

The UPSIDE

ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL REPORT

Written by Olivia Parry



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I hope you had a wonderful holiday break filled with joy, relaxation, and quality time with loved ones. As we return to school for Term 2, I am excited to welcome our students and families back to another enriching term of learning and growth.

The holiday period offers a great opportunity to recharge, and I encourage our students to carry that renewed energy into their studies and activities. Our dedicated staff have been busy preparing engaging lessons and exciting initiatives to ensure that each student has a fulfilling experience this term.

During the Staff Development Days, all staff completed mandatory Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and anaphylaxis training. This essential training not only equips our staff with the skills to respond effectively in emergency situations but also reinforces our commitment to maintaining a safe and supportive environment for all students. Additionally, our team engaged in high-quality professional learning focused on High Performing and Gifted Education. This targeted training aims to enhance our teaching strategies and ensure that we are able to meet the diverse needs of our students, particularly those who exhibit exceptional talents and abilities across all key learning areas.

If your child is absent from school, please let us know the reason as soon as possible, even if it's just a few minutes at the start or end of the school day. Of course, there will be times when your child is unable to attend school, such as when they are unwell. We encourage medical appointments to be scheduled outside of school hours whenever possible, and family holidays should ideally take place during term breaks.

If your child is feeling anxious about coming to school and you need support, please reach out to your child's teacher or me directly. Our staff are here to work with you and your child to help them attend school each and every day.

Thank you for your continued partnership with our teachers and support staff to ensure your child is at school, on time, every day. We all want to see our students learn, grow, and feel a sense of belonging in our equitable and outstanding education system.

Upcoming Events: School Photos and Cross Country Carnival

Please mark your calendars for our school photos and the school cross country carnival.

School Photos will be taken on 6th and 7th May 2025. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to capture memories with their classmates, so please ensure they come dressed in their school uniform and with their best smiles!

Additionally, we will be holding our school cross country carnival on Friday 9th May 2025. This event encourages participation and promotes physical fitness among our students. It's a great chance for them to show their spirit and compete with their peers. Parents are welcome to come along and cheer for their children as they take part in this fun and active event.

Walk Safely to School Day: Friday 16 May 2025

Ultimo Public School is taking part in National Walk Safely to School Day on Friday 16 May 2025, also supporting National Road Safety Week.

Walk Safely to School Day also encourages positive environmental action, better use of public transport with reduced car-dependency and encourages parents and carers to walk more, reducing dangerous traffic congestion around schools.

Being active every day, including walking to school, can help make a difference for many Australians. Whether you're a parent, teacher, or carer - everyone has a role to play in helping children to lead active healthy lives.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids, so start planning your Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 16 May 2025!



Upcoming Opportunity Class and Selective High School Test Dates

This is a friendly reminder that the test dates for the Opportunity Class (OC) and Selective High School admissions are approaching. The tests will take place from Friday, May 2 to Sunday, May 4.

Please ensure that your child is well-prepared and that all necessary arrangements are made for these important assessments. For more information and resources to support your child's preparation, please check the details provided in your application dashboard

I wish all students the best of luck!

Process for Ordering School Photos



Ultimo Public School

Photos will be taken on:

Tuesday (Kindergarten - Year 2)

6th May 2025

Wednesday (Years 3-6)

7th May 2025

SIBLING PHOTOS will be taken before school 8-9am, surnames starting A-K on Tues 6th, and those starting L-Z on Wed 7th May. Please bring your children to school early on your allocated day.



PREVIEW BEFORE PURCHASE

Our ordering system is 'Preview before Purchase'. Our online galleries enable parents to view up to 4 different photographs of their child before placing an order with their own selection of photographs. This means there is **no upfront payments required**.

How to Order - 3 Easy Steps

1. Receive a Note on Photo Day: Your child will receive a note on photo day with their unique code and instructions for registering your contact details.

2. Register Your Email: Follow the instructions on the note to register your contact details.

Returning Customers: If you registered with us last year, you can simply add this year's code to your existing account.

New Customers: If you are new to the school, you can quickly set up your account by providing your contact details.

3. Wait for the Photos: After you've registered, keep an eye out for an email with a link to your child's photograph once the photos are ready (typically 4-6 weeks after photo day). Then you can view and order.

Security of Your Information: Our system uses end-to-end encrypted file transfer to ensure your files are safe from unauthorized access and compliant with privacy protection laws.



Natural Child School Photography
E: orders@ncsphotos.com.au

From The Library

Ms Barbagallo

Welcome back to another exciting term! I hope you were able to relax and read over the holiday break. I am hoping families were able to get a few more books read during the holidays to help their child complete the Premier's Reading Challenge. I will be checking in with students in the middle of the term to check in on progress and assist where possible for the entering of reading logs.

I am thrilled to see all students refreshed and back in the library and ready to embark on new adventures in reading and learning.

Breakfast Reading Club Term 2

This program is a tailored program offered to Kindergarten and Year 1 students and selected Year 2 students. Students are selected by their class teacher to attend the program and permissions will be sent out by the end of Week 3 via school bytes. We anticipate the program to commence in Week 6, Term 2. Students will not be allowed to attend if they have not been given parent permission.

Student volunteers required for Breakfast Reading Club

Last year we invited Years 4, 5 & 6 students who are competent and confident readers to volunteer to read to our younger students. This provides students with a mentor relationship with their younger peers and it is a good opportunity to strengthen their confidence in discussions around text. Please encourage your child to volunteer their time and skills for this program. Please see Ms Barbagallo in the Library to request a permission slip to attend.

Scholastic Book Club Issue 3 out now!

Students will receive their Book Club Issue 3 brochure in the next week.

Families will also receive a \$5 promo code when they place any LOOP order this Issue, which they can use on Issue 4*.

Families can purchase books at a discounted rate through scholastic book club. The best part is 15% of your order value is given back to our school. It is easy to order. Just go to [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) or by using the LOOP app which you can download from the App Store or Google Play. Once you select your books, use the drop-down menu to find your class and the books will be delivered to your child's classroom. Please note the school does not take cash for Book Club orders.

Orders close Monday 19th May at 3pm



Canberra Camp



We are excited to share the highlights of our recent school camp in Canberra, which took place from April 7th to 9th. Our adventure was filled with educational experiences and unforgettable memories! During our trip, students had the opportunity to explore several iconic sites, including:

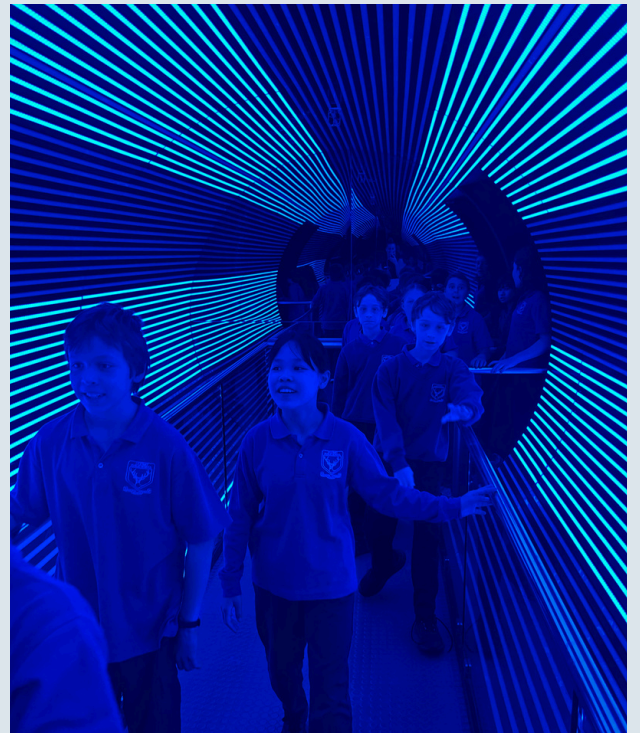
- The Mint: Students learned about the history of Australian currency and saw where they make our coins.
- Parliament House: A fascinating tour where students gained insight into our political system and the workings of government. They also role-played what it was like to be in the 'House of Representatives' and 'The Senate'.
- Electoral Education Centre: An engaging experience that taught the importance of voting and democracy.
- Australian Institute of Sport (AIS): Students immersed themselves in fun, interactive sports in the 'sportex' room.
- National Canberra Exhibition: A showcase of Australia's rich history and culture.
- Questacon: Filled with science and interactive exhibits that sparked curiosity and creativity.
- Mount Ainslie: We viewed Canberra from above. It was breathtaking.
- Australian War Memorial: A moving visit that deepened our understanding of Australia's military history and sacrifices.
- Embassy Tour: Students learned about international relations and the role of embassies in Australia.
- Dinosaur Museum: An exciting exploration of our planet's prehistoric past, with engaging displays and activities.

We are proud to report that all students were exceptionally well-behaved throughout the trip, demonstrating respect and enthusiasm at each venue. Their positive attitudes contributed to making this camp a huge success!

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government has contributed funding to our school in the amount of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate was paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. This amount was already deducted from the final amount parents and carers paid for the Canberra trip.

A huge thank you to the teachers who supported the organisation and attended the excursion: Ms Limberick, Ms McKittrick, Mr Parr, Ms Wickham, Mr Lavender and Ms Pentney.

Thank you to everyone else who helped make this trip possible and to our wonderful students for their participation. We look forward to future adventures together!



ANZAC Assembly

ON THURSDAY THE 10TH OF APRIL, ULTIMO PUBLIC SCHOOL HELD OUR ANNUAL ANZAC DAY ASSEMBLY.

THIS ASSEMBLY WILL BE HOSTED BY THE SRC REPRESENTATIVES. THIS ASSEMBLY GAVE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES A CHANCE TO REFLECT UPON OUR ANZACS, WHICH STANDS FOR 'AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS'. DURING OUR ASSEMBLY EACH CLASS PRESENTED THEIR HAND-MADE WREATHS AS A SIGN OF RESPECT TO OUR ANZACS. CHECK OUT SOME PHOTOS FROM THE DAY.



EASTER HAT PARADE



On Thursday the 10th of April, Ultimo Public School held our annual Easter Hat Parade.

Students had a wonderful time showing off their home-made easter hats, as they danced around our parade.

We were even joined by the Easter Bunny! Who had a wonderful time high-fiving the hands of our students and their families.

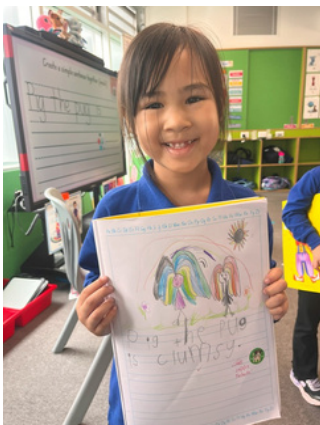


Kindergarten

What a wonderful start to school Kindergarten have had! They have adapted to school routines, made friends and learnt so many new things. We are so proud of them and can't wait to see how much they grow this term!



In Literacy, Kindergarten have been taking a deep dive into Aaron Blabey's texts. They have enjoyed learning and writing about different character traits and have created some fantastic art works too. Take a look!



WINTER PSSA

Friday Sport (PSSA) is an exciting opportunity for students in years 3-6 to represent our school and compete against other schools in the Balmain zone. It's not just about competition; it's also a fantastic way for students to showcase their skills, work together as a team, and most importantly, have fun while staying active!

This season, Students will be able to try out for our Junior and Senior Netball and Soccer teams.

PSSA Dates to Remember:

- Winter PSSA: Runs from Week 5 of Term 2 to Week 10 of Term 3.

Winter PSSA Trials: Beginning of Term 2

We will be holding trials during school hours in Week 1 of Term 2. Students will be provided with a reminder to attend. **Our trials will be running this Friday (Week 1), wet weather permitting.**

Additional trials will only be held if additional time is required.

Please note that, we will not run additional trials for students who are absent on the day or do not attend the session. It is the responsibility of the students to listen to reminders/announcements and be present for their trials.

Payments and Permissions:

Students selected will be sent a permission note via School Bytes. This must be signed and submitted by the due date and full payment must be received. If this is not received your child may lose their position to another student.

Code of Conduct:

Once teams are selected, both students and families will receive a Code of Conduct to review and sign together. We ask that you take the time to discuss it with your child, as it helps ensure a positive experience for everyone involved. Following the school's behaviour code throughout the week is crucial for participation in Friday PSSA games. If the code is not adhered to, students may face temporary suspension from games or removal from the team. Thank you for your support in fostering a respectful and enjoyable environment!

We're looking forward to a fantastic season of PSSA sports and can't wait to see our students shine! If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to reach out to the school office.

Grow Your Mind



This fortnight we have been focusing on growing **self regulation**.

Self regulation means there is space between what we feel and what we do. It means we can tell the Guard Dog to remain calm while we chat to our Wise Owl and Elephant who tries to remember, so we can make the best choice.

Self regulation in the **classroom** looks like:

- If a friend is mean on purpose, we may feel hurt but we can deal with it in a calm way.
- We can be a traffic light (stop, think, act) when we notice we are upset, frustrated or angry.



Self regulation in the **playground** looks like:

- When someone upsets us, we can walk away or get help.
- When we notice we are angry, we can take big breaths. If we are being excluded we are able to notice how we feel and decide how we are going to deal with it by chatting to our Wise Owl.



Some book recommendations that explore the concept of self regulation:

Mr Huff - Ana Walker

Tough Guys have feelings too: Keith Negley

Nicho Draws a Feeling: Bob Raczka

My mouth is a volcano: Julia Cook



PBL Focus: Excursions

Respect

Responsible

Learner

This week for PBL, we are focusing on being respectful, responsible learners on excursions.

General Expectations

Respect	Responsible	Learner
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Care for yourself and othersTreat others fairly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep hands, feet and objects to yourselfTake care of belongings and equipmentWear a hat outdoors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Listen and follow all staff instructionsRight place, right time

Excursion Expectations

Respect	Responsible	Learner
<ul style="list-style-type: none">We use a quiet voiceListen and follow to all instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We walk in all areasStay in a supervised area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Voices off when someone is speakingAllow others to learn



Well done to those students who are continuing to show that they are respectful, responsible learners and earning PBL tokens. Keep it up!

**Have you thought
about becoming a
foster carer?**

Do you have room in
your heart and your
home for a child?



Become a Foster Carer in Glebe

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) is urgently seeking potential foster carers in the Glebe area. We need people who can provide care for children, young people, or siblings, aged 0-18 years-old, for a few days, to a few months and beyond.

Foster carers support families by caring for children who are unable to remain at home. Foster carers come from all walks of life and their families reflect the wider community we live in. Carers can be single, partnered and be with or without children of their own. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Foster carers receive initial and ongoing training and support from a dedicated foster care caseworker. There are financial support packages available to foster carers to support a child's education, medical needs, food costs and other daily living costs.

If you are interested in making a difference in the life of a child, please call 8303 7644 or email our Foster Care Team:

CAPSMetroCentral@dcj.nsw.gov.au

Mother's Day Raffle

Support our School and Win Fabulous Prizes!

Get ready to celebrate Mother's Day with a chance to win amazing prizes donated by local businesses including:

Dining experiences, Massages, Photography Sessions, Gym Passes, Nutrition advice, Meal Kits, Jigsaw Puzzles, Monopoly Games, Hairdresser vouchers and more to come

Buy Raffle tickets from the Flexischool App

\$2 a ticket, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20

Tickets on sale now until Friday 2nd May

Winners announced Mon 5th May at the School Assembly

Thankyou to our generous Sponsors for making this raffle possible

Gallon, QuiteLike, Walters Macri Photography, BFT Gym, Qhali Kay Wellness and Beauty Tambo, Australian Jigsaw Puzzle Association, Dominoes, Salon 27, Quarry St Cafe, Verve Photography, Rise Health, Pyrmont Dry Cleaning, Quarrymans and Nourish with Ai

All proceeds go towards
supporting initiatives for the
Ultimo Public School P&C.
Thankyou for your participation.

Transition To Kindy Workshop: Navigating the Transition with Success

***Join us for our Pre-Schooler
Transition Workshop: Starting
Strong!***

This session will offer valuable insights into starting school, including Kindergarten preparation, school readiness, and what to expect.

***Enrol online to stay informed
and connected!***

**26th of June
2025**

Workshop 1

26th of June -
Thursday

5.30pm

at Ultimo Public School

**27th of
August 2025**

Workshop 2

27th of August -
Wednesday

8.30am

at Ultimo Public School



To accommodate different schedules, we will be hosting this workshop on two separate events, each covering the same valuable insights and information.

Kindy Transition Dates

Ultimo Public School



The early years of school are essential for building a strong foundation for lifelong success and happiness. At Ultimo Public School, we are committed to giving your child the best start.

Enrol online to stay informed and connected!



Open Afternoon

**Thursday 18th of September -
3.30pm to 4.30pm.**

Please join us for an open afternoon. You will meet teachers, see the classrooms and meet other Kindy families.



Transition Days

Transition 1

***Tuesday 4th of
November
9.30am to 11am***

Children: Pre Kindy literacy activities in classrooms

Parents: School Readiness workshop

Transition 2

***Tuesday 11th of
November
9.30am to 11am***

Children: Pre Kindy numeracy activities in classrooms

Parents: Curriculum workshop

Transition 3

***Tuesday 18th of
November
9.30am to 11am***

Children: Pre Kindy activities in classrooms

Parents: Ultimo Public School Expo, including extra-curricular

We are looking forward to getting to know your child on transition days and setting them up for a successful Kindy.

Sydney Visual Arts Academy



More details can be found at:

www.sydneyvisualartsacademy.com



Sydney Visual Arts Academy





ENROLMENT

Limited vacancy!

LEARN MUSIC AT SCHOOL

MUSIC KEYBOARD CLASSES AT ULTIMO PS LESSON ON TUE OR FRI AFTER SCHOOL

- 45-minute weekly sessions in small groups.
- Instrument not required initially.
- \$33 per session – follows the school term. New students are welcome to join mid-term.
- Ideal for beginners!

Music Shapes Minds!

Learning music enhances cognitive skills, builds discipline and boosts confidence!



To enrol, call 9411 3122 or visit:
www.learnmusicatschool.com.au



Creative Arts & Technology

PROGRAMS



Monday – Drama Club

StarTime's Drama Club helps kids build confidence, creativity, and teamwork in a fun, supportive environment. Led by professional performers, our engaging classes develop essential skills:

- ✓ Public Speaking – Express ideas with confidence.
- ✓ Active Listening – React, observe, and think on the spot.
- ✓ Improvisation – Create stories through play.
- ✓ Vocal Skills – Strengthen clarity and projection.
- ✓ Physical Expression – Use movement to bring characters to life.

Give your child the skills to shine—on stage and in life!



Wednesday – Visual FX Filmmaking Club

Give your child the ultimate after-school experience with StarTime's Visual FX Filmmaking Club! In these 1.5-hour sessions, kids will:

- ✓ Learn Visual Effects – Use iPads to create Hollywood-style SPFX
- ✓ Tackle Fun Filmmaking Challenges – Develop storytelling, camera skills, and action-packed FX sequences.
- ✓ Boost Confidence & Creativity – Work in teams to bring ideas to life.
- ✓ Showcase Their Work – See their masterpiece on the big screen and enter StarTime's online film festival!

Perfect for budding filmmakers who love movies, technology, and creative storytelling.

"StarTime drama classes have transformed our 9-year-old son's confidence. He now dreams of being a stand-up comedian! Lindsay's teaching is inspiring and fun, and the skills learned helped the kids deliver an impressive, improvised play."
Susana Danoy (parent)

Held at Ultimo Public

in Homebase 2.

MON: 3:15-4:15pm

WED: 3:15-4:45pm

FOR MORE
INFO OR TO
REGISTER
SCAN HERE





Free child car seat safety check

2 in 3 car seats are not used properly

Make sure your child is safe with a free inspection by a Transport for NSW Authorised Restraint Fitter. You can have your child car seats and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit.

Date: Saturday 24 May 2025, 9:00am-1:00pm

Location: Eveleigh Early Learning and Preschool. 41 Henderson Road, Eveleigh

Bookings Essential: 9246 7630 or email: vstamper@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Service only available to City of Sydney residents

How to pack a healthy lunchbox

Created by Sydney Local Health District with videos from Cancer Council and Nutrition Australia

