HLTFS005 Apply and monitor food safety requirements
 - HLTFS007 Oversee the day-to-day implementation of food safety in the workplace

The position has flexibility in its hours over 5days/week.

Contact Ilana to apply for this position:
hr@littlesophiakindergarten.org.au
 03 9417 2537 www.littlesophiakindergarten.org.au.

Closing Date: Friday, 22 November 2019



Les Misérables - Sophia Mundi Musical

Thursday 28 November, 6pm
Friday 29 November, 11am + 6pm

www.trybooking.com/576729



Term 4 2019

Class Music Concerts

Tuesday, 19 November	Wednesday, 20 November
Class 3 5:30-6:30pm	Class 5 5:30-6:30pm
Class 4 6:30-7:30pm	Class 6 6:30-7:30pm
Thursday, 21 November	Wednesday, 4 December
Class 9,10 & IB Music Students 5:30-7:30pm	Class 7 5:30-6:30pm
	Class 8 6:30-7:30pm