



St Andrew's Primary School Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 7, 18th May 2023



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Dear St Andrew's community,

As I move closer to my retirement, June 30, I thought I might share with you just one of the many special times that I have always enjoyed as an Assistant Principal here at St Andrew's.

Interviewing bright eyed and enthusiastic 4 and 5-year-old children who are eager to be enrolled in Kindergarten. This year in March, Mrs McGowen and I began interviewing families seeking enrolment for their child for Kindergarten in 2024. I personally find this time a wonderfully interesting and rewarding experience. It is such a delight to meet children who are so excited to come to big school.

Some present as shy and reluctant, which many parents quickly correct as being the opposite to how they present at home or preschool.

I so enjoy speaking with the children and am delighted in the pure innocence of their responses to questions I have for them. There are usually many things they want me to know, from their choice of outfits for the meeting, to brothers or sisters already at the school to what they like doing or eating or details about their newest toy. Parents prepare children well for the meeting, but I relish when children forget and just be themselves, all to the dismay of parents. It is a privileged and treasured time and one that has brought an enormous smile to my face over the last 21 years.

Meeting Parents, particularly those new to the school, and discovering why they selected St Andrew's as the school for their child I find heartening. Their responses are diverse yet have a common thread. They have heard positive reports about our school from other parents and the wider community. Some are neighbours of children who are currently attending our school or have witnessed the positive and respectful behaviour of our children.

It is inspiring to know that beyond our St Andrew's school gates the good work and great teaching and learning is being discussed and promoted.

All of this makes it such a special and proud time and one that I will immensely miss.

Kim McDonald

Assistant Principal

Mrs McGowen - Study Leave

Mrs McGowen will be undertaking study at the Leuven University in Belgium from the 29th of May. She will be participating in a 2 week intensive course on Catholic Identity and will return to St Andrews on the 13th of June.

Enrolments

We are still taking enrolments for anyone wishing to enrol their child in Kindergarten for 2024. Please come to the office to pick up an enrolment pack.

Winter Uniforms

A reminder that all children need to be in full winter school uniform. The transition period has ended. Special mention about school ties, both boys and girls, there are many children missing their ties.

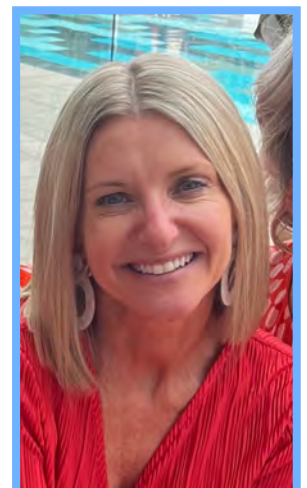
Mrs Barlow - A special time for the Barlow family

We say a short goodbye to Mrs Barlow who leaves us this week to prepare for the birth of her baby. We wish her all the best.



Farewell to an outstanding teacher and person- Mrs Rebecca Borg

In my role as Principal, I have the privilege of working with so many talented and gifted teaching practitioners and staff, as well as sharing in the lives of the many families and students. Relationships are the key to building a strong community and these relationships shape us, make an impact and can influence who we are. I felt this when I first met Mrs Borg. Mrs Borg is an inspiring teacher who sees the world with such positivity. Her love for teaching is embedded in all she does and says. She has a genuine love for children and is dedicated to making sure that every child feels special and learns. After many years at St Andrew's, Mrs Borg will be leaving this week to continue to inspire other children at St Oliver's. Mrs Borg will be missed, however, those who have met her already know the gift that she is. We sincerely thank you Mrs Borg for all you have achieved at St Andrew's. May God bless you always.



Educational Audit

Each year, every school in the Parramatta Diocese completes an education audit. This audit focuses on ensuring that we are compliant with the mandated expectations from the NSW Board of Studies and our Diocese. I wish to congratulate the teachers for the outstanding work they do each day to ensure that our students receive current and challenging learning experiences.

Mother's Day Stall

The children had such a wide variety of gifts to choose from at this year's Mother's Day stall. Huge thanks to the P and F and all the volunteers who came to assist children with their selections.

Tell Them From Me Survey

In the coming weeks (22nd May- 9 June) we will be inviting our Year 4 to Year 6 students and all parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey- Tell Them From Me. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community, we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Andrew's Primary School.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey (20 different languages available) on your computer or mobile device using this link: [**Tell Them From Me - Parent Survey**](#)

There are a few short video clips which help to explain the survey

Video Question 1 Why is TTFM important to your community?

Video Question 2 How do you use parent and student feedback from the survey?

Video Question 3 What does TTFM mean to you?

Some important reminders for our community

- Please remember when using the morning car drop off under the church pergola, only disembark your children on the church side (left side of your car). We have asked families not to overtake on the right side as this action has caused near misses in the past with children disembarking the vehicle on the right side.
- If your child is absent from school an explanation note is required on their first return day.
- Please refrain from sending food items to school for example chocolate and nut products.
- Please contact the office if you wish to make an appointment with the class teacher.
- If you have arranged another responsible adult to collect your child in the afternoon, and the adult is not identified on the student collection note, please inform the office staff in the morning.



By working together we can promote a safe school community.

School Fees

School Fees have now been issued and the due date for Instalment 2 is 31/05/2023. Please contact Reshma Kerai on 02 8869 6700 if you have not received your statement in the post by the end of this week.

Building Child Safe Communities

As part of CSPD's strategy to build child safe communities, our People & Culture - Safeguarding team is providing a monthly focus on the 10 Child Safe Standards. Please read the information in the attached flyers.

2023 ACARA Item Trial Test

Our school has been selected to participate in the ACARA Item Trial Test for Literacy and Numeracy. The data from the test will provide valuable information for the inclusion of questions in future NAPLAN tests. Please read the attached flyer for further information.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT



Diocesan Cross Country

Last Wednesday the 10th of May, 44 students from St Andrew's competed in the 2023 Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country Event at Sydney Motorsports Park at Eastern Creek. The children had a very successful day with all students finishing in the top two third of their races.

Special congratulations must go to the following students from St Andrew's who have qualified for the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country Team to compete at the NSWCPs Cross Country on Tuesday 13th June.

- Under 12/13 Girls: **Gabriella Zerafa** - 2nd. in her age group – Western Division
- Under 12/13 Girls: **Autumn Byrne-Abella**- 4th in her age group – Western Division
- Under 8/9 Girls: **Michelle Arshilo** - 4th in her age group – Western Division

For the first time since I have been the Sports Coordinator, one of the age teams took out the School Team Age Champions. Our Under 12/13 Girls team consisting of **Leah McSweeney, Autumn Byrne-Abella, Jasmine Metcalfe, Hannah Farag** and **Chloe Wilson** performed extremely well, with five out of the six girls finishing in the top 15. One of the girls in particular showed great courage to continue on after jarring her knee in an obstructed hole, and finished 9th, one place out of the representation squad. Well done Leah for showing such tenacity.

Michael Giffney placing 9th, also missed out by just one position in making the representation squad. What a great achievement for all the children who took part in the carnival.

A huge thank-you to **Mrs Allison Simpson** who worked tirelessly in the administration area, and the parents and family members who assisted with transport and helped with supervision of the children to and from the marshalling area on the day. Your help was greatly appreciated by all.



Under 12/13 Girls cross Country Team

(L-R) Autumn Byrne-Abella, Gabriella Zerafa, Jasmine Metcalfe, Leah McSweeney, Hannah Farag and Chloe Wilson.



Girls Gala Soccer Day Years 5 and 6

The Girls Gala Soccer Day will be held at **Jamison Park Penrith on Friday 2 June**. A team each from Years 5 and 6 will participate and we wish them all the very best. Many thanks to **Mr Reitano** and **Mr Paynter** who are coaching the teams.

Community News



Congratulations to **Joshua S** (Year 3) who attended the PETER WITKOP SHIELD U10 Boy's Sabre and won 1st place.

In this competition, he showed strong insight and discrimination, coupled with the guidance of Coach Alex and Coach Calorta, which led him to achieve satisfactory results. In the following 2 weeks, he will represent our club at the school championship U11, and PETER WITKOP SHIELD U12 Boy's Sabre.

It is a great honour that Joshua has also been selected to represent the NSW Fencing Academy Club in the Singapore Individual Competition in September.

Mr Graham Paynter
Sports Co-ordinator

2023 ACARA Item Trial Test

13th and 14th June

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ITEM TRIAL

Item Trial tests have occurred each year since 2007. The purpose of the Item Trial is to evaluate NAPLAN test items (questions) that are under consideration for inclusion in future tests.

Each year a different selection of sampled schools is needed. The sample ensures a diverse range of student backgrounds and abilities is represented.

The Item Trial will involve 2 classes in Years 3 and 5 to help collect a national samples.

Since the test is not an assessment, it won't be marked and results won't be distributed. 2 classes per grade will participate in the Item Trial. The test is purely for ACARA to work through the process of collecting both online and offline data.

WHAT GRADES ARE INVOLVED?

50 x Year 3 students and 50 x Year 5 students will be involved in the Item Test.

Dates for each grade:

Tuesday 13th June: Year 3

Wednesday 14th June: Year 5

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO FOR MY CHILD?

As a parent it is important that you encourage your child to participate and enjoy the trial experience should they be selected to do so.

While the Item Trial is not an assessment that will be graded, it is still very important that students try their best. Your positivity and encouragement will help to achieve this.

Kindergarten Faith Page

This term, Kindergarten is investigating the teachings of Jesus, and the choices we make to help **love grow.**

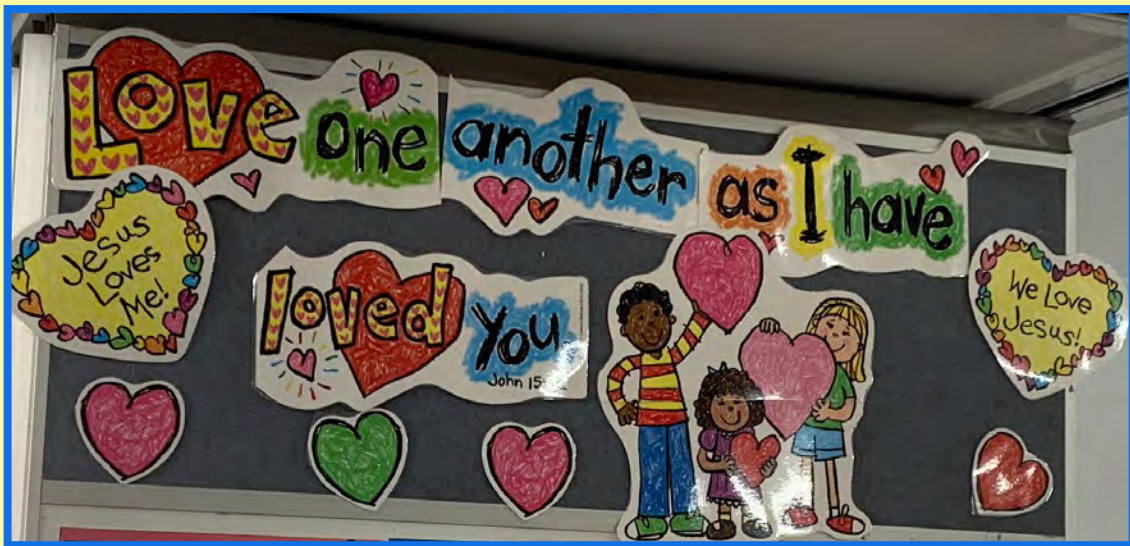


We began the term by celebrating the resurrection of Jesus, praising God for sending His son to save us. This is God's greatest act of Love! We placed the word "Alleluia" to sleep for the 40 days of Lent. After Easter, we were able to 'wake up' Alleluia and rejoice that **Jesus is alive!**

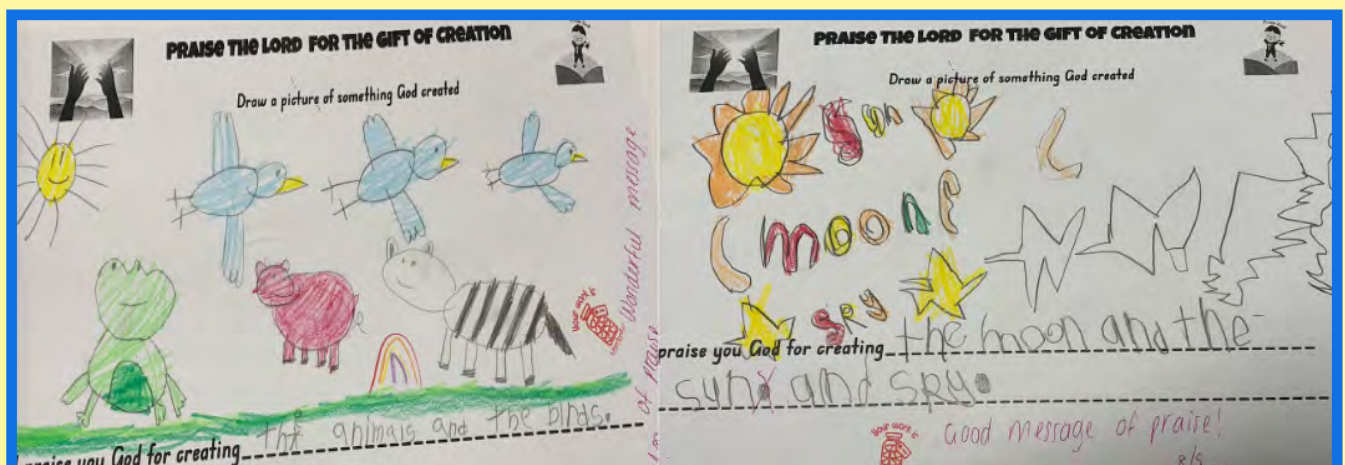


At the heart of our learning is the scripture passage from the Gospel of Matthew:

Matthew 22:37-39: **“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is love your neighbour as you love yourself.**

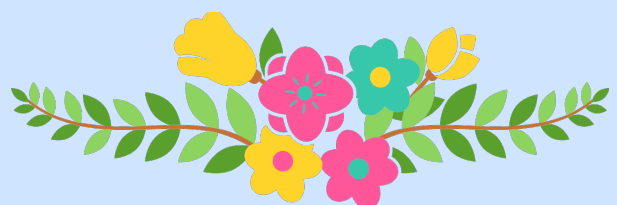
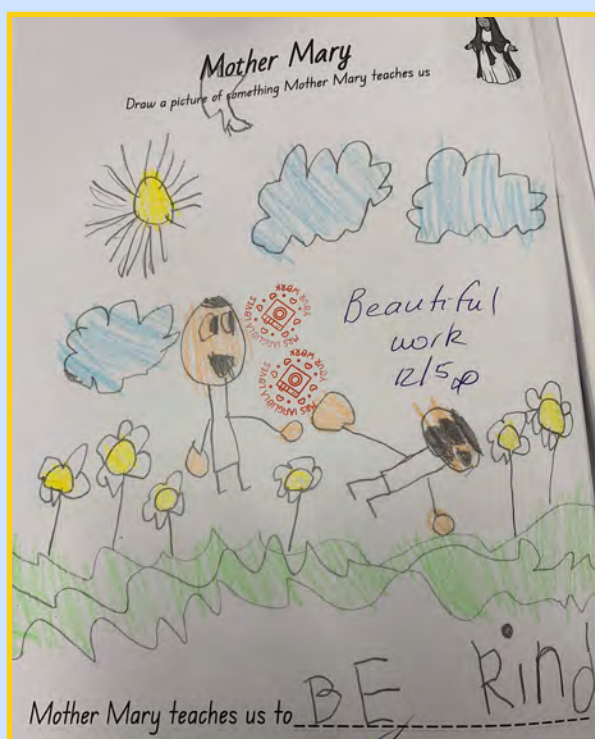


God also revealed how precious we are to Him in the Scripture: Genesis 1:27, **“Wherein, God created man in his own image” . . . each human life has great value.**” We learnt that people were created to love God and each other. He wants us to be a part of His family to be like Him. We thanked God for His wonderful creation by drawing and writing about the precious gifts of Creation God has given us.





In celebrating Mother's Day, we also explored the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary was part of God's story. She was a woman of great faith and loved and served God all her life. Mary also teaches us how to love and serve God.



Student of the Week

Term 2 Weeks 2/3



	WEEK 2	WEEK 3		WEEK 2	WEEK 3
KB	Leilani Forsythe	Yogit Merugumala	3G	Anton Bauskis	Jake Pisansarakit
KG	Amour Mayen	Shiven Kerai	3R	Bhavneet Kaur	Zayn Ahmed
KR	Jephano Odindo	Harnaaz Saini	3Y	Kishan Kanbi	Aryana Mand
KY	Elleni Chulipa	Makayla Turner	4B	Maya Longabela	Scarlett McGuiness
1B	Atticus Wang	Joanne Lin	4G	Levi Vakai	Lily Raymundo
1G	Jett Spina	Manraj Spina	4R	Jimmy Ding	Manus Kunwar
1R	Ivan Bijeesh	Name withheld	4Y	Angel Sehgal	Ja'Bear Sione
1Y	Antonio Ty	Tahlia Katafono	5B	Cayzer Go	Margarete Tiglao
2B	Aiyannah Susi	Penelope Morisson	5G	Zelwa Chikwem	Myra Sharma
2G	Xavier Vakai	Salvador Bogtour	5R	Mikylah Fontanilla	Malvyn Chaudhary
2R	Xavier Carvajal	Name withheld	6B	Jai Mittal	Kamsy Chikwem
2Y	Sanaa Mir	Adol Mayen	6G	James Turin	Alexa Felipe
3B	William Ford	Giovanna Hilmi	6R	Eknor Kaur	Yollyn Tanyag



Term 2 Calendar 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	24th April STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	25 ANZAC DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY	26 ALL STUDENTS RETURN FOR TERM 2	27	28
2 Newsletter Week	1st May	2	3	4	5
3	8	9	10 Diocesan Cross Country	11 Mother's Day Stall	12 9.15 Mothers day Liturgy hall followed by Assembly Mother's Day Stall
4 Newsletter Week	15	16	17	18	19 Lockdown Drill
5	22 Tell them from Me Survey opens for parents	23 Year 3 Excursion - Australian Pioneer Village	24 National Story Time	25	26
6 Newsletter Week	29	30 Year 5 Incursion Starr Planetarium	31	1st June	2 St 3 Girls Soccer Gala day 2pm Assembly
7	5	6	7	8	9
8 Newsletter Week	12 KING'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	13 ACARA Item Trial Year 3	14 ACARA Item Trial Year 5	15 Year 5 Gold Rush Day - Incursion	16 9.15am Sacred Heart Mass ST 3 Boys Soccer Gala day Reports to parents
9	19 Parent/Teacher Interviews	20 Parent/Teacher Interviews	21 Parent/Teacher Interviews Whole School Athletics Carnival	22	23 2pm Assembly
10 Newsletter Week	26	27 Disco Stage 3	28 ST 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day Disco Infants	29 Disco Stage 2	30 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

STANDARD 1



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

Child safety is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture

Aim: Organisations prioritise child safety in what they say and do

Why is this Standard important?

Children are less likely to be exposed to abuse and harm when leadership is committed to providing safe environments.

Child safe values and practices guide the behaviour and attitudes of staff, creating a culture of child safety.

Leaders champion these values and embed them into organisational governance.

What should CSPD be doing?

Make a public commitment to child safety.

Leaders champion a child safe culture both within CSPD and the wider community.

Child safety is a responsibility shared by all staff.

Risk management focus on preventing, identifying and lowering risks to children.

Staff understand and comply with the behavioural standards when interacting with children set out in the Codes of Conduct.

Staff understand the obligations in relation to reporting, sharing information and record-keeping.

A good child safe culture requires all staff to be leaders in child safety.

What We're Doing

Including, but not limited to:

- Child-friendly [Safeguarding Commitment Statement](#) - available (via Oscar and CSPD website).
- Lines of authority and reporting available in the [Safeguarding Organisational Chart](#) (attached to the CSPD Safeguarding Procedures).
- Mandatory annual Safeguarding training for all staff.
- Targeted Safeguarding training for identified roles.
- Safeguarding is considered in all school excursion Risk Assessments.
- A CSPD Safeguarding Risk Management Plan, reviewed quarterly, which includes strategies focusing on prevention, identification and mitigation of risks to children.
- Schools complete mandatory compliance programs which incorporate the Safeguarding Standards.
- Provision of Information Sharing Guidelines and strict record keeping processes for Safeguarding information.
- Use of the Safeguarding Case Management System to support CSPD's obligations for record keeping.
- Safeguarding encouraged at school meetings and staff briefings.
- Safeguarding policies and procedures which include: [Safeguarding Procedures](#), [Code of Conduct](#), [Code of Conduct When Working with Children and Students](#), [Working With Children Check Policy](#), [Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services Policy](#), Acceptable Use of ICT and Social Media for Staff.

For further information, contact safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au or visit the Safeguarding Oscar page.

STANDARD 2: CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS AFFECTING THEM AND ARE TAKEN SERIOUSLY

**AIM: CHILDREN
ARE ENCOURAGED
TO SPEAK UP AND
ARE BELIEVED**

WHY IS THIS STANDARD IMPORTANT?

A child safe organisation:

- values children and identifies opportunities for their participation in decisions that affect them.
- supports children to take part in conversations about their safety, empowers children and is an indicator that organisations are child safe.

These factors give children the confidence and ability to speak up if they're feeling unsafe!

WHAT SHOULD CSPD BE DOING?

- Allow children to express their views and have opportunities to participate in decisions affecting their lives.
- Friendships are recognised as important and peer support encouraged, minimising isolation and improving feelings of safety.
- Provision of abuse prevention information and programs.
- Staff are responsive to signs of harm and respond in child-friendly ways, allowing children to communicate and raise their concerns.

WHAT WE'RE DOING - You can also check out our OSCAR PAGE!

- Student voice via the Tell Them From Me Survey. Data collected is analysed at school and system level.
- Provision of school based wellbeing counsellors.
- CSPD's Responsible Use of ICT and Social Media for Students.
- PDHPE Curriculum incorporating syllabus and resources in relation to protective behaviours for children and students.
- School based peer support programs
- Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Programs.
- Anti-bullying policies and procedures.
- Mandatory Safeguarding and Risk of Significant Harm Training.
- Regular e-safety sessions for students and parents.
- Student Leadership programs - Student Representative Councils at schools.
- Education program for students on their right to feel safe and to speak about their concerns.



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese



Mrs Taylor's Book Shop

**Our 2nd hand book shop
is looking for donations
of children's books.
If you have any children's books
in good condition,
which you no longer require,
we would love to share them
with the children.**

**You can leave them at the
school office
for Mrs Taylor.**

**Thank you for your
generosity.**





OLMC Parramatta
Production of



Disney **THE LITTLE MERMAID**

18, 19 & 20 May | Tickets \$25 - olmc.nsw.edu.au

Music by

**ALAN
MENKEN**

Lyrics by

**HOWARD & GLENN
ASHMAN SLATER**

Book by

**DOUG
WRIGHT**

Based on Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker
and written & directed by John Musker and Ron Clements

Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

NSW Primary All Schools Boys Netball 12 Years & Under Selection Trial

16 June 2023 - Term 2, Week 8

Registrations for this event close
5:00pm Friday 26 May 2023.

Cost

\$10.00 per student

Who

This trial is **only for primary school boys 12 years and under**. Boys can be 12, however must not be turning 13 in 2023. Boys enrolled in secondary school are **ineligible** to trial.

Registration

To apply for the Primary All Schools Selection Trial, complete the relevant online registration form on DASH ([NSW Government schools](#), [NSW Catholic schools](#), [NSW Combined Independent schools](#)) and make payment by the closing date, Friday 26 May 2023.

All boys who trial must be available, if selected, for the School Sport Australia Championships in Perth, Western Australia from 9 to 15 September 2023.



When and Where

Friday 16 June 2023

[NSW All Schools Primary Boys Netball selection trial](#)

Billbergia Sports Centre

9 Grand Avenue, Camellia 2142

This year the School Sport Unit will support the attendance of a Primary Boys Netball team at the inaugural School Sport Australia 12 years & Under Netball Championships in Perth, Western Australia.

Contact Information

Chris Kelleway

chris.kelleway@det.nsw.edu.au

9508 5527

