Newman Selective
GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM

St Christopher's
Catholic Primary School Holsworthy

Term 4, Week 6
16 November 2023

UPCOMING CALENDAR DATES	
Monday 20th November	Parent Advent Group via Zoom - 8pm
Wednesday 22nd November	Swimming Carnival and Water Fun Day Swimming Program
Thursday 23rd November	Swimming Program
Friday 24th November	School Disco, KIndergarten - Year 2, 5 - 6pm School Disco, Year 3-6, 6:30 - 8pm
Monday 27th November	Parent Avent Group via Zoom, 8pm
Wednesday 29th November	Swimming Program All Saints Catholic College, Year 7, 2024 Orientation
Thursday 30th November	Year 6 Graduation Mass - 6pm in the Hall
Friday 8th December	Pope Francis Award Mass - 9:15am in the Church
Tuesday 12th December	Christmas Concert 6pm
Wednesday 13th December	End of Year Thanksgiving Mass - 9:15am in the Hall
Friday 15th December	Last Day of School for Students
Wednesday 31st January	First Day Back - (Year 1 to Year 6)
Thursday 1st February	First Day Back - (Kindergarten, 9am to 12pm)
Friday 2nd February	(Kindergarten, 9am to 12pm)
Monday 5th February	Full Day of School for Kinder students (8:40am to 2:40pm)

Please note that all upcoming school events are visible in the school calendar via the Compass app:

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Dear Community of St Christopher's,

I had the opportunity to attend the Kindergarten Excursion to the Aquarium yesterday. I am very grateful to the teachers and the parents who attended this excursion. The students had a wonderful time and it's hard to believe it's almost at the end of their first year at school.

We have tried to include a number of dates in this newsletter to help parents plan for the end of this school year and the start of 2024. It is also important to remember that the parent calendar can be accessed by all parents which outlines all events for the end of 2023. Mrs Weeks has included information below regarding what the children need to wear in the Christmas Concert.

Class Placement 2024

As you are aware we are planning classes for 2024. The students will have a chance to meet their teacher on Promotions Morning on **Monday 11th December.** Please do not come after that time to discuss your child's needs for 2023, please be proactive rather than reactive. I am available in person or via phone appointment if you would like to speak with me regarding 2024. If you are requesting cousins not to be together etc this needs to be done each year. All students will have the chance to identify/name good learning partners that they might like to be placed with, this however is used as a guide by the teachers.

Tell Them From Me

Tell Them From Me- Feedback Sport 2023

Over a number of years many parents have reported that they would like to see Sport both opportunities for their children as well as engagement in Sport as a focus for improvement at St Christopher's.

This year we have reinvigorated our focus on Sport. The appointment of Ms Woods as Sport Coordinator supported by Mrs Kaminski, Miss Keir, Mrs Crammond - Sports Teachers and Mrs Short - PDH teacher has enabled us to develop a team approach.

In 2023 we ran clinics in the following sports; Year 5 and 6 - volleyball, Year 3 and 4 - basketball. We have competed in inter-school sports including Soccer, Netball, Tchoukball, Volleyball. We competed in the Mark Taylor Shield as well as the NSW Basketball tournament. In addition to these team events, numerous children have represented the school in sports including golf, AFL, touch football, swimming, netball, athletics, and cross country.

We have reviewed the format of both the Athletics and Swimming Carnivals. We have also reviewed the Scope and Sequence for our in school sport lessons to ensure we are covering a broader range of sports and skills. The school has also purchased a large amount of equipment to support these lessons. I have received very positive feedback from students, teachers and parents this year in regards to the change.

Colour Fun Run

This event proved to be a real fun event for the students and many of the teachers as well as those parent helpers who joined in. I thank Clarie George and Collette Ide who coordinated the event supported on the day by Liz Tonini, Catherine Costin, Kirindy Barnaby, Nadia Woodhouse, Nellie Dib, Mariam Nasrallah, Jen Harpley, Kate Passi, Natalie Dimitrievska, Stevie Istephan, Kristina Hogan, Rebecca Kinnane, Ana Reddy, Mandy Barrett, Julian Di Martino.

We ask that all money collected be returned by Friday 24th November. The raffle will take place at the Assembly on Monday 27th November. As outlined previously for every $20 donated the student will get one raffle ticket in the raffle barrel.

In Peace,
Mrs Linda O'Regann
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Amadeus - Instrument Returns

As we come to the end of the year, the process of collecting student instruments and music books will commence from next week. This week, we have the Year 5 and 6 students performing at assembly. **A reminder that this assembly commences at 1:45pm.** After their performance, the students will leave their instruments at school so that on Monday, the processes of collecting, returning and servicing of instruments will begin. The following week, after the Year 3 and 4 concert, the same process will occur whereby students will leave their instruments at school after their concert. The instruments will be sorted and reallocated next year again. Please note that any lost instrument or book will incur a fee so that they may be replaced.

Water Fun/Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday 22 November we will be having our K-2 Water Fun day and the Swimming Carnival.

Just a few reminders regarding the days:

Water Fun

- Children are to wear their swimmers underneath their sport uniform.
- Pack an extra T-shirt to wear during the water activities.
- Wear their sneakers all day and have their school hat.
- Please apply sunscreen prior to coming to school.

Pack underwear to change into after the water activities.

Swimming Carnival

- Sport Captains and students who have already been nominated for the 200m Individual Medley, 100m events and 50m butterfly <u>will need to be at school by 7:45am.</u> A note has been handed to these students already.
- Children are asked to wear their sports uniform or a coloured T-shirt to match their house colour and appropriate swimming apparel.
- They will need to bring sunscreen and a hat for protection. Please ensure that all belongings(sports shoes and socks on the bus, and thongs for at the pool) are clearly labelled with their name on it.
- Children will need to bring their recess, lunch and drinks with them. Students will not be able to use the canteen. A reminder not to order a school canteen lunch order on the day.
- Parents must watch the events from outside the fenced area. Only official Parent Volunteers will be allowed onto the pool deck.
- If you nominated to take your child home from the carnival, all students must remain at the carnival until all races have been completed and students are moved out of their house colours, into their classes to be signed out.

Absences on Compass

As reports will be finalised shortly, please ensure you have either provided a written note or marked any student absences on compass.

The reports will include the number of whole days absent as well as any partial absences. Parents will receive their child's report via Compass. It is important that all families have successfully logged onto Compass. Please advise the office early if you are having any difficulties accessing Compass.

Quote of the week

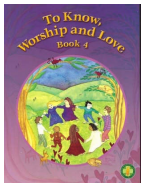
'You get the best out of others when you get the best out of yourself.'
Harvey S. Firestone

With appreciation,
Mr Melissa Olic
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Week 7 - Sabbath Week & To Know Worship & Love Books

In tradition, next week is Sabbath Week at St Christopher's. It is time to stop, refresh and rejuvenate by spending more time with family and friends without the added commitment of homework. Reading, however, should continue each night.



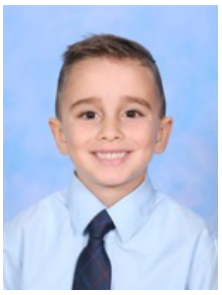
All classes will be taking home their Religious Education - To Know, Worship and Love texts during Sabbath Week, in Week 7. Please encourage your child to read the chapter indicated below from their To Know, Worship and Love books during Sabbath Week. There are also some 'at home' discussion activities to complete at the end of these chapters. We ask that all To Know, Worship and Love books are returned to school by **Monday 27th November (Week 8).**

Grade	To Know, Worship and Love Chapter
Kindergarten	Chapter 19 - Getting Ready for Jesus & Chapter 20 - Jesus Is Born
Year 1	Chapter 21 - Jesus Is Born
Year 2	Chapter 18 - Out of the Darkness & Chapter 19 - A New Light
Year 3	Chapter 18 - Advent and Christmas
Year 4	Chapter 18 - Advent and Christmas
Year 5	Chapter 19 - We Celebrate Advent & Christmas
Year 6	Chapter 19 - Advent People

St Mary MacKillop Award

This term our St Mary MacKillop Award focuses on the Catholic value of Peace. Peace is living in harmony with God and others. One of the sisters who met Mary MacKillop described what she remembered most from Mother Mary of the Cross: 'It was her peace… a deep, endless kind of peace that came from far inside. Oh, she was often in pain, often tired; she knew disappointments and worries plenty… but the peace was always there.' In August 1886 Mary Mackillop asked us to "Live in charity and peace."

In **Week 5,** we acknowledged **Andy Merlino in 1B** who was nominated by Mrs Karpik for being a kind friend to other students on the playground and including others in games. Thank you for showing the Catholic value of Peace. Parents are invited to send any nominations to: info@stcholsworthy.catholic.edu.au

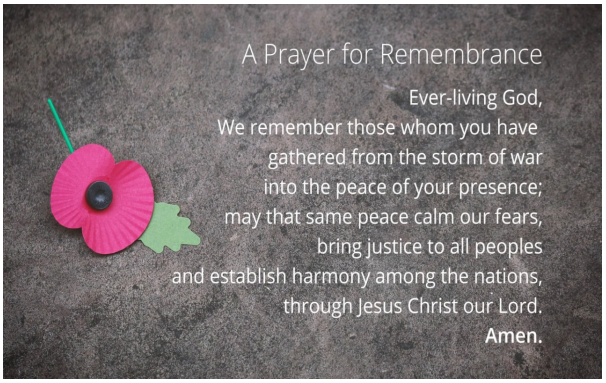


Remembrance Day Prayer Service

Remembrance Day falls on the 11th of November each year.
According to: https://www.army.gov.au/about-us/history-and-research/traditions/remembrance-day,
On the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, a minute's silence is observed and dedicated to those soldiers who died fighting to protect our nation.

In Australia and other allied countries, including New Zealand, Canada and the United States, 11th November became known as Armistice Day – a day to remember those who died in World War One. The day continues to be commemorated in allied countries. After World War Two, the day was renamed to Remembrance Day.

We are so grateful and thankful to all those who served in the name of peace and justice for all. Our defence students and some of our Pope Francis students led us in a special prayer service last Monday to commemorate Remembrance Day. Thank you to our wonderful students for leading us so beautifully in prayer and to Mr McSweeny for taking part in the ceremony! A big thank you to Mrs Halliday (Defence Mentor) and Mrs Cansino for their coordination.



In faith and love,
Mr Eddy Rumora
Religious Education Coordinator

FAMILY AND FAITH

Parent Advent Group

Parents, carers and grandparents are invited to join this Advent Program which commenced this week. We are using the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney's companion made available for free download or in hard copy form from your church. It's a very simple way of preparing ourselves spiritually for the very important birth and return of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Details for the zoom sessions can be found below, and there is no commitment to be made; you can attend as many sessions as you can.

Event: Parent Advent Group
When: Mondays, 8-8:30 pm during weeks 6 - 10, Term 4
Where: Via zoom Meeting ID: 833 260 4847 Password: 637142 Link

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Thank you to those families who have already contributed to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Items can be sent in with your child **to their classroom (not the office) by Friday 1st December (Week 8).** Please note: All food items *must have an expiry date of at least 3 months* and all non-food items must be brand new.

Class	Items	Class	Items
KB	tea or coffee	4B	pancake mix
KM	milo or hot chocolate	4M	muesli bars (soft)
KW	long life milk	4W	chocolate or lollies
1B	2 minute noodles	5B	tin tuna/salmon
1M	pasta	5M	pasta sauce or tin tomatoes
1W	rice	5W	chips or crackers
2B	weet-bix cereal	6B	stationery for children 8 -14 years
2M	cornflakes cereal	6M	stationery for children 8 -14 years
2W	nutrigrain cereal	6W	stationery for children 8 -14 years
3B	toothpaste or tooth brushes	3M	soap bars
3W	anti-perspirant		

Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea

If you have helped our school in any way this year, we'd love to say thank you and acknowledge the time, love and generosity you have shown us. We have planned a Thank You Morning Tea on Friday 1st December at 8:45am in the Hall, and we hope you can join us. For catering purposes, could you please fill out this brief google form by Thursday 23rd November.

Holy Souls Month Padlet

Staff and families are invited to upload images of deceased loved ones to our Holy Souls Month Padlet, and to pray for their souls as a family. There are also other practical ways we can assist the souls in purgatory, so please try to take the time to explore the padlet with your children.

God Bless,

Melina Cansino I **Family Educator** I familyandfaith@syd.catholic.edu.au

Be Safe
Be Responsible
Be Respectful

WELLBEING CORNER

SPBL Focus - Swimming

With the upcoming Swimming Carnival and Water Fun Day, this next fortnight, will see the teachers explicitly teach the students the school expectations for these events. This will include travelling to the event, safety procedures near a pool and demonstrating great sportsmanship.

To be responsible we:	To be respectful we:	To be safe we:
• Look after our belongings • Look after the pool and/or school equipment • Arrive on time	• Follow adults' instructions (teachers, parent helpers/ swimming centre staff) • Obey the rules of swimming centre • Do not comment on others swimming skills • Use our manners	• Wear our school hat when we are not swimming • Wear a t-shirt when we are not swimming • Walk in two lines to and from the bus • Walk particularly when we are wearing thongs • Walk on footpaths • Ask a teacher before going to the toilet • Go to the toilet in pairs • Walk in the pool area • Stay where the teacher can see you at all times, in your team colour • Apply sunscreen every 1-2 hours

Transitioning from Primary to Secondary School

Being Week 6, we are now approaching the end of the school year and for our Year 6 students the end of their Primary School journey. Over these next 4 weeks could be a great idea to start thinking about and preparing for this big transition as a family. Young people who experience a positive transition into their new school are more likely to feel comfortable, relaxed and valued, feel excited and motivated to learn, have good relationships with others and develop a sense of belonging within the school community. This positive start can make a big difference to young people's school engagement, learning and wellbeing. We invite you to view the following resource designed for parents to provide information and suggested conversation to consider having with your child as they navigate this period of change in their lives.

Resource for parents: Starting Secondary School

Kindergarten Excursion to the Sea Life Aquarium

The Kindergarten students had so much fun at the Aquarium yesterday! This excursion was linked to the English unit "Under the Sea." The children got the opportunity to closely observe all the wonderful marine animals in their environment. Thank you to all the terrific people who helped make the day so enjoyable for the students.

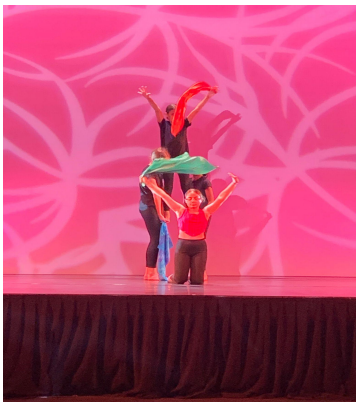
Mrs Chelsea Stewart

Wellbeing Coordinator

CREATIVE ARTS

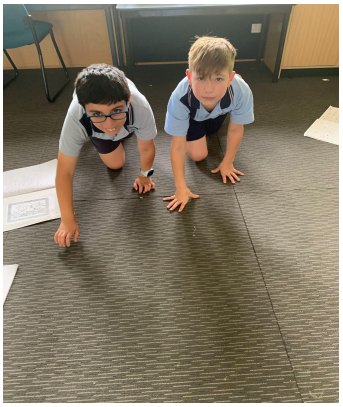
Danceworks

On Monday our selected dancers participated in *danceworks* at Southern Cross College Burwood. It was a day of workshopping, filming, interviewing and performing led by the artists in residence Brad Carter and Sally Dashworth. Our students were amazing and it was an invaluable experience. They may be able to perform their choreographies at an assembly if the opportunity is available.



Drama

This week I want to highlight year 3. They are exploring various drama forms and this week they explored MIME. The students examined the incredible mime work of Rowan Atkinson in his Mr Bean Series. Using this as inspiration they worked in pairs to create a mime of a simple everyday activity and all the things that could possibly go wrong ... .how can this be funny. They performed some amazing pieces. Well done year 3!



Visual Art

Year 5 has produced some amazing artworks around the theme of space. They look like they're really floating among the planets. Very creative year 5!

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Christmas Concert

Our Christmas concert this year will tell the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus in our own creative way. Each grade will perform while the drama group leads us through the story. The concert is on Tuesday 12th December at 6pm. The Children can wear the following:

Kinder - Fabulous Christmas clothes
Year 1 - Angel costumes
Year 2 - Shepherd outfits
Year 3 - White and blue
Year 4 - Celebration party clothes
Year 5 and 6 - Christmas party clothes

Looking forward to a fun singing and dancing spectacular.

Mrs Weeks
Creative Arts Teacher

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Following on from Emotional Learning's last newsletter, I thought it could be helpful to share a feelings wheel. These wheels are designed to assist children and adults identify not only the big feelings of happy, sad etc they also help us identify the deeper meaning.

Often, we will hear someone say I'm so angry, I describe anger as the umbrella that is made up of a lot of feelings that sit underneath our anger, some see anger as the tip of the iceberg or the volcano being all of the feelings that build up until anger erupts as lava.

Often when exploring anger words like, frustrated, lonely, worried, out of control, bored, stressed, disrespected, exhausted, hopeless, or confused, and any other words you feel would fit with being angry.

You might say to your child I get so excited when we go to Luna Park, I love seeing your surprise when you go on rides, and we have such a happy day.

You may find looking at the feelings wheel that you experience different feelings or behaviours when you're happy and that's great because we are all different, you can add things to the wheel or make notes around the outside to personalise it.

I'm including 3 wheels that can be really helpful for you and your child.

Wheel 1: Emotion Behaviour Wheel
Wheel 2: Emotion Sensation Wheel
Wheel 3: Expanded feelings wheel for adults and older children

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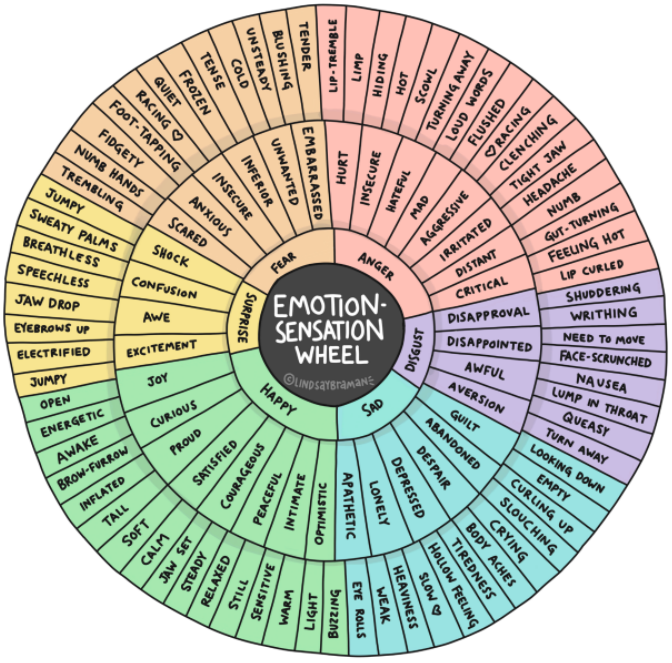
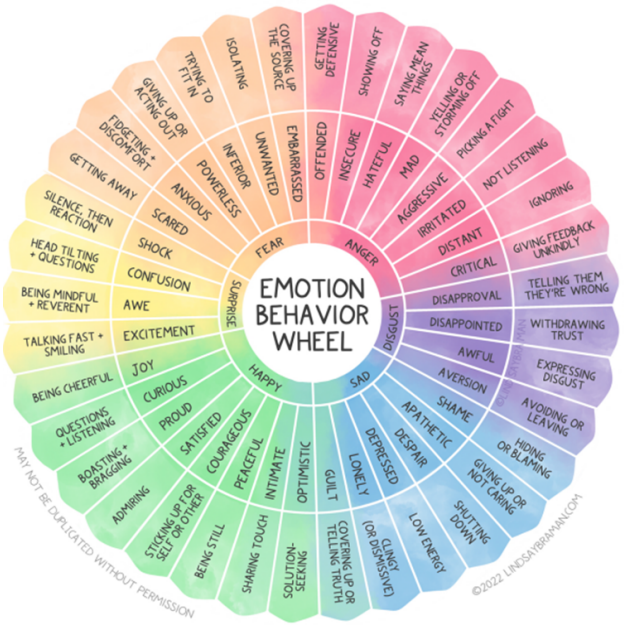
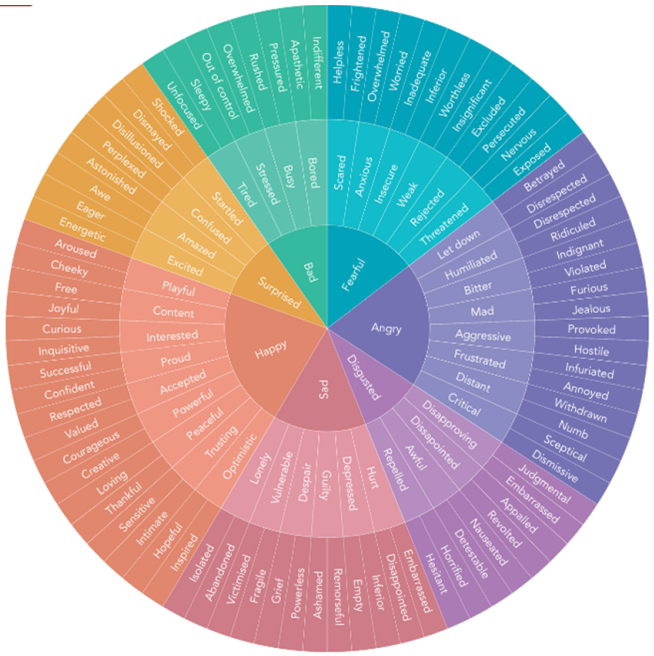
Reference to: https://lindsaybraman.com/digital-downloads/
https://www.calm.com/blog/the-feelings-wheel







Ms Ann Murphy
CatholicCare Counsellor

SPORT

Upcoming Events and Important Information

Changes to Swimming Program Timetable (Week 7 only)

With our swimming carnival next week on Wednesday, there will be a change to the Swimming Timetable for week 7. All primary classes will have their swimming lesson on Thursday 23rd November. All Infant classes will have their lesson on Wednesday in between the water fun day. Please see below for the updated timetable for Week 7 only.

Time	Wednesday 22nd November	Thursday 23rd November
9:00am-9:30am	KB	3M
9:30am-10:00am	KM	3W
10:00am-10:30am	2M + Kookaburra Aspect Class	3B
10:30am-11:00am	KW	4M
11:00am-11:30am	Lorikeets Aspect Class	4B
11:30am-12:00pm	1B + Cockatoo Aspect Class	4W
12:00pm-12:30pm	1M	5B
12:30pm-1:00pm	1W	5M
1:00pm-1:30pm	2B	5W
1:30pm-2:00pm	2W	6B + 6W(12)
2:00pm-2:30pm	-	6M + 6W(12)

Swimming Carnival and Water Fun Day Wednesday 22nd November

Our swimming carnival is next week for the 3-6 students and competitive students in year 2. Year 6 will have their end of year boogie board race to celebrate their last swimming carnival at St Christopher's. If you wish to pull out of any events, please let myself know as soon as possible so the heats can be adjusted.

K-2 will have their water fun day at school on the same day. It will be a fun and exciting day for all!

Miss Woods
Sport Coordinator

GARDENING AND CHICKEN CLUB

We have some exciting news!. The Teacher Environmental Committee has voted on all of the nominations received. We are happy to announce the names for our new three chickens. The chosen names were selected as follow: one from Aspect, one from Infants and one from Primary:

1. **Coco** - nominated by Aspect
2. **Rosie** - nominated by Kindergarten (Infants)
3. **Milo** - nominated by Primary students.

Our Chicken and Gardening Club members have also been busy in the garden. We are growing spinach, capsicum, zucchini, snow peas and pumpkins. Here are some pictures of what our club has been up to!

Ms Abdelsayed and I want to give a big thank you to our members. Your dedication has helped the club grow in so many ways. You are all amazing!

Ms Abdelsayed and Mrs Farrell
Chicken and Club Team Leaders

Congratulations to the following students who will receive an Award at Friday's assembly commencing at 1:45pm in the school hall:	
Aspect:	Denzel Nguyen, Dexter Nguyen, Harrison Canepa
Kinder:	Jordan Meade, Joey Bruno, Estelle Williams, Dante Ferraro, Hunter Mahy, Maverick Roberts, Rise Hudson, Liana Aleksoski, Aaliyah Grayson
Year 1:	Emilia Neilson, Thomas Stanley, Lucas Tadros, Hayden Shi, Tabitha Ayad, Marcelo Ishak, Gabriel Hide, George Katirtsides, Cristiano Dias
Year 2:	Alyana Mackin Gonzalez, Anthony Grima, Oscar Keremelevski, Sebastian Diaz Sanchez, Isha Prakash, Eva Quingaiza, Sia Palankar, Emilia Aleksoski, George Dib