Red Hill School Newsletter

Coming Events

Wednesday 11 Feb
Parent Information Night

Friday 13 Feb
Assembly – Year 6 to Host

Monday 16 Feb to Wednesday 18 Feb
Year 5 Camp

Monday 16 Feb to Friday 27 Feb
PIPS

Tuesday 17 Feb
School Board Meeting 5:45pm
P&C Meeting 7:30pm

Wednesday 18 Feb
Preschool Information Evening – 6:30pm to 7:30pm Library

Thursday 19 Feb
Newsletter

Red Hill School is a Nut Free Environment

Gloria Gracia 5B

Notes Home

Student Information Sheet
Swimming Carnival 2015
Swimming Carnival 2015 Permission and Entry Form
Year 5 Camp Cooba Permission and Payment Form
Year 5 Camp Cooba Note and Packing List
Year 6 2015 Shirt Orders
Our Next Assembly

Will be held on Friday at 12.10am

Hosted by: Year 6

All welcome, please be seated by 12.05 for a prompt start

Road Safety and Parking

Legislation regarding school zones is in force in the ACT. It requires that all motorists comply with a 40 km speed limit between the hours of 8.00am and 4.00pm each school day while driving within the school zone. Please drive with caution in the school car park.

The car park is for parking only, it is not a point to drive through and drop off or collect children. This is unsafe and we strongly urge you to use the ‘kiss-n-go’ zone on Astrolabe Street which is a designated drop off and pick up area. When using this zone, please do not park and leave your car. In the afternoon, staff are on duty to supervise this area from 3.15pm.

If your child/ren ride their bicycles to and from school, please ensure that you remind them to be aware of the traffic around them and to follow the road rules.
Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to the start of a new school year. I hope all families have had a great break and holiday over the Christmas/New Year period. I know that I did and so did all of our teachers. We have had a very smooth start to the year, with students settling in well to their new classes over the last couple of days.

Our school staff recommenced last week and engaged in a variety of professional learning days to start our year. During these days we covered team building activities, discussing Internationalism at Red Hill and continued planning. We spent a day learning about “Writer’s Workshops” and a day with Rob Vingerhoets a maths specialist investigating differentiation in inquiry maths.

Our teachers have been busy getting to know the students this week and starting the year in a positive and productive manner. I am keen to hear how your child/ren have been settling back into school. I will be on the playground most Monday and Friday afternoons.

We welcome quite a few new students and their families from other ACT schools, from other parts of Australia and from around the world. We hope you will enjoy being part of the Red Hill School community. This movement of students into and out of the school to all parts of the world is a feature of our school that really adds to the internationalism and being an IB World School.

It was a joy to welcome our very eager and confident Preschool and Kindergarten students this week. They have had a great start to the year and I know are all very keen to learn and experience all around them.

We also welcome several new and returning staff to our school including:

- Susan Edwards (Kindergarten) from Mount Rogers Primary
- Joshua McCracken (Year 1) joining us from Evatt Primary
- Kirsten Gardner (Year 2) returning to us from her Internship
- Claire Hansen (Nee Patron) (Year 3) returning from maternity leave
- Jayne Queripel (Year 4) joining us from Bonython Primary
- Nigel Byng (Year 5) career change after working at the ANU
- Toni Constable (Year 6) returning to us from her Internship
- Helene Halliday (Art) returning to us from maternity leave
- Karen Hjort (DSTA) new to our school
- Anna Peel (School Psychologist) new to Red Hill, previously in ACT schools and ACT Therapy

As you can see there are many new teachers to get to know and we look forward to introducing everyone to you on the information evening, Wednesday Week 2.

The leadership team for this year includes myself, Anna Wilson - Deputy Principal (curriculum), Nathan James – Deputy Principal (student achievement), Alison Peebles – Executive Teacher – (Junior school), Emma Campbell – Executive Teacher (Primary), Jo Talwar Executive Teacher Professional Practice. We will also have a number of aspiring leaders to introduce to you later in the term.

Our School goals for this year remain as they are part of our five year plan. Our actions for 2015 are as follows:

**A positive, inclusive school culture**

1. develop student’s social and emotional skills
2. increase the engagement of parents and the community in the life of the school
A capable, sustainable school

1. build staff capacity through professional learning and collegial sharing of pedagogy and professional practice
2. whole school commitment and approach to being a sustainable school
3. prepare the preschool to successfully comply to National Quality Standards

A relevant, challenging, engaging curriculum

1. develop whole school approaches to teaching and planning, curriculum and assessment, based on research and best practice that meets IBO requirements
2. improve the teaching of Literacy and Numeracy
3. use formative assessment to cater for the individual needs of students.

Attached to this newsletter is a Handy Hints and reminders sheet and our annual calendar, which we hope will be useful. Our usual fortnightly newsletter will be sent out electronically each fortnight in odd weeks of term, weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. Please email info@redhillps.act.edu.au if we do not have your email address so you can receive newsletters. Alternatively if you do not have an email address please notify the front office.

Please give me or any other member of our senior leadership team a call on 62057144 if you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss.

Kind Regards
Kate McMahon
Principal

We are a nut free school!

Due to severe food allergies to peanuts and nut based products we ask that you do not pack food containing these items or ingredients in your child’s lunch box. These items can trigger a life-threatening anaphylaxis attack in which airways swell to the point where a person is unable to breathe. An attack can occur with exposure to even the trace elements of these foods that can be transferred through the skin and breath. As a consequence we promote a nut free environment.

2015 School Board Elections Reminder

If you’re keen to contribute to the governance of Red Hill School, you should nominate for a position on the school board.

There is one parent and citizen member position and one teacher position becoming vacant on 31 March 2015.

Nominations must be submitted to the front office between 11am, Thursday 5 February 2015 and 11am, Thursday 19 February 2015.

You can submit your nomination by:

- hand delivering to the Red Hill Primary School front office
- email to info@redhillps.act.edu.au
- fax to (02) 6205 7145
- mail to Assistant Returning Officer, C/- Red Hill Primary School

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, John Robinson on 0439 531 234.
General Red Hill School Board Elections

Nominee Form

Please use this form to nominate for a position on Red Hill school board.

Details:

School Name: Red Hill School

Assistant Returning Officer: John Robinson

Phone: 0439 531 234

Nominee Details:

Position: Staff members (A member of the staff of the school)

Number of vacancies: one

Position: Parents and citizens members (A member of the school community)

Number of vacancies: two

Nomination:

I, ______________________ am nominating for the position of ______________________ on the school board. If elected I will undertake the duties of the position.

Signature: ______________________

Date: ______________________

The Education and Training Directorate (the Directorate) is collecting the information on this form to enable it to conduct elections for school boards. This is authorised by section 41 of the Education Act 2004. This information will be disclosed to the school community to enable eligible voters to elect a nominee of their choice.

Lodgement Information:

Nominations are to be submitted to the Red Hill school’s front office between 11 am, 5 February 2015 and 11 am, 19 February 2015. Nominations must be submitted during school business hours: 9:10am to 3:15pm, Monday to Friday.

You can submit your nomination by:

hand delivery to the Red Hill Primary School front office
email to info@redhillps.act.edu.au
fax to (02) 6205 7145
mail to ARO, c/- Red Hill Primary School front office

If an election is required, the voting period will be from 11 am 26 February 2015 to 11 am 5 March 2015.
The French Expression

Salutations françaises

**Bonjour**
Good Morning / Good Day

**Bon après-midi**
Good afternoon

**Bonsoir**
Good evening

**Bonne nuit**
Good night
P&C News and Events

Red Hill School Uniform Shop

Order online at www.flexischools.com.au
Place orders by Wednesday 2.00pm and pay by credit card
for delivery to classes by Friday Morning

Open every Friday afternoon from 2.30pm to 3.30pm
Payment by cash, cheque or credit card

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School Banking

School Banking day – Friday

Leave banking at Front Office by 9.10am on Friday Morning
Collect after 3.15pm on Friday Afternoon

Open a Dollarmite account at any Commonwealth Bank branch and start banking today
every $ you bank raises money for the school

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School Banking Rewards now available! Term 1

These new rewards have just been released for Term 1, and are available while stocks last:

- ET DVD
- Planet Handball

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For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for these exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. There are 2 new items to come in Term 2 as well!

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit made (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

If your children are not currently involved in the School Banking program and you would like to know more, please ask for a 2015 School Banking program Information Pack from the School office.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program and don’t forget that Friday is School Banking day!
Handy Hints and Reminders for Parents and Carers

Office Hours
Our Front Office is staffed from 8.30 – 3.45 each day. Outside these hours and if for any other reason the office is not staffed an answering machine service will be operating and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Open Communication
Communication between home and school is very important. Children sometimes go home with stories that may seem unusual. Often they have very different perceptions about statements and actions they observe. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any concerns.

Anything different happening at home
We encourage you to advise the class teacher of any changes in your child’s home routine e.g. birth of a new sibling or a temporary or permanent change in family situation.

School Hours
School commences at 9.10am and concludes at 3.15pm with breaks for recess from 10.50 – 11.25 and lunch 12.55 – 1.45pm. If your child is late they need to enter the school via the Front office and sign-in. If you need to pick them up early please speak to the office staff and sign your child out.

Before School
Children go to the asphalt area of the playground before school and not into classrooms as teachers need this time to prepare for the day’s lessons and have meetings organised. Playground supervision commences at 8.40. To ensure the safety and welfare of all students, it is important that children do not arrive at school before 8.40am. Students are not to play with large balls on the asphalt or use any of the play equipment before school time.

Pick-up arrangements
If your child is to be collected from school during the day or taken home early, you must sign them out at the front office prior to collecting them from class. This is for the security and safety of your child and teachers will not release any student if they are not handed a “sign out slip”.

If your child is going to be picked up by someone you have not listed as a contact could you please advise the school either in writing or by phone. Your child will not be released if we are unable to verify with parents or carers.

Absences
If your child is absent from school due to sickness or other family obligations, it is a legal requirement that you send a note explaining the absence to the class teacher upon their return. A phone call to the front office on the day is also appreciated.

Infection and Illnesses
Should your child contract an infection/communicable illness, could you please notify the office staff. There are certain periods of exclusion that apply to some infections. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you need further information.

Some highly contagious childhood illnesses have a mandatory exclusion period – details of these can be located on the Directorate’s website. For example, for more common illness and infections such as vomiting and diarrhoea have an exclusion period of 24 hours after symptoms cease. Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you be unsure whether your child should be excluded from school for any reason.
**Children’s medications**

It is a Directorate policy requirement that written directions from a doctor and written permission from parents/carers must be provided before school staff may administer medication. This applies to any type of medication.

**Notes**

Thursday is our “Notes Day” when the majority of notes will come home. Please return all notes for excursions or special events in an envelope with the child’s name, class and a brief description of what the money is for on the outside of the envelope. All notes and money must be given to the child’s teacher who is responsible for keeping these records. We encourage you to pay for excursions using our online payment facility. If you do use cash, please ensure that the correct money is firmly sealed in the envelope with the note.

**Newsletter**

The Newsletter is published fortnightly and includes information about what is currently happening at the school, student work from different year levels and a list of dates for events. The newsletter is distributed electronically so please advise staff at the front office of your e-mail address if you wish to receive this.

**Food**

Your child will need food for recess, lunchtime and some year levels have a fruit break. Food should be placed in an easily opened lunch box which will be kept in your child’s bag. It is useful to have a frozen drink in the lunch box as this provides cooling for the lunch especially in summer. Your child will also need a drink bottle as they become very thirsty during the day. We encourage children to drink water. We now have two water filling stations available in the Playground.

**School Equipment List**

Teachers have put together the list of equipment that best suits the needs of students. We encourage you to use our supplier as per the book pack list. Once delivered, please send items in to school with your child. If you choose to use a different supplier please ensure that the correct books are purchased (year levels have different spacing in their books). Teachers will hold all supplies in class and will distribute resources when needed.

**School Uniform**

The wearing of school uniform is encouraged at Red Hill School. The wearing of school uniform, or colour coded uniform (green and yellow in the case of Red hill) in ACT Government school’s is not compulsory. However, the wearing of school uniform readily identifies our students in the community, especially when they are representing their school and eliminates clothing competitiveness between students. All children are encouraged to wear an appropriate sun smart hat when playing outside. Children not wearing hats are required to stay/play in a designated shaded area of the school. A number of options are available to assist parents/carers who may be experiencing financial difficulties to obtain items of uniform for their children. Please do not hesitate to contact the principal for more information.

**Hats**

Our sunsmart policy requires children to wear a sun smart hat for all months except June and July, otherwise they must play in the shade.

**Labelling and Lost property**

Please make sure that all items of clothing (especially hats and jumpers) and other belongings (drink bottle, lunch box, school bag) are clearly labelled with your child’s name and class.
Lost property is located under the stairs in the junior corridor. If you find your child is missing clothing items please check in the classroom and in lost property.

**Dogs in the playground**

From time to time we have ‘visiting’ dogs in the playground. Many children (and staff) are scared of dogs and present as a risk to their safety. Please assist us by ensuring that your family pet remains at home. This applies also to dogs on leads. Please do not bring them to the school/grounds. Attempts are made to re-unite stray dogs with their families but often prove unsuccessful.

**Parking and pick up and drop off**

The car park has designated spaces for long term parking (in the middle), short term (parking facing the building), it has not been designed as a drop off or pick up zone. The car park operates on a one-way system moving clockwise. Parents who do not follow these procedures create a risk to all other users of the car park.

Along Astrolabe Street (which is now one-way) there are short term parking spaces (on the right), a bus bay and a kiss and go zone. Only buses are allowed in the bus bay, dropping off and picking up occurs in the kiss and go zone where you may not leave your car and at times may be asked to move on if your child is not there to be picked up when you are. You will be asked to do a lap and return to collect your child. Both the bus zone and kiss and go zone have staff in attendance during the afternoon. We are often visited by both Action parking inspectors and ACT Government traffic attendants who issue on the spot fines to members of the community not complying with the road/parking rules.
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<td>First Day of School For Kindergarten and new Students</td>
<td>First Day of School for Year 1 to 6</td>
<td>Newsletter and Term Overviews</td>
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<td>Year 5 Camp PIPS</td>
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<td>St Johns First Aid in Schools – Year 4</td>
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<td>RHIPP</td>
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<td>IB Evaluation Visit Newsletter</td>
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<td>Mar 23-27</td>
<td>School Board Meeting 5:45pm</td>
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<td>Assembly Year 2 to Host RHIPP</td>
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<td>Mar 30 – Apr 3</td>
<td>South Western Swimming Carnival 3 Way Interviews</td>
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<td>Newsletter 3 Way Interviews</td>
<td><strong>3 April Good Friday</strong></td>
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<td>Apr 27 - May 1</td>
<td>27 April ANZAC Day Holiday</td>
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<td>Year 6 Camp</td>
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<td>May 11-15</td>
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<td>Newsletter – Emma / Yr 6 &amp; Yr 5</td>
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<td>May 18-22</td>
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<td>Nexus Arts – Sean Choolburra Indigenous Performer 9:30am &amp; 11:30am</td>
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<td>Newsletter – Nathan / Yr 4 &amp; Yr 3</td>
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<td>Newsletter - Alison / Kinder &amp; Preschool</td>
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<td>Newsletter – Emma / Yr 6 &amp; Yr 5</td>
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<td>Year 1 Footsteps Dance Program Assembly</td>
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<td>Year 1 Footsteps Dance Program Assembly</td>
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<td>School Photos</td>
<td>Newsletter – Anna / Yr 2 &amp; Yr 1</td>
<td>Year 1 Footsteps Dance Program School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACT Athletics Carnival <em>(Kindergarten Health Check – To be confirmed)</em></td>
<td>Newsletter - Alison / Kinder &amp; Preschool</td>
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### Red Hill School Calendar 2015 – Term 4

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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>School Board Meeting 5:45pm P&amp;C Meeting 7.30pm Staff Room</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Newsletter – Emma / Yr 6 &amp; Yr 5</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Year 4 Camp</td>
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<td>Year 4 Camp</td>
<td>Newsletter – Nathan / Yr 4 &amp; Yr 3</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Newsletter – Anna / Yr 2 &amp; Yr 1</td>
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<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Newsletter and Term Overviews - Kate</td>
<td>Year 4 Camp</td>
<td>Year 4 Camp</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Year 4 Camp</td>
<td>Newsletter - Alison / Kinder &amp; Preschool</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Exec to host Last Day of School for 2015</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
<td>Last Day of School for 2015</td>
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Community News and Events

As we start a new school year, we would like to remind schools, parents and students about our bus services and how to best prepare for bus travel in the new year.

School Bus Services
Details of all school and regular bus services are now available for parents and students to begin planning their journeys. We ask that parents and students familiarise themselves with the most suitable route, times and stop locations. School bus services are available to school students only however, parents with young children may apply to travel on these services for a few weeks to help their child get used to bus travel. Please use the links below for further information on our bus services:

- School bus timetables
- Regular bus timetables

MyWay Cards
We are urging parents and students to check MyWay cards and top up if required. MyWay cards can be topped up automatically using the handy autoload service, online, over the phone via the ACTION and MyWay information line (13 17 10), or in person at Canberra Connect shopfronts and MyWay recharge agents.

Bus Fare Increase
A bus fare increase came into effect on 3 January 2015. Single trip school student MyWay fares are now $1.10 and cash fares are now $2.30. Parents and students can find more information on the Transport for Canberra website or by calling 13 17 10.

Network Changes
No significant changes have been made to the current schools network since the most recent changes on Monday 1 September 2014. Any changes are published on the School Services section of the ACTION website. All feedback received regarding the new network has been taken on board for future planning and scheduling.

New Student MyWay Card Holders
We would like to offer you free MyWay card holders and information guides for new school students, ideally those of primary school age who may be using the bus on their own for the first time. The card holder is designed to hold a MyWay card and has a secure clip device for attaching to a belt or bag. As a MyWay card can be of significant value, the MyWay card holder is a great way to keep students cards secure. Inside sits a MyWay information targeted at parents, which is a great introduction to MyWay and understanding the ticketing system. We can send you out a package consisting of the card holders, clips and MyWay information guide. If you are interested, please respond to actionmarketing@act.gov.au with the quantities required and the preferred contact and delivery details.

We would appreciate your assistance in circulating this information to parents and students using your existing communications channels, such as school emails, newsletters or notices.
LANGUAGE WALK 2015

Celebrate International Mother Language day

What: Free Language Walk (1.8 km) and Community Celebrations

When: Saturday 21 February 2015, 10.30 am – 1.30 pm

Where: Walk starts at the International Flags Display behind Questacon carpark and end near Regatta Point

- The walk will cross Commonwealth Bridge and end near Regatta Point where there will be multicultural entertainment and free fun activities for children.

- This is the second year that the Canberra-based International Mother Language Movement (IMLM) has organised this event. Over 300 people attended in 2014.

- This event brings together people from different communities to raise awareness of the value of all languages, especially endangered languages, in a multilingual and multicultural context.

Contact: Ziaul Hoque, Convener, IMLM, M - 0411 031 942
Postal Address: GPO Box 2152, Canberra ACT 2601, Email: IMLM.21Feb@gmail.com
Facebook: http://on.fb.me/1B6i5xV Web: www.imlm21.org.au
PARENT EFFECTIVENESS TRAINING (P.E.T)

Supported by Parentline ACT

Communication skills for peaceful parenting and resilient children (without the use of punishment or reward). Helps develop emotional intelligence, and grow confident, considerate children. Powerful, proven and practical. Yell less, enjoy your children more. Build relationships that last a lifetime.

The course consists of three-hour sessions, once per week, for eight weeks. Booking is essential.
$290 pp for the course (investment includes a workbook and textbook).

Course begins: Thursday, 12th February, 2015; Time: 6.30 pm to 9.45 pm; Place: Weston, ACT.

Enjoy P.E.T. with Larissa, Canberra’s most experienced P.E.T. instructor.

0413 451 607 www.parentskills.com.au info@parentskills.com.au

PRESCHOOL LONG DAY CARE AVAILABLE!

- Need care for a preschool child aged between 4-6 years old?
- Need care for a pre-school child attending government preschool on alternate Wednesdays?

Lyons Children’s Centre has opened a new service offering long day care for preschool age children.

- Qualified Educators
- Educational Program and
- Permanent positions during school terms.

Where? 12 Ulverstone Street, Lyons

When? Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Times: 7:30am to 6pm

We provide morning tea, afternoon tea and nutritious snacks. Please bring a packed lunch and a named water bottle.

Cost: $95.20 a day, without rebates. CCB and CCR available, where eligible.

Contact: Bec, Manager of Lyons Children’s Centre, email rebecca.vanhala@wcs.org.au for enquiries and bookings.