# THE GIRRAWEEN GAZETTE

#### Term 3 Week 10



Term 4 Dates: Tuesday 14 October to Wednesday 18 December

To keep up to date with our school community calendar, you can view our School Bytes Calendar.

#### <u>School Bytes Calendar</u>

### **Principals Report**

Where did Term 3? Along with our school being quickly demolished, it feels like the term has been jammed pack with events that saw students engaged in learning in many ways. From athletics carnivals, education week and 100 days of learning and multiple excursions our students have continued to be safe, respectful learners.

#### **New Build**

Thank you to the families who attended the information afternoon to see our new build, both inside and out. Our build team from Lipman have worked tirelessly to completely demolish the classrooms and have quickly begun the clean-up. Asbestos removal was completed and the safety of all staff and students was assured. We thank the team for their diligence.



#### Term 3 Week 10

### **Principals Report**

We are looking forward to our new building.





Zeki from K/6S helping with the clean up

#### New playground

To ensure our students have safe playgrounds, we have recently installed astro turf near the stage 3 demeountable for a few more soccer / football games to be played. The students have a roster to ensure that equity is seen and all students have a chance to use the space. We look forward to seeing many happy faces in this area over the remainder of 2024.



### **Principal's Report**

Finally, as the end of year approaches families are reminded that oversees travel is recorded as unjustified leave. All students K-6 are required to attend school until **Dec 18th.** Any questions should be sent to office admin for clarification.

<u>Please save the dates for</u> -: (subject to change if venues unavailable)

Thursday 10 December- Yr 6 Graduation and Farewell evening (students only)

Thursday 12 December- Yr 5 & 6 presentation day

Friday 13 December – K - 4 Presentation days

Student end of year celebrations will also take place on the following days (these events are for students only.)

- **December 2nd Year 3** Big Day In celebration at Kelly Park (lots of water and colour to celebrate a great year of learning- hosted by Motiv8 sports Parramatta)
- **December 3rd Year 4** Big Day In celebration at Kelly Park (lots of water and colour to celebrate a great year of learning hosted by Motiv8 sports Parramatta)
- **December 5th Year 5/6** Big Day In celebration at Kelly Park (lots of water and colour to celebrate a great year of learning hosted by Motiv8 sports Parramatta)
- **December 17th K-2** Movie Day at Wetherill Park Movies to celebrate a great year of learning

Have a safe and happy holiday. All Students return for **Term 4 MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER. We look forward to seeing everyone ON TIME, IN LINE BY 9AM ON THIS DAY.** 





### **Attendance Guidelines**

### Late Arrival to School:

Students are required to be at school and prepared for learning by 9.00am. If a student arrives late for any reason, they must first obtain a late note from the office before joining their class.

### Leaving School Early:

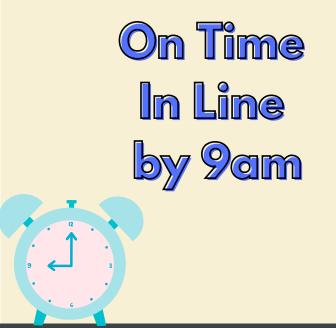
To sign out your child early, parents should visit the office to receive an early slip. It is advisable to arrange pick-up times outside of break periods. Parents are not allowed to enter the school grounds during breaks and are requested to collect their child at an appropriate time.

### Planned Absence:

For absences spanning from a full day to up to 10 days, please use School Bytes through the attendance tab for submission.

#### **Absence SMS:**

If your child is absent or late to school, you will receive an sms. This sms will link you to School Bytes where you can action any Unexplained Absences by selecting respond. Any absence not explained after 7 days will be recorded as an unjustified absence.



### **Moving Schools**

For families that will be leaving Girraween Public School, a Student Exit form must be completed prior to your departure.

A confirmation of enrolment from the child's new school will be required to complete exit formalities.

Complete the form below to notify the school of your intention to leave. <u>Student Exit Form</u>

### **School Bytes**

From 2024, we will be using a new school management system called School Bytes.

School Bytes provides a parent portal to help us communicate with you. We strongly recommend that you bookmark this page in your browser.

Learn More

### **Quick Links**

- Access the parent portal
- <u>Set up your parent portal</u>
- <u>Manage student absences</u>
- <u>School Bytes parent guides</u>



### **Administration News**

### **School Office**

Our school office is open from **8:30am to 3:15pm**. If you need to contact us, please feel free to reach out using the following details:

### Telephone: 02 9631 3650 Email: girraween-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

### New process for Applying for Extended Leave

The school will be introducing a new process for applying for extended leave. If your children will be absent from school for more than 10 days, an application for extended leave must be completed.

To apply for extended leave, you will simply navigate to the forms section on school bytes and complete a "GPS - Application for extended leave (Travel)".

As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences.

While a student is on leave, they are recorded as being absent from school. Although parents or carers may request learning materials during the period of leave, Girraween Public School will not provide any school work for absences.

All correspondence will then be communicated via email.

### School Canteen

Say goodbye to long queues with our convenient online canteen service! Save time and effortlessly place your canteen order online. To get started, please register or sign into your account using the following link: <u>https://www.munchmonitor.com/</u>

Important Note: Kindly note that the school canteen operates after school starts. To ensure your child receives lunch, please complete your online order prior to 9am. Late orders cannot be accepted, and it will be the responsibility of parents to ensure their child has lunch for the day. We appreciate your understanding.

For any issues or inquiries related to the canteen, please feel free to contact us: Telephone: 1300 796 190 Email: help@munchmonitor.com NSW Department of Education



# **Every Day Matters**



## When it comes to attending school, every day matters

If your child misses as little as **1 day per fortnight**, they will miss **4 weeks of school per year**, which adds up to over **1 year missed over their school life**.



Scan the QR code to learn more Make sure your child doesn't miss out on the important things like:



Learning



Strengthening friendships



Build skills through fun



## **Tell Them From Me - Parent Survey**

Parents at Girraween Public School are invited to access the 2024 Tell Them from Me survey by scanning or clicking on the QR code below. Make sure to have your say!









### Kindergarten

Kindergarten had a wonderful time visiting Calmsley Hill City Farm this term.

During their first bus trip they played 'I Spy' with their teachers. We saw lots of red trucks and even two purple cars! At the farm the experienced guides introduced the students to their resident animals: a mother Clydesdale horse and her foal; three different types of cows; very large and sleepy pigs; goats and their kids; a sleepy red fox; some very excited dogs and a friendly cat.

In the petting section the students got to walk around with some goats and lambs. A brave few gave the goats heads a little scratch! They were also lucky enough to gently touch a baby chick and rabbit. Students saw very large geese and some colourful ducks. They also got to milk a cow! Did you know cow's milk can make cheese, butter, icecream and yoghurt?

The farm is also home to some native Australian birds, a baby kangaroo and a couple of koalas. Near where they boarded the tractor for their farm tour, there were even some miniature ponies and a very large camel. By far their most favourite activity was the dusty tractor ride. Luckily no one lost their hat!

On the ride we saw some very large cows that had extremely long and pointy horns. After lunch they got to see some whip cracking. A lucky few got to try it. Then we watched some clever dogs herd the sheep. One of the sheep ended up being in the sheep shearing show. Did you know the shearer cuts the wool off the sheep in one full piece?





### Kindergarten

It was a very action packed day and the students had a wonderful time. A few students needed a little nap on the way home. A very successful first excursion with many more to come during their time at Primary School.





Year 1 have had a fun-filled, busy Term 3!

This term, students in Year 1 have continued with our "door-to-floor" routine each morning, beginning our phonics lessons within 60 seconds! We have been learning all about the long vowel /oa/ and long vowel /ay/ and how to read and write words quickly and accurately.

During our daily writing sessions, Year 1 students have been introduced to writing a complex sentence. We have also learned all about AUSLAN and the Braille writing system.

During our daily mathematics lessons, Year 1 have had a big focus on making groups with objects and sharing objects into groups! We have even learned how to create multiple arrays.

Finally, during our weekly PE Motiv8 lessons, Year 1 have been learning all about dance. We enjoyed to our disco celebration in Week 10!

Term 3 was a busy term for Year 1 events. We got to attend the K-2 Athletics Carnival and take part in the whole school book parade. Our favourite event this term has been our History excursion to Pioneer Village in Wilberforce!

**Mr Vitnell** Assistant Principal Year 1













### "Year 2 step back in time!"

Year 2 had amazing Spring weather for our excursion to The Australiana Pioneer Village. We got to experience and work through 7 different activities and stations which included a tractor ride to see the animals on a working farm, pumping water from an underground well, learning to do laundry by hand, making damper and butter all by hand.

We also go to visit shelters and homes from the past including a classroom that was 135 years old, a police station, a post office, shearing shed and a blacksmith shop.

Our adventures into the past made us feel very grateful and blessed to have electricity, running water and toilets that flush, just to name a few things.

The students have been able to consolidate their learning in history and have written amazing recounts about the day.

Pioneer Village is open on the weekends, it is run by amazing volunteers, so feel free to have a day out with the family if you want to experience life in the past too.











**Miss Khoury** Assistant Principal Year 1























In Week 9, Year 3 enjoyed a fun-filled day of learning at Clifton Gardens, Mosman. Linking with our Geography unit 'Places are Similar and Different', students examined the climate, features and characteristics of places in Australia such as national parks, beaches, bushland, oceans, rainforests and deserts; and heard different perceptions on how humans manage the environment in Australia and overseas.

#### **Activity 1: Waterworks**

Students got their hands all slimy with paint, shampoo, vegetable oil, talcum powder, sunscreen and water. Students looked at ways to protect our waterways sustainably and the importance of our rivers, creeks, beaches and lakes.

### **Activity 2: Bug Catching**

Students were given small clear jars with lids to catch anything creepy crawly they find – no spiders allowed! This activity demonstrated the biological diversity of environments and the variety of species that can live in habitats.

#### **Activity 3: Beach Habitats**

Students worked together in small teams to create an animal home for penguins, crabs, sea birds and other animals that live in this environment. This activity focused on the destructive human influence on the environment and why we must protect beach habitats for different species.

#### **Activity 4: Hand-reel Fishing**

Students used hand reels with bait to try to catch fish and other water-dwelling critters and examined the different species that live in the local environment.





















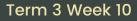








**Mrs Dawes** Assistant Principal Year 3





As we near the end of Term 3, we're excited to share the wonderful progress and engaging activities Year 4 students have been immersed in over these past weeks.

This term, Year 4 has been diving into the creative world of free verse poetry! Students have explored the books 'Fire' and 'Bindi', which have inspired their own poetic expressions. Through these texts, they have learned how to use vivid imagery, unique rhythm, and emotional language to craft their poems. Students have embraced the freedom of free verse, experimenting with form and content to express their thoughts and feelings in new and imaginative ways. We're excited to see their creative voices flourish as they continue to explore the art of poetry!

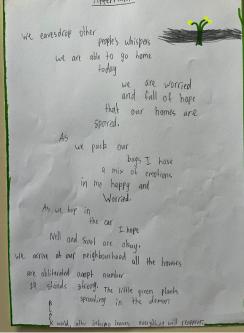
#### **Clifton Gardens Geography Excursion**

Year 4 experienced breath-taking scenery whilst examining the features and characteristics of different places and environments. Students participated in activities such as dip net fishing in a freshwater creek, bug catching, bushwalking and building beach habitats for turtles and penguins, investigating the ways people, places and environments interact. Students examined the characteristics of the location, observing the bushland, sand and sea.

Year 4 met Ranger Jamie's squad of taxidermy animals and learned about the importance of looking after places, examining differing perceptions about the management of places and environments. We had an incredibly exciting day in the great outdoors and a brand new appreciation for the environment we have in Australia!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education.









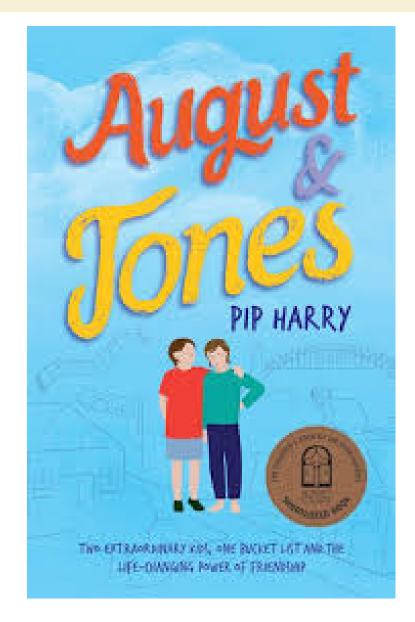
**Miss Bakker** Assistant Principal Year 4



Year 5 has had a wonderfully productive Term 3.

We have enjoyed many different learning opportunities. One particular topic the whole grade has enjoyed is our English unit of work based around Pip Harry's novel, "August & Jones". This is a truly heartwarming story about two unlikely friends navigating life's challenges together. August, a quiet boy with a love of nature, and Jones, an adventurous girl facing her own struggles, form a deep bond that helps them discover strength and resilience.

Set against themes of friendship, acceptance, and overcoming adversity, this book has offered our Yr 5 students valuable lessons on empathy and kindness. Students have enjoyed many different writing activities based on their readings. Here are a few samples of work for you to enjoy:







when I climbed it, my center prothesis fell cut. Fortundely, August anyth it. You should have seen the look on his face. It was like he never held an eye before! My heart will always stay in Cetten even

My least will always stay in Cetton even

From: Jones Kirby

Dear Hannah

#### How's school? How's Taylor?

Hall

I'm getting used to the loud and noisy city, but its really hard to sleep at night. I really miss Cotton Public School but this school is huge and cramped with hyper, curious monkeys. The first day everyone crowded me and started detonating questions! I felt like I was a tiny fish surrounded by hungry alligators. I've made a new best friend - August. He has really interesting facts and is good at knitting. I'm not too good at it. When I knit, my hand gets all loose and flies around when I'm making loops. My teacher is Miss F. She's so kind and sweet. From: your friend Jones Kirby





My name is August and I'm 11 years old. I'm writing this letter to you to show my admiration for what you have achieved and to express my gratitude for inspiring my friend, Jones and I.

I recently learnt about your motivational journey. I can't believe that after getting sensory neuropathy below your knee, you still go on to represent Australia in Paralympic Wheelchair Basketball. And you won the silver medal in the 3x3 women's tournament at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

You're the definition of resilience and determination and you really remind me of my friend Jones. When she was a toddler she lost her right eye to cancer and learnt that she has a tumor in her left eye. Despite this, Jones stays true to herself and still LOVES climbing. She is very resilient, just like you.

Jones and I were very inspired by you and we made a bucket list. All thanks to you, we're going to do the Bridge Run and climb Mount Kosciuszko, the highest mountain in Australia ( even though I'm terrified of heights). You have taught us to never leave our dreams behind. Your quote, 'I make the impossible possible,' has really stuck with me and stayed in my heart.

Your desire to be the best has inspired us to great limits.You're truly an astonishing role model.You have motivated Jones and I. So we have set ambitious goals together. Kind regards,

August Genting



#### Year 6 Camp

Year 6 camp was an unforgettable adventure for 160 students who embraced a variety of exciting activities over three action-packed days. Despite the rain that drizzled throughout most of the camp, the students displayed remarkable enthusiasm and resilience. They navigated the high ropes course, demonstrating courage and teamwork, and took to canoeing on the water with the giant fan activity added a thrilling twist. The highlight of the camp was the night disco, where students danced and celebrated together. On the final day, the sun emerged, bringing a bright end to an otherwise rainy camp. The sunny weather was a perfect backdrop for the closing activities, leaving students with lasting memories of a fun and adventurous camp experience.



### **Potato Olympics**

In the spirit of the Olympics, an event that brings people from all over the world together in the name of sportsmanship, determination, and teamwork. 6M added a little twist to the Olympic spirit with our very own. Potato Olympics! Just like the real games, students competed in a series of fun, creative, and exciting challenges—only this time, with potatoes as the star athletes! Whether it's potato races, curling, diving and relays, the focus is on having fun, working together, and learning about measurement and time.



Term 3 Week 10



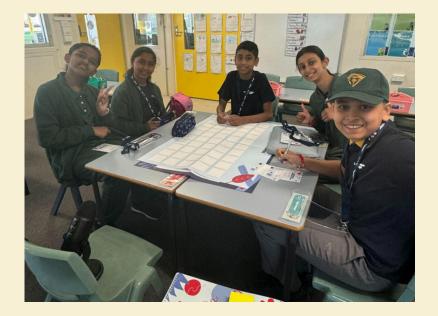
### Year 6

#### **Game Changer Challenge**

Last month, the Furious 5 competed against 120 teams in the semi-final round of the Game Changer Challenge. During the competition, we were asked to design a prototype to "make lives better for all without harming the environment." We developed a product that would stick on vehicles and use a vacuum-like motor to suck out rubbish and harmful dust particles from the road and footpaths. The rubbish will be burnt in an underground tunnel where the heat will be used to power up the city using its energy.

Our team was one of 20 teams that made it through to the Grand Finals! We've learned many valuable lessons that will be carried with us for the rest of our lives. Some of these lessons include caring for our environment, building on teamwork and even learning how to work amongst ourselves. This was truly a memorable experience. We are proud of what we have accomplished and are excited about what is ahead of us.

By: Aaradhya, Advika, Harshika, Jeremiah, Rudra



**Mrs Scerri** Assistant Principal Year 6



### **Multi-Stage Classes**

What we have been up to this term.

#### Literacy

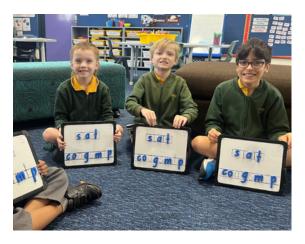
K/6A has been working very hard during our phonics learning. We have been learning how to identify phonemes, blending phonemes to read words and making words using different materials. The students' love for reading and making words has grown.

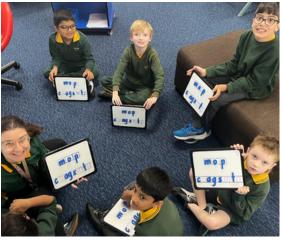
#### **Zones of Regulation**

Students have been participating in the Zones of Regulation program. This program helps us identify our own and others' feelings. We are learning body signs and signals for different zones and next term we will develop strategies that support us when we are experiencing different feelings and emotions.













### Cooking

Students practiced their life skills through a yummy cooking program. The students enjoy helping make a variety of healthy and yummy snacks.



#### **Motiv8 Sports**

The students really look forward to the Wednesday Motiv8 sports sessions. In Term 2, the activities helped us develop skills for the athletics carnival. This term students have been learning various dance moves.





#### Excursions

A few of our students were lucky enough to go excursions with their grades this term. Kindergarten students had an exciting day at the farm. Year 3 students went to Clifton Gardens on a beautiful sunny day and Year 6 went on camp.







### **Ms Robinson and Mrs Wakim** Assistant Principals Multi Stage



### Scrabble Club

On Sunday 25 August, three students from Girraween Public School competed in the Scrabble Tournament at Cabra-Vale Diggers Club. Students played many games of Scrabble against students from all over Australia. Here is what they had to say about the day.

In the Scrabble Tournament, I had a lot of fun and made many friends. The Scrabble Tournament was a bit difficult but I think I did awesome. It was 8 or 10 hours long but I honestly think that I smashed through it. In the first round, my opponent beat me by 500 points but in the second round, I beat my opponent by 70 points. After the tournament, I received a medal. Mrs Warner also gave me some books and a cute pencil for representing the school at the event. It was a long and busy day. My goal is to win more games the next time I play! I would rate the day a 10/10. Hemali D 3T

Hello everyone, my name is Sanvi. I am from Year 3 and I played seven games of Scrabble on the day. At the end, there was a presentation and we all got participation medals while the winners got a trophy. It was a memorable day because it was my first tournament! Sanvi S 3C

After competing in 7 consecutive Scrabble games, I felt proud of myself. I learnt that you always don't have to be a champion player to compete, you can simply just like Scrabble. It was an enlightening journey where I could freely experiment with new words, get the opportunity to play against seven players that came from all over Australia and have a great experience with the other students. Thanks to Miss Shum and Miss Khun for providing me a platform where I could improve and develop a love for a new game - Scrabble! Tanvi B 5B







### **R U OK? Day**

R U OK? Day is recognised on Thursday September 12. We encourage you to **Ask R U OK? Any Day** of the year because a conversation could change a life.

By having regular, meaningful conversations, you build trust and normalise talking about what's really going on, so when the people in your world find themselves struggling, they know you're someone they can talk to.

Just know that you are not alone!

Thank you for your generous donations. The money collected will be donated directly to R U OK?

#### SRC Committee



### **Outside School Hours Care**

### Newsletter





### 4/9/2024

### \*\*Register for Free and have a plan B\*\*

#### Last minute meeting? Stuck in traffic? Child free trip to the shops for dinner?

Did you know that by being registered for Camp Australia's OSHC service at your school you are able to make re-occurring and casual bookings including an on the day booking for those days where your fighting time and don't think your going to make it!

Alleviate the worry and register for free to ensure you have a welcoming, safe and fun filled plan B.

Also, a great source of school holiday reassurance with planned bookings for fun excursion outings and activities or fighting holiday boredom at home with a spontaneous day of social interaction.



### Your OSHC. ROCKETEERS

### **Benefits of OSHC:**

- Healthy breakfast and afternoon teas provided.
- Extend on or making new friendships.
- Learning through play.
- Exciting experiences and campaigns.
- Clubs such as gardening, cooking, Lego etc.
- Programs based on children's interests.
- Photo journal for families to follow the fun.

### Make a booking

Join in the fun of Outside School Hours Care activities and experiences with Your OSHC and Rocketeers.

Book now

### Register free and book in 24/7 via our app

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at <u>pp.campaustralia.com.au</u> or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.









### **School Holiday Activities** October 2024



#### **Mixed Media Artworks**

Create a breathtaking canvas artwork using a range of multimedia resources. Suitable for ages 13 to 18. Session runs from 2pm to 3pm

Auburn Library Monday 30 September

#### Rock Decorating

Transform ordinary rocks into captivating works of art. Suitable for ages 5 to 12.

Wentworthville Library Monday 30 September 2pm to 3pm

Merrylands Library Friday 11 October 10am to 11am

#### Dental Van

Drop in to understand the importance of oral health with your child and how to keep teeth healthy. Learn tips on tooth brushing, oral hygiene, and how to access free dental care. The dental team will be available to answer your questions and introduce children to the dental environment in their dental van. Suitable for ages 3 to 12. Session runs from 11am to 2pm Bookings are not required

Granville Library Tuesday 8 October

Pic tionar y Join us for a lively game of Pictionary and let the fun begin! Suitable for ages 10 to 13.

**Regents Park Library** Tuesday 1 October 2pm to 3pm Guildford Library

Thursday 3 October 10am to 11am Auburn Library

Friday 4 October 10am to 11am

#### Star Jars

Create a jar brimming with shimmering stars and embark on a whimsical star hunt throughout the library. Suitable for ages 5 to 12.

Lidcombe Library Tuesday 1 October 11am to 12noon **Greystanes** Library Friday 11 October 2pm to 3pm

**Recyclable Art** Create your own masterpiece using recycled books. Suitable for ages 8 to 12.

Merrylands Library Wednesday 2 October 2pm to 3pm Lidcombe Library

Tuesday 8 October 11am to 12noon

#### **Kids Create**

Join us to unleash your creativity and imagination. Suitable for ages 5 to 12.

#### Wentworthville Library Friday 4 October| 2pm to 3pm

Merrylands Library Tuesday 8 October 2pm to 3pm Auburn Library

Thursday 10 October 11am to 12noon



Empower your mind, body and soul with Yoga.

#### Wentworthville Library Tuesday 8 October

Session 1 (Ages 7 to 11):

10am to 10:45am

Session 2 (Ages 12 to 16):

#### 11am to 11:45am Canva Comics Take 2

Learn how to use Canva to create a basic comic to take home. You must have an email address to access Canva. Suitable for ages 10 to 17.

Session runs from 2pm to 3pm

Auburn Library Wednesday 9 October

For more information, please scan the QR code or visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/library-holidays

All bookings are required unless otherwise stated.

Bookings will open one week prior at 9am.
Please aim to arrive 10 minutes beforehand so that each session can begin on time.
All children must always be accompanied by an adult.
Parents of children under 13 years of age must remain on the premises while the session

#### **Cumberland City Council**

16 Memorial Avenue, PO Box 42, Merrylands NSW 2160. T 8757 9000 W cumberland.nsw.gov.au E council@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

#### Design and Makey pouncil Sydne Diciverare indeence **New World** Workshop

Design and create an entirely new world of your own discovery. Suitable for ages 6 to 12.

Guildford Library Wednesday 2 October 11am to 12noon **Regents Park Library** 

Thursday 10 October 2pm to 3pm

#### Sydney Thunder

Join the Sydney Thunder cricket team for a fun afternoon of games and reading. Suitable for ages 6 to 12. Sessions runs from 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Granville Library Wednesday 2 October Wednesday 9 October



For more information, please scan the QR code or visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/library-holidays Turn over for more activities

# is in progress.

Join us for free support from Youthsafe,

a Government-Approved Driver Licensing Access Provider who provide young people with: · Help to prepare for their Driver

- Knowledge Test
- A fee exemption letter for the Driver Knowledge Test · Reimbursement of the cost of their
- Learner Licence Complimentary access to professional
- driving lessons up to the value of \$150 Suitable for ages 15 to 18.

Merrylands Library Thursday 3 October 11am to 12noon

Regents Park Library Wednesday 9 October 2pm to 3pm

#### Marble Run

Create and construct your very own marble run. Suitable for ages 6 to 12. Session runs from 11am to 12noon

Guildford Librar Thursday 10 October



WESTERN SYDNEY





## UNLEASH YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

Combine fun, friendship, and skill-building

Make the school holidays extraordinary with our Football Holiday Clinics and Camps, ideal for new and existing players aged 5-16. These clinics, running across Western Sydney, combine fun, friendship, and skill-building in a vibrant team setting.

