

From the Principal's Desk

Term 3 is always a busy and exciting time at Clovelly Public School, with a wide range of learning and enrichment opportunities taking place across the school. Keep an eye on the Parent Portal for details on upcoming events, including School Photos, Book Week, the Colour Run, and the culmination of many special programs such as Showcase, DanceSport, Tournament of Minds, and of course, the highly anticipated Year 6 Production – *Gone Bush* later in the term.

Education Week - Ignite Your Potential

Education Week has been a wonderful celebration of the diverse learning happening across all High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) domains here at Clovelly - intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical. From "When I Grow Up" day and peer tutoring to today's buzzing Open Day, students have had the chance to shine in many ways.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Clovelly Sparks Showcase, Art Show, Passport Hunt, and shared lunch - the school was buzzing with pride and joy. Celebrating the depth of opportunities on offer at Clovelly would not have been possible without the vision of organisers, Ally Campbell and Jessie Shepherd along with the creative expertise of Leonie McRae. We're excited for tomorrow's K-2 Sports Fun Day here at school along with the 3-6 Athletics Carnival at Hensley Athletic Field to round out a week of highlights!

Outstanding Results at ASBOF

Many proud Clovelly parents joined me for an afternoon of orchestral music at the Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival (ASBOF) held at UNSW on Sunday. We're incredibly proud of our school bands following their impressive performances. Our Training Band received Bronze, and both the Intermediate and Senior Bands were awarded Silver - a fantastic result that reflects the students' dedication and musical growth.

Adjudicators praised the role of music education in building neural pathways, teamwork, and resilience, reinforcing the long-term value of our band program. A huge thank you to Mr Murray Jackson for his expert leadership, our wonderful Friends of the Band (FOTB) committee and to Eleanor Cargill for her contributions as Band Liaison. We also wish our Stage Band students all the best as they take to the stage this Sunday - go Clovelly!

Principal's Awards

2C Camilla R	2C Sophia O
3S Otis D	2C Piper C
3S Eleanor T	2C Ethan P
3S Billy T	3C Frida G
2M Aurelio AT	5/6M Eilidh S
1M Jordan P	5/6M Coen O
2C Arlo I	5/6M Charlie W





Paralympics Australia Schools Program Visit

Last week we had the privilege of welcoming Mali Lovell, a talented para-athlete competing in the Women's 200m and 100m events, as part of the Paralympics Australia Schools Program. Mali shared her story of resilience and determination, inspiring students to embrace challenges and value inclusion.

You can read more about Mali's journey [here](#).

100 Days of Kindergarten

Despite the rain, our **Kindergarten students** celebrated **100 Days of Learning** with joy and enthusiasm last week. It was a fun-filled day of activities and reflection on just how far they've come - the pictures tell a thousand words!

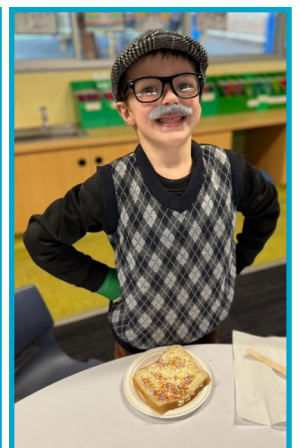
Kindergarten 2026 Enrolments

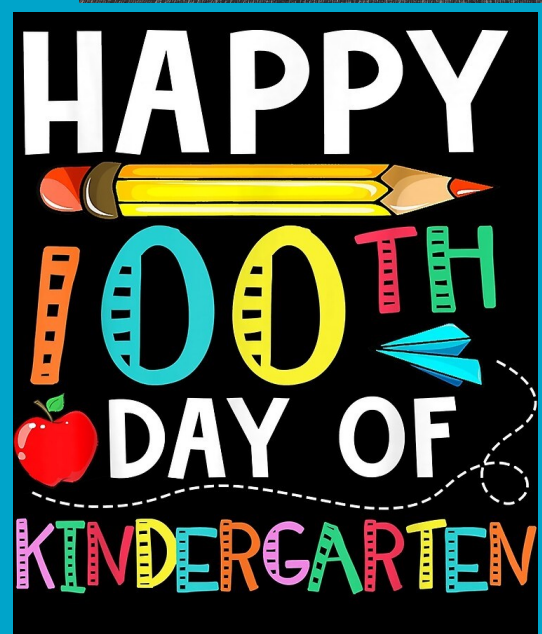
If you have a sibling starting Kindergarten in 2026, please complete their enrolment as soon as possible. Early enrolment is essential for planning and helps ensure a smooth start for all students.

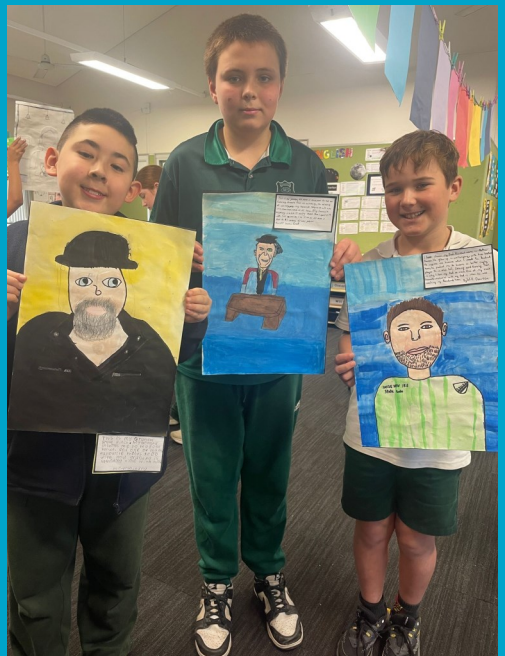
Our recent school tours were fully booked, so we are in the process of organising some new dates for more... stayed tuned.

Warm regards
Rhianna Grentell
Acting Principal

Clovelly Public School

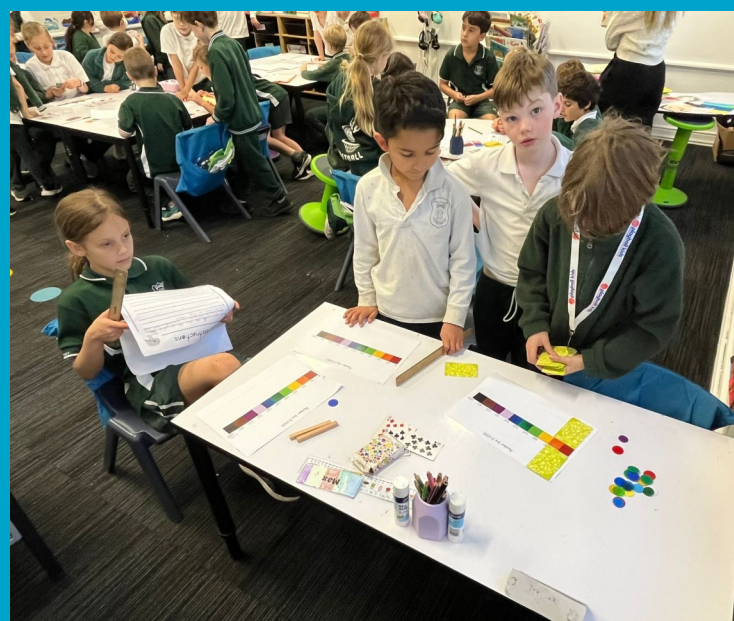


















Debating

Term 3 Week 2



On Wednesday last week the Clovelly Year 6 and Year 5 debating teams went head to head in their final debate for the year. The line up for the Year 5 team was 1st speaker Zachary, 2nd speaker Will, 3rd speaker Frankie and 4th speaker Ted. The year 6 line up was, 1st speaker Alexis, 2nd speaker Hendrix, 3rd speaker Syd and 4th speaker was Paloma. The topic that we chose was: All primary school students should participate in swim school during school hours.

The Year 5 team was affirmative, (meaning they agreed with the topic) and the Year 6 team was negative, (meaning they disagreed with the topic). It was a tough debate and both teams produced very persuasive arguments, but the end result was a win for the year 6 team. Thank you to Mrs Wallace and Miss Boatswain for being so supportive of both the Clovelly debating teams and giving up their time to teach us about debating. Written by Ted and Frankie, Year 5 debating team.



Dear Parents & Carers

In Weeks 4 & 5, Year 1 students will be participating in the Year 1 Phonics Screen Check.

This short, one-on-one assessment is part of a statewide initiative that helps teachers understand how your child is progressing with phonics (the ability to hear, recognise and blend sounds in words), which is an essential foundation for reading.

Please read below more details about the check and what it involves.

If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Information for parents and carers



What is phonics?

Phonics is the relationship between letters and sounds and is vital in learning to read. Some children struggle with learning to read, so it is important that these children are identified quickly. This way, teachers can plan for any specific support they may need.

What is the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check?

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is a short state-wide assessment that tells teachers how your child is progressing in phonics. This screening check observes how your child can read English words with different letter combinations. Your child will sit with a teacher and will be asked to read 40 words aloud. These words include 20 real words and 20 nonsense words. The purpose of the nonsense words is to see if the student can use their knowledge of blending to read a word rather than their memory of having seen that word before. The test normally takes 5-7 minutes. If your child is struggling the teacher will stop the check. The check is carefully designed not to be stressful for your child.

The main purpose of the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is to provide your child's teacher with information which will allow them to plan for your child's learning. Each child is individually assessed by a teacher and all Year 1 students will be assessed.

Why is phonics important?

Phonic knowledge and skills are essential for learning to read and write in English. To be successful, students need to learn the sounds represented by individual letters or different letter combinations, and the skill of blending these sounds together to read words. Beginning readers need to learn how to blend sounds together in words quickly and fluently, so as not to disrupt the flow of reading and their comprehension of the text.

Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.
Telephone interpreter service

If you need interpreter assistance to contact the school, please call 131 450, tell the operator what language you need and ask them to phone the school. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

2025 Sydney Interschools Snowsport Championships

Leah, Annika, Maddie, Artie and Thomas all went down to Thredbo and performed gallantly in the Sydney Regional Championships two weeks ago (see pics attached!). All of the kids really enjoyed themselves and represented Clovelly Public School proudly. Given the kids had zero racing experience between the five of them, they have done amazingly well to finish as follows out of all Sydney Schools:

Alpine

Thomas - 17th out of 67
Maddie - 19th out of 47
Leah - 51st out of 81

Ski Cross

Maddie - 18th out of 43
Leah - 40th out of 80
Annika - 46th out of 61

Moguls

Thomas - 16th out of 30

Unfortunately, Top 15 go through to State Championships (Top 10 in Moguls), so we only missed out by a couple of spots. But the kids are all excited to go back and be joined by more of their friends next year so that we can turn the 2026 Sydney Regional Interschools Clovelly Green! For those interested, stay tuned for more details later this year or feel free to reach out to Mark (mark.n.sawicki@gmail.com).

Mark Sawicki
Parent



Parental Separation (Part 2) – What helps Children deal with Separation?

So... what helps children to deal with separation? What children need depends largely on their age, however, there are some things **all children, regardless of age, need**:

- Protection from parental conflict.
- A secure emotional base.
- Help to solve their problems.
- Firm and reasonable limits to be safely independent.
- A trusted parent when they need to be dependent.
- Encouragement to learn.
- Routines that help them feel in control.
- Protection from trauma.
- Protection from parental stress about ongoing unresolved issues with ex partners.



Research shows that the more exposure children get to the negative issues of separation, and the conflict between parents, the worse off it is for children and their ability to function. **Less conflict = better outcomes.**

The following information is adapted from the Raising Children article "Separation or Divorce: Helping Children and Pre-Teens Adjust".

Talking with your children is one of the best ways to help children adjust to the changes in your family. There are also some practical things you can do to help like sticking to familiar routines, involving children in the decision making and getting support.

1. Talking to Children

Talking with your child about the changes that separation or divorce can bring is vital. Some guidelines for doing so are as follows:

Keep it simple

Your child or young person doesn't need to know **all** the details, however, they do have a right to know what's happening, where they will live, who will take care of them and, importantly, that things will be okay again (reassurance). It is best to explain in simple (centred on the basics), honest and clear language that your child will understand. It might sound like "we both love you, and we are going to take care of you. We've decided that it works best for our family if Dad/Mum and I live apart".



Take your time with hard questions

If your child asks you a hard question like 'Where am I going to live now?', you could ask, 'What have you heard?' This helps you find out what your child already knows or doesn't understand.

Sometimes you won't know how to answer a hard question, so give yourself time to think and tell your child that you'll get back to them. You could say, 'I don't know right now. Your Mum and I are still working that out. But I do know that you'll get to spend time with each of us'.

If your child asks you hard questions about their other parent, encourage your child to talk to their other parent directly. If your relationship with your child's other parent is okay, you could let them know that your child has asked some questions.

Tune into your child's concerns

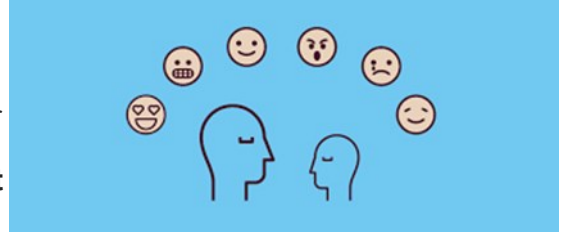
There might be specific concerns behind your child's questions. For example, if your child asks when Mum is going to move back, they might be worrying about when they'll next see Mum. Ask your child what they're worried about and reassure them with simple words that show you understand. For example, 'It sounds like you're worried about when you'll see Mum. You're still going to see Mum every week. I understand that's very important for you'.

Keep the conversation going

Your child might keep thinking about an issue, so be prepared to answer questions more than once. You could make a regular time to talk, which gives your child a chance to discuss their concerns. For example, it could be before reading time, or while you're driving together in the car. You can also use this regular time to let your child know about new developments.

Talk about feelings

Your child will probably see **you** feeling sad, angry or upset and this is OK and it's healthy. If your child sees you expressing feelings in a calm and healthy way, they'll know that it's okay for them to do this too. And it's always important to let your child know that you love them, that **your feelings are not their fault or responsibility**, and that things will get better.



When **your child expresses feelings**, try listening actively. This gives you both the chance to explore and understand your child's feelings better and shows children it's okay to have these feelings. You can say things like, *'I can see you're upset', 'I understand this makes you feel scared, there are lots of changes taking place' or 'I'd feel upset if that happened to me too'*. It might be difficult to hear about your child's hurt, confusion, sadness or anger, especially if you're dealing with similar feelings yourself. But your child needs to talk, and you'll better understand your child's needs if you really listen.

Suggest someone else to talk to

Sometimes it's easier for children to share feelings and thoughts with someone other than their parents. You could encourage your child to talk to another trusted adult – a friend, a teacher, an aunt, uncle, cousin or grandparent. If friends and family are likely to be talking with your child, it's a good idea to ask them not to make negative comments about your child's other parent.

2. Offer structure and familiar routines after separation or divorce

Routines help children feel safe, in control and secure so keeping up routines can help children cope with the changes that come with separation. Identifying small routines that are important or really matter to your child and let them know that these things won't change. Examples include regular playdates with a friend or a favourite book before bed. Additionally, it's reassuring to maintain rituals like how your child wakes in the morning or what you say to them before bedtime. These rituals are also easy to keep up.

Sometimes there is a need to change the familiar (such as due to childcare arrangements or income) so you can always create new routines and adapt rituals too. If your child is old enough, you could try working out some new routines together.

3. Decision making with children after separation or divorce

If you can **involve your child in small day-to-day decisions** like how to arrange their room or what to have for dinner, it'll help your child feel like they have some control at a time when many things are changing. With older children, it's important to listen carefully and let them know that their opinions matter. For example, you and your child's other parent might be able to use some of your child's ideas to plan your co-parenting arrangements. **HOWEVER**, it's very important not to burden children of any age with big decisions, especially ones that make them choose or feel stuck between you.

4. Other ideas

- Take time out for fun even if it's a quick dance to music together.
- Allow children time to grieve. Like you, children are grieving the loss of the family as they have known it. Many of their feelings of anger and confusion are like the feelings you are experiencing yourself. In their grief, children may express feelings of anger towards you. Try not to take them personally; your child is just trying to make sense of the separation.
- Refrain from putting your child in the middle of things, like playing the 'messenger' between the two parents. This teaches children that adults cannot talk honestly or directly to each other.

See next fortnight's article for further resources and support.

Rachel Berezovsky
School Counsellor & Registered Psychologist



BOOK WEEK PARADE

Thursday, 21st August
Week 5

9:30 am

BOOK AN ADVENTURE



School Photo Time!



Head to our website to view the available packages and to place your order

Clovelly Public School

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE

X1201PEC54C

www.theschoolphotographer.com.au

BLUE

MindQuest

St George Girls High School
Victoria Street Kogarah

On Saturday & Sunday 20 & 21st September the 99th NSW Talent Enrichment Weekend *MindQuest* will be held for primary students from Years 1-6 at St George Girls HS. These include gifted and high potential students, gifted underachievers and students with above average ability with a special interest. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over **33 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program**. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, lego robotics, art and much much more. Many of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students' evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience. The cost of the weekend is \$250.00 (including GST).

***MindQuest* is now enrolling online at mindquest.net.au**

MindQuest Shelagh Poray 02 9748 1084

Closing Date: Friday 29th August 2026

Should you wish to view the *MindQuest* catalogue, you can collect a copy from the school office.



\$245 for 3 days! 30% Offer ends August 31st!

PROGRAM INCLUDES

- 01 9-3pm each day
- 02 Basketball, Rugby, AFL, Netball, Soccer and Hockey on offer
- 03 Suitable for all ages and skill levels
- 04 Guest appearances at selected programs

THREE DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS!

LOCATIONS

- Sydney Boys High, Moore Park - 2, 3 October 2025
- University of NSW, Daceyville - 1, 2, 3 October 2025
- Heffron Park, Maroubra - 1, 2, 3 October 2025
- Heffron Centre, Maroubra - 8, 9, 10 October 2025
- Concord Recreation Centre, Concord - 1, 2, 3 October 2025

It was overall very positive and the kids made great connections with coaching staff and other participants

Contact Us:
1300 914 368
admin@australiansportscamps.com.au

More Information:
australiansportscamps.com.au

Clovelly Public School



THEATRE

BONDI PAVILION

IMAGINE LIVE

16 Aug

By Jolyon James
Based on the book 'Imagine' by Alison Lester
Produced by Jolyon James & NCM

Alison Lester's beloved picture book comes to life in this magical musical performance for the whole family.

bondipavilion.com.au

 WAVERLEY COUNCIL



James Ball & Nicholas Wise have consistently delivered outstanding results in the coastal & parkside markets of Sydney's Eastern Suburbs.

Experience why they are the trusted choice when it comes to buying and selling homes on the Eastern Beaches.

Nicholas Wise
0410 121 533
nicholas@sydneyair.com

James Ball
0410 740 349
james@sydneyair.com

sydneysothebysrealty.com

Parents Battle of the Bands Fundraiser – tickets selling fast!

Our Clovelly PS parents band, **The Cloey Pick-Ups**, are battling against Bronte, Bondi Beach, Surry Hills, and Bondi Public Schools' parents' bands to raise funds for our CPS music program!

Thursday 28th August 7pm
@ Beach Road Hotel, Bondi.

It will be a legendary night of live music, laughs, and top-notch entertainment. Each band will perform before a panel of guest judges, artist, and music industry insiders.

The real winners are our kids so book a babysitter and grab your tix now before they sell out!

<https://bit.ly/3ICcw7W>

