

# The Junction Journal

The Junction Public School  
Union Street Merewether 2291

Phone 4963 1343

Email: [thejunction-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thejunction-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Principal: Cath Larkman

19/10/2022

## From the desk of Mrs Larkman

Hello to our Parents and Carers,

It is Term 4 already and some people are talking about Christmas! I am ignoring this for the time being!

### Term 4 reminders

During this term we begin to consider class placements for 2023. Due to this we need our 2023 enrolments to be as up to date as possible. If you know of anyone moving into, or out of the area, could you please ask them to contact our front office.

If you have a special placement request to assist your child's learning in 2023, please let Mrs Dianne Edwards know. Mrs Edwards keeps an excel document to assist stage Assistant Principals when they begin to construct classes for the following year. It would also be appreciated if you could communicate these requests to your 2022 class teacher.

Please be aware that, while we attempt to place your child with a friend, our focus is on quality learning opportunities. Making new friends is a life skill and we expect all our students to be open to this.

There has been a recent directive which has varied the final day of school for students in 2022. Students last day for the year will be Friday, December 16.

### Grandparents Day

We look forward to holding this special event this year and welcoming grandparents back to school and into our classrooms. It is scheduled for Friday morning October 28. Invitations will be sent out this week.

### Halloween Celebrations

We thank our wonderful P&C for getting this event organised. They really like to see our children have fun experiences. I have a sneaking suspicion that Mr Mark Duffield-Thomas enjoys it too, judging by the werewolf who attended our Monday morning assembly. Please help them by volunteering on the night. You will have information either by your class apps or skoolbag.

### Motto – Student Responses

We have included these responses in this newsletter. As Principal, I will now look back over all quantitative, qualitative, and anecdotal data from our stakeholder groups to decide our next step forward.

Cath Larkman, Principal



Artwork by Aunty Michelle Earle  
commissioned by TJPS in 2018

**We respectfully acknowledge that this newsletter comes to you from Awabakal land. In communicating how we learn, teach, and lead, we acknowledge and pay respect to elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of this land on which we are all privileged to live, work, and learn.**

### In this issue

#### Mrs Larkman's message

Term 4 and planning for 2023  
Grandparents Day and Halloween  
Disco  
Motto update

#### Ms Emmington's message

Selective High – Yr. 7 2024  
Tell Them From Me Survey  
Your Contact details  
Kindergarten 2023 Orientation

### In every issue

#### Front Office information – Page 5

Money collection  
Absences  
Extended Leave  
Early leavers / Late arrivals  
Medication at school  
Uniform Shop

#### Attendance – Page 8

#### Music News – Page 9

#### Learning Gallery – Page 10

#### Community Message Board – Page 12

## Motto Responses – Year 6 Students (20/9/2022)

60 Year 6 students took part in the discussion and feedback session. This represents 69% of year 6 students.

Of the respondents:

- 87% think the school badge and motto are an important part of our school
- 3% don't think they're important
- 10% are unsure

Of the respondents:

- 83% understand what the motto means
- 2% don't know what the motto means
- 15% are unsure

Most students were able to write 3 reasons why people wanted to keep the school motto the same.

Most students were able to write 3 reasons why people wanted to change the school motto.

These short answers indicated that most students were able to see both sides of the issue.

Of the respondents:

- 50% of students said they would change the motto
- 38% of students would keep the motto the same
- 12% didn't mind or were undecided

Of the respondents:

- 18% from both decision groups suggested a small change to the word 'Man'
- 10% from both decision groups suggested a different motto

## **From the desk of Ms Emmington**

**It is wonderful to be back.** I spent a fair bit of Term 3 travelling the Northern Territory on Larrakia and Jawoyn Country and then travelled back home to the Central Coast from Far North Queensland along our magnificent coastline. Always a wonderful experience.

Visiting classrooms over the past week, students have talked to me about their own family travels and the special family experiences they have had during the last school holidays. Others have told me all about the events of last term and the learning they did. Swapping stories is always special as it provides us all with that special sense of belonging to a community and feeling welcomed back. I want to acknowledge all our staff who work so hard to bring not just exceptional lessons every day to the classroom but special events throughout each term to enhance that learning.

Being back means diving back into all the experiences and events that make up our Learning community in Term 4 2022. It is the time of year when we start to reflect on our experiences and what we have achieved over the past year, so to help us reflect, we would like to hear from you. Please click the link for the **Tell Them from Me Survey** on P 3. Keep scrolling for information on Kindy Orientation, Year 7 2024 Selective High applications, Attendance matters, the success of the Run for Reading challenge and much more...

Connie Emmington, Deputy Principal

## **Upcoming Events**

### **TERM 4**

#### **Tuesday Oct 11- Friday October 21**

Stage 1 Swimming School

#### **Wednesday October 19**

BandFest - Concert Band

#### **Thursday October 20**

BandFest - Primary & Premier Bands

#### **Friday October 21**

Bandfest – Percussion, Strings and Jazz Ensembles

Early Stage 1 Carnival Fun Day

#### **Friday October 28**

Grandparents Day

Halloween Disco P&C

#### **Wednesday - Friday November 2-4**

Great Aussie Bush Camp – Year 4

#### **Tuesday November 15**

Kinder 2023 Orientation session 1

#### **Thursday December 1**

Music Presentation night

#### **Tuesday December 6**

Kinder 2023 Orientation session 2

#### **Friday December 9**

Charity Day

#### **Monday December 12**

Year 6 Farewell

#### **Tuesday December 13**

Presentation Day

#### **Wednesday December 14**

Year 6 Party Day

#### **Friday December 16**

Students last day of term

(please note change of date)

Year 6 Clapout

#### **Monday & Tuesday Dec19 & 20**

Staff Development days

## Selective High Schools – applications open Year 7 2024

Year 5 parents and carers – important information and key dates are now available - **Please see the flyer in this newsletter on pages 6-7.**

### Tell Them From Me Survey

This Term, our school will be participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted in Term 4. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at:  
[education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm](http://education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm)

To access the survey for our school go to  
<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/v3574>

The survey is available in 23 languages and closes on 4 November 2022.

### Attendance Matters – see the important infographic on P 8

Contact details – are your contact details up to date? Sometimes we will need to contact you, including on the day that your child is absent and if you haven't notified the school with a reason for your child being away.

If your contact details are out of date or if you're not sure, please contact the school on phone 4963 1343 so we can update our records and can contact you quickly when we need to.

Please include parent/carers name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details. Please remember to contact the school if any of these details or your circumstances change. This is particularly important so we can work together to protect the wellbeing of our students through the reporting and monitoring of student absences.

### OUR STAFF

Principal – Cath Larkman  
Deputy – Connie Emmington

### Kindergarten

KC – Jody Cooper  
KG – Sarah Griffiths  
KB – Tess Barns / Louise Searant  
KH – Angie Harris - AP

### Stage 1

1L – Amy Lalic  
1 /2A – Alison Smoother  
2MC – Nina McLeod/ Nicole Jones  
2S – Nicholas Savage  
1C – Laura Chaffey - AP

### Stage 2

3S – Olivia Smith  
3A – Mark Alcock  
3L – Aleisha Ladkin  
3 /4B – Lucy Bourne  
4LC – Phillipa Campbell/ Holly Lynch  
4G – Katrina Gardoll

Jo-Anne Ellis - AP

### Stage 3


5C – Lisa Campey  
5S – Kate Spring  
5FW – Kate Farrell / Sarah Wilson  
6R – Michael Radnidge  
6M – Josh Pidutti  
6L – Matthew Liles - AP

### Learning and Support

Connie Emmington – LST Coordinator  
Luke Sparksman - Maths  
Claire Edwards – Yrs 4-6  
Lauren Audsley – Yrs K-3  
Michelle Morrison – CILSP  
Sara Willoughby/Hannah Titchmarsh – Library  
Alison Tonkin – Music  
Linda Whiteside – Counsellor

### School Learning Support Officers

Di Edwards  
Theresa Koitka  
Belinda Scorgie  
Emma Lovegrove  
Pam Parkes /Sophie Laing  
Liam Begnell



# KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Save the Dates

NOVEMBER 15TH & DECEMBER 6TH

9:10AM UNTIL 10:45AM

MEET OUR YEAR 5

WORK & PLAY IN OUR CLASSROOMS

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS TO MEET OTHER PARENTS AND GRAB A COFFEE OFF SITE.

**Reminder from Kindergarten and Mrs Griffiths...**

**Kindergarten Fun & Games** (for current students)  
 We would love for you to come and play some games and have some fun with us out in the sunshine. Activities will run from 11am to 1pm. You are then welcome to stay and have a picnic lunch with your child/children. Students are to wear sports uniform/joggers.

**When: Friday October 21 2022**

**Time: 11:20am-1pm**

We look forward to seeing you!

*Sarah Griffiths*



## Information from the Front Office Team...

☑ **LOST PROPERTY** It is disheartening to see the number of jackets, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles with no names on them that we are receiving everyday in the lost property boxes. Without names, these items cannot be returned to students. Please ensure that all items have student's names that are **clearly written**, thank you.

Band and Strings Ensemble Fees are now due for Term 4 and overdue for Terms 1, 2 and 3

### **Money collection for excursions & events**

The preferred payment option is through the "Make a Payment" tab on the school website.

A new feature on our excursion notes is a QR Code to take you directly to the Make a Payment tab

All cash payments to come straight to the office, this includes: - Band fees, School books, Excursion money etc. There is a "Payments" slot at the front counter in the school office – students are to post payments in this slot. Any money that is sent to school must be in a sealed envelope with your "Child's name and class" on the front and details of the event you are paying. The school accepts cash, (exact amount only), cheque or we have EFTPOS facilities in the office. Please note that the school EFTPOS facility is only available for school payments and not P&C items – such as the Uniform Shop.

**If you use the online option, please make sure you still return permission notes to school.**

### **Absences**

Any absence from school must be explained. The Skoolbag App and Sentral Portal are a great way to advise the school of student absences, or alternatively phone the school, send an email or write a note. Each day at around 10am, the school sends out an SMS alert to parents of any child who has an unexplained absence for that day. Please refrain from using class apps like Class Dojo to explain absences as the teacher may not be at school or they are teaching and unable to read the Dojo message before 10am.

### **Extended Leave**

If you are going away and leave is over (5) school days, you must complete an "EXTENDED LEAVE FORM" (available from the office) prior to your leave.

### **Late Arrivals / Early Leavers**

School hours are from 8.55am to 3pm. The first assembly starts at 8.55am. If children arrive later than 8.55am, they need to present **with a parent** to the office to provide late arrival information to office staff. A 'Purple Partial Slip' is then taken to the class teacher. Similarly, if children need to leave early for the day, parents must buzz the intercom at Union Street for the gate to be opened. Admin staff will call the classroom for your child to come up to the office area to be collected. **Please try to avoid early departures during recess (11.00 -11.20am) and lunch breaks (1.00 -1.50pm) as it can be quite difficult to locate your child in the playground.**

### **Medication at School**

The office is only able to administer 'prescribed medication' to students. This means medication that has been prescribed by a doctor. This medication must be left in the package provided, clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage. If medication is required, a parent will need to come to the office and complete a Prescribed Medication Indemnity form.

### **STAFF ARE NOT ABLE TO ADMINISTER PANADOL OR NON PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.**

All COVID information for parents can be found here:

[COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19)

### **In the Office**

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

8:30AM TO 3:15PM

School Email: [thejunctionp.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thejunctionp.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **SCHOOL SECURITY**

ph: 1300 880021

### **Office Team**

Dianne Edwards

Amanda Brake

Angela Bowen

Kathy McInnes

Lesley Janissen

### **General Assistant**

Tom Jervis

### **In the Community**

#### **November P&C Meeting**

7pm Tuesday November 1 2022

#### **P&C Contact email**

Mark Duffield-Thomas, President  
[president@junctionpandc.org](mailto:president@junctionpandc.org)

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

ONLINE ORDERING!

[www.tjpsuniform.com](http://www.tjpsuniform.com)

#### **Secondhand Uniform Donations**

Donations accepted are bomber jackets, polo fleece jumpers, red polo shirts and black sport shorts and black tracksuit pants. We are unable to accept donations of white shirts or tunics.

Email the Uniform Shop:

[tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com](mailto:tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com)

PLEASE ASSIST WITH DELIVERY OF UNIFORM ORDERS BY PUTTING YOUR **CHILD'S NAME** on the order. No parent names please.

# Selective High School Applications 2024

NSW Department of Education



## Information for applicants

For entry to selective high schools in Year 7 in 2024

Ready to apply?	Key Dates
<p>Apply online at: <a href="https://shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au">shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au</a></p> <p>Note: there may be changes to the dates and procedures in this document.</p> <p>For the latest updates visit: <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc">education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc</a></p>	<p>Application website opens 18 October 2022</p> <p>Application website closes 16 November 2022</p> <p>Test centre and test authority advice released 20 April 2023</p> <p>Selective High School Placement Test 4 May 2023</p> <p>Illness/misadventure requests submitted 11 May 2023</p> <p>Placement outcome expected to be released Mid-August 2023</p>

education.nsw.gov.au



# How to apply

Applications are open from  
18 October 2022 – 16 November 2022

## Parents must apply by using the online application form

Start your application here:

[shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au](https://shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au)

### Steps to apply

1. Please use one of the following supported browsers: Google Chrome (Windows 10), Firefox (Windows 10), MS Edge (Windows 10), Safari (MacBook pro), Safari (iPad air 2 - iOS 13.6.1), Safari (iPhone 8 - iOS 13.6.1), Samsung Internet (Samsung Galaxy phone).
2. Go to the application site at: <https://shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au/> and register your own name and email address and create a password. You will receive an email to verify your registration. You have not applied until you have completed the application form and submitted it.
3. Go to the application site and log in using the email address and the password you provided.
4. Create an application.
5. You will be given an application number in the format S23012345.
6. Complete the application in full, ensuring you have ticked the declaration boxes, and select 'submit'. A 'Submitted' status will show once you have submitted the application.
7. Upload any required documents if relevant, such as medical reports to support a request for reasonable adjustments for the test.
8. Check that you received an email confirming that you have successfully submitted your application.
9. Log in to your application at any time to check all details are accurate and to make changes, including uploading documents, or to send and receive messages. Select the three dots under the 'Action' column to the right of your listed application to select options to view or edit the application details, or later to access online forms for illness/ misadventure or appeals. Remember to submit again each time you make a change, especially changes to school choices, or there will be no record of it.
10. If you forget your password you can reset it in the application dashboard.

### Fees

There are **no fees** for submitting an application.

There are **no extra fees** for attending a selective high school, unless your child is a boarder. Schools may ask for contributions towards the cost of materials for some subjects, as do other government high schools.

After applying, you will be able to log into your [Application dashboard](#) to change details and send and receive messages.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

NSW Department of Education

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

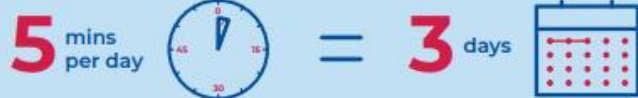


## Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss days per year



[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.



# Let's Make Music

Information about Band, Strings and Choir Ensembles



## STRING ENSEMBLE

Late last term, our String Ensemble gave a wonderful performance at the Newcastle Cathedral. The children played beautifully and were fine representatives of our school as they listened to others perform. It is hoped that we will be invited again next year to join the Newcastle Strings concert. It was lovely to have an ex-student, Amelie perform with us and see current students continuing to shine as part of the Newcastle Strings Ensemble. Thank you to Mrs Bevan and Ms Porter for their continued support of our musicians.

## FRIDAY MORNING CONCERT BAND REHEARSAL CANCELLED Week 2 Only

Please be aware that our involvement in Bandfest will mean we are NOT able to hold our Friday Morning Concert Band Rehearsal.

## YEAR 2 Expression of Interest for Band/Strings 2023

During Year 2 music classes, Miss Tonkin is beginning to introduce the children to the instruments we use in band and will soon hold an **audition day**. If your child is interested in joining band in 2023, you might like to have a look at our [Band Information Guide](#) on our school website.

Kind Regards,

*Angie Harris*



## Upcoming Events

# Bandfest

Now on  
at  
Warners Bay Theatre

**Concert Band**  
Wednesday Oct 19

**Primary Band**  
Thursday Oct 20

**Premier Band**  
Thursday Oct 20

**Percussion/String/Jazz  
Ensembles**  
Friday Oct 21

## Save The Date

**Thursday December 1st**  
Band Presentation Night  
@ The Conservatorium of  
Music



# Learning Gallery

## PACER Info

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributes funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. (Please note that TJPS factored this reduction into the cost of the excursion, and it has already been accounted for).

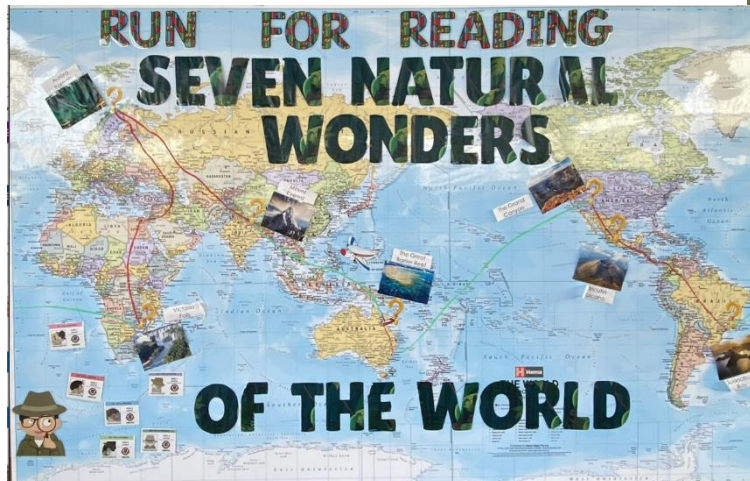
Mr Liles, Assistant Principal (Stage 3)

## Run 4 Reading



Wow, what a journey we have had! We set out at the beginning of Term 3 to run 33 788km and we achieved our goal with flying colours. It is great to see that

some classes are continuing to work on their fitness and mindfulness this term by continuing their running. It made me smile to overhear some students talking about how much they miss their running and they are glad to be back.



This journey for us was not just about fitness but about the connections to our learning. Throughout the term we learnt all about the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and gained a deeper understanding about one wonder per grade. We were able to link our Key Learning Areas such as Maths, English, Science, Geography and History, not to mention PE. As we completed our Secret Journals we applied our mapping skills, learnt about the continents, countries flags and facts about each natural wonder.

Every week we looked forward to a special message from Secret Agent T, where we were given hints to our new clues. Secret Agent T has kept us updated on our Sponsorship money total.

**Congratulations to everyone as we have raised \$17801 for new quality literature in our classrooms. This amount continues to grow!**

Despite a few hiccups along the way we were able to celebrate our final day with family and friends. It was wonderful to see our families back in classrooms and sharing our students learning. I know the students were very excited to share their learning and show off their work. As always, our wonderful P&C supported our event with a delicious BBQ. They cooked and sold around 700 sausages on the day!

A program like Run for Reading is only a success when we all come together. A huge thank you to:

Our teaching staff for embedding the program in their classrooms

Our GA, Brad for marking out our track throughout the term

Our office ladies for counting the sponsorship money and supporting students delivering messages each week

Our wonderful P&C for always being on hand and supporting our school events

Our school community and families for your sponsorship and sharing in our special day

My biggest thank you goes to all the students at The Junction. You are the heart of our school and have made this such a wonderful success. You are dedicated, resilient and strong, I couldn't be prouder of you.

Congratulations to everyone – We did It!

Mrs Jody Cooper



Kindergarten Run for Reading – Great Barrier Reef Display

# COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD

Thank you to Newcastle Surf Lifesaving Club for donating their old nipper boards to some lucky recipients here at TJPS.



**DAUGHTERS & DADS CRICKET**  
**NEWCASTLE**

REGISTER NOW!

MEREWETHER - Mondays 5:30 - 7PM  
 CHARLESTOWN - Tuesdays 5:45 - 7:15PM

- A fun and engaging 9-week program for girls 7-12 years old and their Dads or significant male role models.
- All levels of ability and experience are welcome.
- Spend quality 1:1 time together
- Starts term 4!

**NIPPERS**  
**AT**  
**NEWCASTLE BEACH**  
**SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB**

**WHAT IS NIPPERS?**

Nippers is an activities-based program that introduces children aged 5 to 13 to surf life saving. It is all about kids learning, gaining confidence, and developing valuable life skills through fun, structured activities in a safe beach environment. Nippers also provides kids with an opportunity to participate in surf sports competition, with a series of carnivals held throughout the season.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

Nippers runs every Sunday starting Sunday 9th October. Through structured activities in a safe beach environment, kids have fun, while developing surf safety skills and awareness, building confidence and becoming part of the Newcastle Surf Life Saving Club community.

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

Follow the links to our intake form on our website - [www.newcastleslsc.com.au](http://www.newcastleslsc.com.au)

After completing the intake form, you will then be contacted with further information including pricing, uniforms, meet and greets and key dates.

[www.newcastleslsc.com.au](http://www.newcastleslsc.com.au)

**Good for kids**  
 good for life

**Is healthy eating really more expensive?**

Packing healthy everyday snacks doesn't need to be expensive. In fact, everyday foods can often be a lot cheaper.

Here are some tips to help choose healthy snacks at the supermarket:

- **Shop the seasons:** choose fruit and vegetables that are in season
- **Buy in bulk:** pack into smaller portions at the start of the week
- **Make your own:** popcorn, pikelets, muffins, scrolls
- **Choose frozen, dried or canned:** berries, beans, corn, fruit
- **Use leftovers:** fried rice, pasta, salad
- **Shop the specials**
- **Look for 3.5 health star ratings or higher**

See lots of ideas on our Tips To Save Money | Good for Kids, Good for Life (nsw.gov.au): [www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/tips/tips-to-save-money/](http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/tips/tips-to-save-money/)

Developed by Hunter New England LHD

HNE LHD - Good for Kids at [www.hne.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hne.nsw.gov.au)  
[info@goodforkids.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@goodforkids.nsw.gov.au)