PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Accelerated Reading Program
I am always interested in what the boys are reading and I have had some really interesting conversations over the past week about the Accelerated Reading Program. One Year 8 boy this week told me about enjoying JK Rowling’s ‘A Casual Vacancy’. This is an adult novel that he is finding both challenging and enjoyable. Another boy in Year 7 was eagerly reading John Green’s romance novel ‘The Fault in our Stars’. Both boys told me that the reason for their choice of novel was due to it being placed on their individualised reading list through the reading program. Without this program and Ms Mitchell our librarian recommending texts that are at the boys’ individual reading level or ZPD, (Zone of Proximal Development) neither boy would have chosen these books.

Library Launch
It is wonderful to see the boys so readily engaging with this program, choosing challenging material that extends their learning and experiencing different genres. We will be officially launching this program and holding a formal opening ceremony for our newly renovated school library on Monday. Jo Haylen MP, member for Summer Hill, will join us to celebrate this important development for our school.

Year 11 and 12 Parent and Teacher Interviews
Can I please remind parents with sons in Years 11 and 12 about the Parent and Teacher Evening next Tuesday. Online booking information is in this edition of Ashtag. We consciously hold this evening for senior students as early in the year as possible to maximise communication between school and home. Even though your son may feel that he is “too big” now for such a conversation this isn’t correct. I urge you to book appointments and discuss your son’s progress in the HSC.

Dwayne Hopwood
Principal

---

117 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield
Tel. 9798 6620
Email: ashfieldbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
FIRST LOOK AT PLASTICS

The ‘First Look at Plastics’ project introduces the students to acrylic and its characteristics. Through their own focused practical task, students will practice their newly learnt skills of using hand tools and then hone these skills in a final piece which they design and make for themselves. By analysing their work at a variety of stages during the project students have time to reflect on their progress. They are always successful and have pride in their achievements.

Alex Bu is checking the squareness of a piece acrylic to make his own business card holder.

Mr Mahmud
TAS Teacher
8 HERMES
REDESIGN A CLASSROOM

Using their knowledge of length and area the students of 8 Hermes measured and brainstormed how to redesign a current classroom.

In the process of redesigning the classroom students learnt how to draw a floor plan and they also figured out the cost of materials to complete the project.

Derek Chu
Mathematics Teacher
ASHFIELD BOYS CARD ARENA

In the past two weeks Ashfield Boys has held two card tournaments for students after school. Here are some snap shots of the competition!

Card games allow students of different grades to bond over a similar interest.

They also build on many skills which students learn at school.

From simple arithmetic in calculating attack and defences, to complex problem solving figuring out what is the most likely combination of cards their opponents may possess and how best to proceed with what information is presented on the board.

The students also had lots of fun.

Derek Chu
Mathematics Teacher
Today in our Year 10 Visual Arts class, we studied the concepts of Abstract Art and put our thoughts into play. Many of us were delighted to conduct our interior mindset towards the canvas, expressing our emotions in a vibrant burst of colour and technique. Overall, the lesson was exciting and exhilarating.

Kishan Kharka
Year 7 Music Students have recently been learning about percussion instruments and graphic notation. These photos show the boys in 7 Music 7 creatively interpreting graphically notated pieces of music in groups. They played a variety of percussion instruments in order to sound like stormy weather. They will shortly be creating, notating and performing original pieces of percussive music.

S Museth
Year 7 Music Teacher
BUDDING SCIENTISTS AT ABHS

This term has been a busy and enjoyable one for both Year 8 and Year 11 Biology students.

Ms El-Rakshy
As part of the Wellbeing programs at ABHS, Canterbury Girls High School and Ashfield Boys High School are conducting joint programs throughout the year. The first of these programs will be taking place at ABHS on Friday 1st April. Year 7 students from both schools will be participating in a range of team building, communication and decision making activities. The Year 10 peer mentors will be facilitating the activities under the supervision of staff from both CGHS and ABHS. We look forward to working closely with CGHS in order to develop interpersonal skills in all students.

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**VACCINATIONS FOR YEAR 7**

**NSW Schools Vaccination Program-Round 1 Tuesday 17th May 2016**

A reminder to parents regarding the Vaccinations Program

**Year 7 students** will be having the first vaccination on **Tuesday 17th May 2016** during Periods 1 and 2. The vaccination is for the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and dTPa.

Representatives from the NSW School Vaccination Program will attend Ashfield Boys High School from 8.30-10.30am. I have included a link (see below) to the NSW Department of Health, which provides information regarding the school vaccination program in 26 languages and may be of assistance.


If you have any questions, please call Ms Brown during school hours on 97986620 (Extension 120).

Regards

*Ms Brown*

Head Teacher Welfare
Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 5th April 2016

Dear Parents

Year 11 and 12 Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at 3.30pm – 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th April in the school hall.

For parents that do not have internet access, please contact the school on 9798 6620 and our Technical Support Officer Sam Muthiah (extension 125) will assist with your bookings or alternatively, your son can see Sam with a note outlining the times and teachers. Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

To make a parent/teacher/student interview booking go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions. Bookings are now open.

Simply enter the code and press “Go”

1. Enter your details

2. Select the teachers you wish to see

3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click FINISH, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close on Tuesday 5th April at 2pm.
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2016

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each child’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 10 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 11 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 12 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
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<td>Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 13 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>language conventions reading 40 minutes 46 minutes</td>
<td>writing 40 minutes numeracy 45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions reading 40 minutes 50 minutes</td>
<td>writing 40 minutes numeracy 50 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions reading 45 minutes 65 minutes</td>
<td>writing 40 minutes numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions reading 45 minutes 65 minutes</td>
<td>writing 40 minutes numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.

www.nap.edu.au
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117 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield
Tel. 9798 6620
Email: ashfieldbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Help Wanted

The P&C will be holding its first fundraiser for the year on Friday April 22nd. (This is in the school holidays). The money raised will go to fund the prizes for the Year 7 Reading programme. We will be holding a BBQ at Bunning’s Ashfield from 7.30 am - 5 pm.

Volunteers are required to help set up, man the BBQ, sell food & drink. Generally we have shifts for 1 hour -2 hours but feel free to come for as long as you are able. I will be coordinating the volunteer roster. Please note students are welcome but must be over 16 to cook on the BBQ. If you can’t help on the day people will be needed to source meat and onions as well as buy drinks.

Please contact me on abhs_pandc@hotmail.com or nurseclarke@yahoo.com if you are available to help.

Looking forward to a fun day.

I have included a roster below but if people can only do part of the shift that is fine. We found last year that the 11:30—3:30 time probably needed more people anyway.

As above if you are able to help email to either one of the emails and I’ll get back to you.

Thanks in advance.

Louise Brooks
Vice President P&C

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<td>Assembly Point</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Opposition</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Badminton 2nd</td>
<td>RBHS Gym</td>
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<td>Badminton U15's</td>
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<td>Randwick</td>
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<td>Football 1st</td>
<td>Paine Reserve</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
<td>McCusker Belle-Page</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Football 2nd</td>
<td>Paine Reserve</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
<td>McCusker Belle-Page</td>
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<td>Football U15's A</td>
<td>Heffron Park</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
<td>Pool</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>Football U14's A</td>
<td>Centenary Park East</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
<td>Lam</td>
<td>12:15</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Football U13's A</td>
<td>Centenary Park West</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
<td>Phillips</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>Football U13's B</td>
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<td>Rugby 1st</td>
<td>EBHS Epping</td>
<td>Epping</td>
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<td>Rugby U15's</td>
<td>Marsfield 2</td>
<td>Epping</td>
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<td>Rugby U14's</td>
<td>Ashfield Park</td>
<td>Epping</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Rugby U13's</td>
<td>Ashfield Park</td>
<td>Epping</td>
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<td>N</td>
<td>Table Tennis 2nd</td>
<td>RBHS Hall</td>
<td>Randwick</td>
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<td>O</td>
<td>Table Tennis U15's &amp; U14's</td>
<td>RBHS Hall</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Tennis U15's &amp; U14's</td>
<td>East Courts</td>
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<th>Z</th>
<th>Sick or Injured With Note</th>
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<th>Reid</th>
<th>Assemble at 12:30</th>
<th>Start</th>
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<td>Assembly Point</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Coach</td>
<td>Assemble and Sit in Year 7</td>
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<td>Futsal</td>
<td>ABHS Oval</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>Year 7 Quad</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>ABHS Canteen Area</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Badminton NSW</td>
<td>ABHS Oval (Gym side)</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Basketball Years 7-8</td>
<td>ABHS Outdoor Court</td>
<td>Tenefrancia Zimaras</td>
<td>12:30</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Basketball Years 9-10</td>
<td>Hammond Park</td>
<td>Zhang Curran</td>
<td>12:30</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Frisbee/ Football</td>
<td>Hammond Park</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Karate</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
<td>Jones</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Multi-Sport</td>
<td>Hammond Park</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Ashfield Pool</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Power Yoga</td>
<td>F2/F3</td>
<td>Marks</td>
<td>12:30</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Theatre Sport</td>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Whitting</td>
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<td>Sick or injured With Note</td>
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**Futsal – Olympic Park Sports Centre**
- booking times:
  2, 9, 23, 30 March
  27 April
  4, 11, 25 May
  1, 22, 29 June

**Volleyball - Olympic Park Sports Hall**
- booking times:
  27 April
  4, 11, 18, 25 May
  1, 8, 15, 22, 29 June

**Table Tennis- Olympic Park Sports Hall**
- booking times:
  27 April
  4, 11, 18, 25 May
  1, 15, 22, 29 June

**Badminton - Olympic Park NSW Netball**
- Available from 27 April
Keep Calm and Seize the Day

Join our two part interactive workshop on how to better understand and improve your mood.

We Shall be:
- Learning about Sleep Hygiene
- Discussing techniques to improve your mood.
- Trying out new and creative ways to express your emotions.

When
April 20th and 21st 2016 -
Wednesday & Thursday: 1pm–4pm

Where
headsace Ashfield, Basement Level, Ashfield Civic Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield, NSW, 2131.

Contact
Sheri (headsace) - (02) 9193 8000

We are proud to partner with Youth off the Streets - inner West Youth Homelessness Service to deliver a series of interactive workshops throughout 2016

headsace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health under the Youth Mental Health Initiative
# School Holiday Program for 12-25 year olds
## April 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fri April 8</th>
<th>Sat April 9</th>
<th>Mon April 11</th>
<th>Tues April 12</th>
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<td>Hip Hop Dance</td>
<td>Hip Hop Dance</td>
<td>Self Defence</td>
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<td>7 – 8 pm</td>
<td>10 – 11 am</td>
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<td>10 – 11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>@ Ashfield Town Hall</td>
<td>@ Ashfield Aquatic Centre</td>
<td>@ Ashfield Town Hall</td>
<td>@ Headspace Ashfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashfield Youth Theatre is joining forces with some Funky Seniors to bring you an evening of theatrical hilarity for the whole family.</td>
<td>Learn the basics of this popular style, beginning with simple movements and progressing to more challenging routines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yoga</td>
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<tr>
<td>@ Ashfield Civic Centre</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All activities are FREE but bookings are essential.

Bookings can be made on Ashfield Council website via Eventbrite, or search for the activities individually on www.eventbrite.com.au

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Tel: (02) 9716 1800  210 Liverpool Road Ashfield NSW 2131
Fax: (02) 9716 1911  P O Box 1145 Ashfield NSW 1800

www.ashfield.nsw.gov.au

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# Youth Week 2016

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Ashfield Youth Theatre is joining forces with some Funky Seniors to bring you an evening of theatrical hilarity for the whole family.

Learn the basics of this popular style, beginning with simple movements and progressing to more challenging routines.

Learn the basics of this popular style, beginning with simple movements and progressing to more challenging routines.

A practical hands on workshop that incorporates basic elements of Taekwondo, Jujitsu & Kickboxing.

Yoga postures integrated with western physiological adjustments developed for teens and taught in the flowing Vinyasa style.