

# Newsletter

## SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

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Term 4, Week 7/8, 2023

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### From the Principal's Desk

What a busy two weeks it has been. Our Year 11 Hospitality students hosted residents of St Francis Aged Care for a morning tea. The students showed off their talents and what they have learned throughout their course of study. The guests were impressed by the quality of the food and the professionalism demonstrated by all the students.

Last week, 14 of the school's best dancers travelled to Sydney to perform in the Schools Spectacular. This was the 40th year of Schools Spectacular and this year's theme was "Fabulous", and that was exactly what our students were. Eight students performed in the Aboriginal ensemble alongside the Bangarra Dance Company and seven students performed as part of the rural and remote combined dancers. Over 5000 students from across the State performed at Qudos Arena and our students did a fabulous job. At the same time Schools Spectacular was running, the school band "Ship of Thesus" competed in Surround Sound, a competition for all school-based bands across the state. Our band rocked the crowd with an awesome display of rock music. They made the final and were unlucky not to take out the win. While all this was happening, our Year 11 student Emily Schroder won her way through to the Poetry Slam finals as part of Spec Fest and delivered her composition with great confidence and enthusiasm. We were one of only a few schools in the state that had participants in all four categories of Schools Spectacular, Spec Fest and Surround Sound. A big thankyou to all the teachers who were involved including Mrs Dewberry, Mr Brunton, Ms Rediger and Mr Blundell.

On Wednesday night, the Clontarf Academy held their annual Presentation evening. It was amazing to see these fine young men dressed in their Clontarf uniform, supported by their families in attendance. Congratulations to all the award winners on the night and we look forward to watching these gentlemen continue with Clontarf over the next few years. Also, a big thankyou to our Clontarf staff for all their efforts this year in supporting our students.

Mr Smith took approximately 15 students to the PCYC and participated in an all inclusive gala day where students played wheelchair basketball alongside other students in the valley. Some students adapted quite quickly; however, all said that it was much harder than it looks.

On Tuesday 12 December at 9.30 - 11.00 am SGHS will hold its annual Presentation Day where we acknowledge the hard work and achievements of our students. All award winners will be notified prior to this date.

End of Year Activities are taking place on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 December. It is important that all students choose both a morning and an afternoon activity for these days. Please see Mr Dewberry or Mr Blundell if you are unsure of what to do.

And finally, our rewards day are on the last day of school - Friday 15th Dec. All eligible students will be notified prior to the excursion. Please see your Year Adviser if you have any questions concerning eligibility or about the activity itself.

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# Diary Dates

**P&C Meetings** - First Monday of the Month at 5.30pm in the Library, all welcome.

## Term 4, 2023

### Tuesday 5 December

Ecosystems at Risk - Dorrigo National Park

### Wednesday 6 December

Interschool Basketball  
Learning Hub Presentation

### Thursday 7 December

QLD Universities Excursion  
Interschool Basketball  
RAGE Excursion

### Friday 8 December

QLD Universities Excursion  
Interschool Basketball

### Tuesday 12 December

SGHS PRESENTATION DAY 9.00 - 11.00am in the hall

### Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 December

Activities Week

### Friday 15 December

PBL Rewards Day Excursions  
Last Day for 2023 for students

## Term 1 2024

**Staff Return - Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st January 2024**

**Years 7, 11 and 12 return Thursday 1 February**

**Years 8, 9 and 10 return Friday 2 February**



# Uniforms

When students wear a school uniform, they feel included in our school community. Students, teachers, parents and carers, as well as members of our local community helped develop our school uniform to make sure it:

- meets the requirements of occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation
- includes items that are affordable, comfortable and made from easy-care and easy-wear fabrics
- is appropriate for the full range of school activities
- is suitable for all body shapes.

At South Grafton High School we source all of our uniforms direct from the supplier, meaning a huge saving for our families. Visit the school Library to view our range.

[https://sthgrifton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/s/sthgrifton-h/uniform\\_poster\\_landscape.jpg](https://sthgrifton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/s/sthgrifton-h/uniform_poster_landscape.jpg)





South Grafton High School

## School uniform

Junior	Senior
	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Red school polo shirt</li><li>- Grey school shorts or grey skirt</li><li>- Red school hoodie</li><li>- Grey school track pants or grey slacks</li><li>- School sport polo shirt</li><li>- School sport shorts (long or short)</li><li>- Grey skirt COMING SOON</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Green school polo shirt</li><li>- Grey school shorts or grey skirt</li><li>- Red school hoodie or senior jersey</li><li>- Grey school track pants or grey slacks</li><li>- Grey skirt COMING SOON</li></ul>



# School Links

Our school website is where you can find information related to how our school operates including policies and procedures. For access to day-to-day information, students and parents should refer to the Sentral Parent and Student Portal and/or our school Facebook page. SGHS Website [https://sthgrifton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/Sentral Parent and Student Portal](https://sthgrifton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/Sentral%20Parent%20and%20Student%20Portal) <https://web2.sthgrifton-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal2/#!/login> SGHS Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/southgriftonhighschoolofficial/>

# Helpful Contacts

**Kids Helpline Official:** 1800 55 1800.

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

**Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659 467.

<https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/>

**Headspace:** 1800 650 890. <https://headspace.org.au/>

**Lifeline:** 13 11 14. <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

**Beyond Blue:** 1300 22 4636.

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

# Schools Spectacular

Last week, the spotlight was on South Grafton High School as 24 talented students showcased their exceptional skills at the prestigious Schools Spectacular. The Aboriginal Dance team from South Grafton High School made a significant impact, with eight students selected to participate in the Aboriginal Dance Ensemble led by the esteemed Bangarra Dance Company, a leading force in Australia's performing arts scene. Not to be outdone, seven students from the school's dance ensemble, including four graduating Year 12 students, were chosen to be part of the Combined Dance Ensemble, showcasing their remarkable talent on a grand stage. Since its inception in 1984, Schools Spectacular has transformed into more than just a display of New South Wales Public Schools' student talents. It has become an iconic cultural event, uniting students from diverse backgrounds and communities across the state. Recognised as a world-class arena production, Schools Spectacular is one of Australia's largest annual events, boasting international acclaim. From fostering national and international stars, to promoting inclusiveness and reconciliation, Schools Spectacular stands as a unique and unparalleled event. Now in its 5th year, SpecFest enhances the pre-show experience, offering a perfect atmosphere to complement the main event. With its fantastic food options, engaging activities, and relaxing chill-out zones, SpecFest ensures a memorable experience for those entering Schools Spectacular. Among the standout performers was Year 11 student Emily Schroder, who secured a spot as a finalist in the Poetry Slam category. Her mesmerising interpretation and development of the chosen thematic concept 'Fabulous,' captivated both judges and spectators. Emily's technical proficiency, structural coherence, and clarity of delivery marked her as a rising star in the world of poetry performance. Adding to the school's accolades, the dynamic school band, Ship of Thesus, achieved Diamond Finalist status in Surround Sound, a thrilling component of SpecFest. For over three decades, Schools Spectacular has graced the Qantas Credit Union Arena, now known as the Qudos Bank Arena since 2016. The event features a cast of 2,300 dancers, a combined choir of 2,500, an 80-piece full symphony orchestra, and a 25-piece stage band. Renowned for its cutting-edge artistry in dance and musical performance, Schools Spectacular is a highlight on the school calendar. The event's state-of-the-art sound, lighting, and staging contribute to its success, and its national prime-time broadcast on Channel 7 ensures its reach far beyond the arena. As a testament to New South Wales' educational excellence, the Schools Spectacular remains a remarkable success story proudly presented by the NSW Department of Education.



**Schools Spectacular 2023 will be televised on Channel 7 on December 9 at 7pm.**



# Congratulations

**Congratulations to the following students who earned a CALM award on Wednesday's week 7 assembly.**

**Year 7:** Carter Lovrekovic, Adrian Butterworth, Dylan Stewart and Lochlan Egan

**Year 8:** Izaak Murray-Stiff, Jeffery Ferguson, Rylee Kroehnert and Isabella Watts

**Year 9:** Callum Allison and Lincoln Riepon

**Congratulations to the following students who earned a LION award on Wednesday's week 7 assembly.**

**Year 7:** Ardra Rautenberg and Mikaela Palo

**Year 8:** Thomas Bolch, Leo Filippa, Matthew Reckless, Elizabeth O'Dell, Jayda Craig-Rogers and Alicia Taylor

**Year 9:** Cole Brown, Peter Fields, Mitchell Green, Chase De Bono, Ella McNee, Ayisha Brown, Joseph Burke and Emmitt Okkonen

**Year 10:** Lauren Walters and Sophie Johnson

**Year 11:** Casey Palmer and Kenzie Lucas

**Congratulations to the following students who earned a CALM award on Wednesday's week 8 assembly.**

**Year 7:** Zendrik Coffison, Carter Lovrekovic, Shaedon Wheeler, Lochlan Egan and Sam Longstaff

**Year 8:** Beau Salmon and Jasmine Eveleigh

**Year 9:** Rachel Murdoch

**Year 10:** Bianca Rhodes and Sophie Watts

**Congratulations to the following students who earned a LION award on Wednesday's week 8 assembly.**

**Year 7:** Layla Chard, Ryder Jackson, Jasmine Skinner, Lilly Axford and Jayne Bulluss

**Year 9:** Amy Mobbs and Diesel Wilson

**Year 10:** Aynslie Roberts

**Year 11:** Jackson Hartley and Kyscha Wyse-Tapp

# Orientation Day

On Tuesday we held our Year 6 Orientation day led by our 2024 Year Advisers and student mentors. The students experienced a variety of activities aimed at preparing them for High School including a Science lesson, a PE lesson and they learnt how to use a high school timetable. They were also provided with information about starting high school and a school tour. We look forward to the students starting with us as our Year 7 cohort next year.

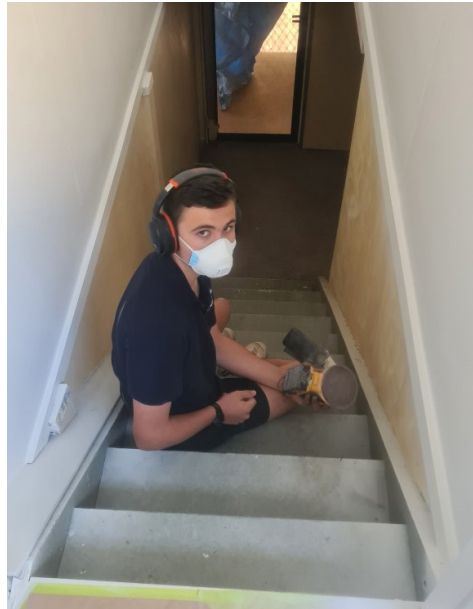


# 2024 HSC

## Year 12 Students with Special Needs or disabilities

The process is underway for students with special needs or disabilities to apply for special requirements during the 2024 HSC exams eg. Reader/Writer, Rest Breaks, Small Group Supervision, Food/Drink required for medical reasons, etc. Any Year 12 students who wish to apply for Disability Provisions for the HSC, please contact Ms Kinny or Mr Martin (Learning and Support Teachers) in the Library. In order to qualify for various provisions, specific evidence is required such as assessments and/or medical evidence as well as teacher comments. The School must submit all the required evidence to NESA by the end of Term 1 2024. After that time, other applications may be submitted as issues arise.

# Work Experience



## Busways 2024 School Bus Travel Pass

To help students get ready for the 2024 school year, bus passes are open for application now at Transport for NSW website - we encourage parents and carers to apply early to make sure their children receive their 2024 bus pass before the start of the new school year.

### Getting to school by bus in 2024

Will your child be catching the bus to school next year? Applications are now open for a Bus Travel Pass. As it's a busy time of year, we highly recommend you make this application before the end of the year. It's also good to check the bus timetable to make your child's journey to school as easy as possible. Here is how it works:

#### Bus passes

All students catching the bus in 2024 will need a school travel pass.

Under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS), eligible students can apply for free or subsidised travel between home and school.

For more information about the School Student Transport Scheme and how to apply for a school travel pass, visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/> from a desktop computer.

# Do you have the new School Bytes App and the School Bytes Parent Portal?

## Activating the School Bytes App

1. Access the app store on your phone and search for School Bytes.

If you can't find it, here are the direct links:

Apple: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=education.schoolbytes>

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=education.schoolbytes>

2. Download the School Bytes App.

3. Use your username and password created previously to log on.

4. If prompted, allow notifications.

School Bytes provides a parent portal to help your school communicate with you. This is accessible via a website and an App, available for both Apple and Android devices.

SGHS uses the parent portal for various things, including online permission notes, attendance, and payments, which can be accessed via a secure link. The School Bytes parent portal enables you to view all your children in one portal and process payments for multiple siblings in one transaction, even if they attend different schools (assuming all of the schools use School Bytes!).

**IMPORTANT** – To ensure that the registration process works smoothly and you can link your account to your child(ren), make sure that you use the same email address that you have provided to the school or if using a different email address, an SMS verification code will be sent to the mobile phone number on record for you at the school.

### Detailed steps

1. Open the parent portal link – <https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login>

2. Select the create a new account link.

3. Enter your first name as it appears on your student's profile at the school.

4. Enter your last name as it appears on your student's profile at the school.

5. Enter the email address that you use for school communication.

6. Enter a password.

7. Confirm the password.

8. Select create account.

An email will be sent to the email address nominated so that you can verify your access to the email address. Once you have created your account, log in to the School Bytes parent portal.

You can now link your account to all students in schools that use the School Bytes platform.

1. Select link other student.

2. Search for the school's name.

3. Enter the student's first name.

4. Enter the student's last name.

5. Select the student's current grade.

6. Enter the student's date of birth.

7. Select search.

**Please also enable Notifications and check in the documents tab for the latest newsletter.**

If all student information matches with parent information according to the student's official enrolment stored at the school, the system will add the student to the parent account automatically.

If you are unable to link a student to your account or if you have any questions relating to this process please contact the school.

# Clontarf Awards Night 2023

On Wednesday 29 November we held our Clontarf awards night at the Grafton District Services Club (GDSC). Our first awards night off site since 2019. In attendance, we had over 140 people including academy members, families, Clontarf partners, school staff, our local Mayor, and our Director of Education Leadership. It was awesome to see all our young men dressed up and looking smart. A big thank you to all our families who attended, as well as all our guests who made the night so special.

Our big award for the year, The Golden Eel, is presented to a Year 12 academy member who has consistently demonstrated our values within the school environment and community, as well as being involved with our academy through camps, morning trainings and activities. This year's deserving recipient was Robbie Eveleigh. During his earlier years as an academy member, Robbie involved himself in all things Clontarf. He made an immediate commitment to our values and expectations around the academy



space and over time, Robbie evolved into a true leader. Throughout his senior years, Robbie attended our morning training session just to cook the other members bacon and eggs, allowing our staff the flexibility to be involved with running training sessions or taking boys to the gym. Thank you Robbie.

To our Year 12 boys, I hope you enjoyed your major trip and we wish you all the best in life after school. Take every opportunity and leave no stone unturned, we will always be a message or phone call away if you need any advice or guidance.

Congratulations to all our award winners:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Golden Eel award -     | Robbie Eveleigh   |
| Top attendance award – | Brodie O'Hara   |
| Education awards -     | Junior – Tristan Mason-Eshman<br>Senior – Teven Gallagher and Max Southgate |
| Employment award –     | Noah Backwell-Geerin  |
| Leadership award –     | Junior – Isaac McAlpine-King<br>Senior – Malakai Fernando                   |
| Top trainer awards –   | Zac Noble-Rogers and Peter Fields   |
| Good Bloke awards –    | Junior – Jeffery Ferguson<br>Senior – Ashton Mason                          |
| Top Sportsman award –  | Sam Petch   |
| Most improved awards – | Josh Garrett and Nathan Hamilton  |



Thank you to the Grafton District Services Club for letting us have our awards night at your wonderful venue. We hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday period and will see everyone back for an even better 2024.



# STYMIE

Stymie is an anonymous, harm reporting tool that we use to proactively support students. Students can report any type of harm anonymously through the [stymie.com.au](http://stymie.com.au) website and know that the student/s being harmed will be supported. Stymie is a key component of our school's Anti-Bullying Plan and is used to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

## TAFE Yes Program



**be kind online**

It is a **criminal offence** to menace, harass or offend people online, using any social media or gaming platform.

 **stymie**  
#saysomething



Respect • Honesty • Commitment • Pride



Stars Foundation provides a holistic program that supports First Nations girls and young women to attend and remain engaged in school, complete Year 12 and transition into work or further study.

#### PROGRAM FEATURES

- Full-time Stars mentors
- Stars Room
- Personal development activities
- Camps & excursions
- Stars carnivals
- Extra-curricular activities
- Transitions support for Year 12s
- Career Expos/Employment forums
- Work readiness support
- Stars alumni app for graduates
- Alumni events
- Year 12 trips
- End of Year Celebration Events

#### The Stars Plan

Underpinned by four pillars of personal development, and is the foundation of our program:

➤ Education, Training & Employment

➤ Healthy Lifestyles

➤ Wellbeing

➤ Community, Culture & Leadership

#### ➤ Get in contact with us:

**Lisa Laurie**, Program Coordinator  
Stars Foundation - South Grafton High School  
[Lisa.Laurie@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Lisa.Laurie@det.nsw.edu.au)  
0455 158 814

 [www.starsfoundation.org.au](http://www.starsfoundation.org.au)



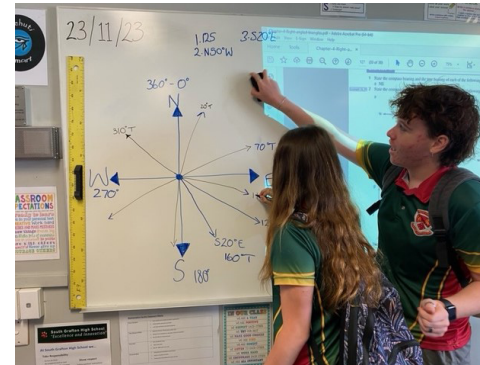
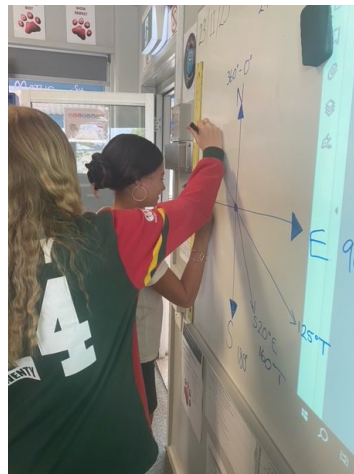
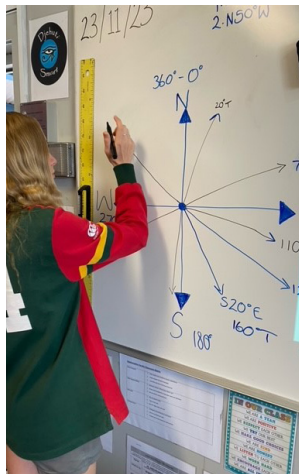
# Tuesday Tutoring

And that's a wrap for Tuesday Tutoring for 2023.

It has been awesome to see the Tuesday Tutoring sessions grow this term with up to 30 students attending. Thank you to the P&C for their support with donating book vouchers as encouragement tokens. Thank you to the volunteers Mr Colin Lang, Mr Mike Gray and Mr Gerry O'Connor, along with our valued staff members Deb Welch and Reuben Van Gaalen for tutoring the students each week. We are hoping to continue a form of Homework/Tutoring Hub next year.



**The Senior Standard 1 Mathematics class** are consolidating their learning on Compass and True Bearings using examples inside and outside the classroom, in pairs and on whiteboards.



# Calculators for Mathematics

All students are welcome to have their Calculators engraved with their name on it. Just ask in F11. Calculators are available for purchase at the front office at \$35 SGHS use the CASIO fx-82AU PLUS II



Those students looking towards Extension 1 & 2 Mathematics in Senior years will find the new FX 8200 a time saver. These are also at the front office for \$42.



# Transport Concession Entitlement



If you're a student aged 16 years or older and eligible for concessions, the Transport Concession Entitlement Card serves as proof of entitlement when using a Child/Youth Opal card within the Opal network or when traveling on child or concession fares in NSW.

Please contact the school office if you would like to apply for a concession card.

## Walk for Domestic and Family Violence Awareness

On Friday, 1st December students and staff from SGHS, including the SRC, Clontarf Foundation, Stars Foundation and girls from the Run Beyond Project led the way in a walk for Domestic and Family Violence Awareness, part of Rotary's 16 Days of Activism.



**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

**Who will be Student of the Year 2023**

**Student of the Year**

More Sponsors Coming Soon!

Donovan Livestock & Property

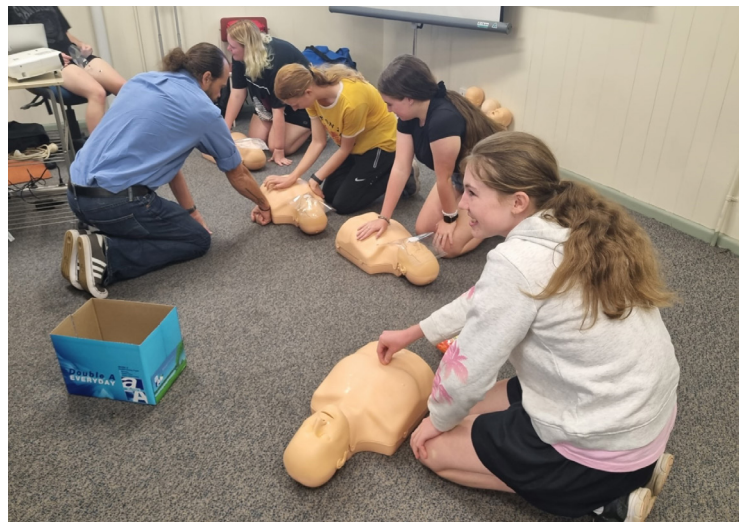
# Educational Pathways Program (EPP)

As part of the Educational Pathways Program (EPP), being delivered at SGHS students interested in a career within the early childhood education industry recently undertook a pre-traineeship skills course under the EPP Head Start Initiative.

Five Year 10 students completed the 6 days of training delivered by ETC at the CHS Training facility in South Grafton.

The students were trained and assessed in 3 units of competencies that can earn them credit towards further education and learning.

The program provided skills in how to work safely, provide first aid and provide experiences to support child play and learning in an early childhood education setting. Additional to the training is work experience opportunities to practise their newly developed skills and possibly secure a School Based Traineeship (SBAT) for their future HSC pattern of study.



# High Tea for St Francis Aged Care Residents

On Tuesday 14th November the Year 11 VET Hospitality students successfully hosted 12 residents from St Francis Aged Care for a morning tea. This was an opportunity for the students to use the skills learned in class in a realistic situation. The morning tea also formed part of an assessment task where the students were to be observed serving food and beverages to customers.

The elderly residents were impressed with the professional and courteous manner of the students and the variety and quality of the food and beverages offered.

It is hoped that this could become a recurring event as the Aged Care Facility is always looking for experiences where the residents have an opportunity to socialise and interact with the younger generation.

We would like to thank St Francis Aged Care for participating in the event.



# Community News

Lower Clarence Arts and Crafts Association  
**2024**  
**8x8 Small Works Competitive Exhibition**



**LAYERS AND PATTERNS**  
*Real or imagined*

Ferry Park Gallery      6th April to 5th May 2024

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Entry Forms: Available at Ferry Park Gallery, Madean

Entry Fees: Open \$12 ..... Youth (under 16) \$7  
 Both include 8x8 canvas

Entries Close: 4pm Friday 22nd March 2024

Official Opening and Awards: 6pm Friday 5th April 2024 (Open)  
 2pm Saturday 6th April (Youths)

Contacts: Jean: 0407378982  
 Pam: 0417815410  
 8x8@ferrypark.net




**WE ARE**  
**LITTLE ATHLETICS**  
 Season 2023-24 Open Now



**WHEN:** Wednesdays 4:30pm  
**WHERE:** Terry West Oval, Junction Hill  
**AGES:** 3 -16 yrs  
**COST:** \$100-\$150 yearly registration

**REGISTER TODAY!**

[www.revolutionise.com.au/grafonathleti/home/](http://www.revolutionise.com.au/grafonathleti/home/)



CVCon ensembles present

# CHRISTMAS AT THE CON

6:00 PM  
 MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2023  
 Moran Auditorium, Clarence Valley Conservatorium  
 Adults: \$10, Children: Free

Tickets are available at [www.cvcon.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cvcon.nsw.edu.au)




# Christmas Pallet Tree Competition

Vote for your favourite Christmas pallet tree, designed by Clarence Valley Schools

The schools with the most votes will win:

- 1st prize - \$300 voucher
- 2nd prize - \$200 voucher
- 3rd prize - \$100 voucher

**SCAN TO VOTE**



T&C's apply