

# JUMBUNNA

Fortnightly Newsletter of Pennant Hills High School

Friday 29 November 2013

Term 4 Week 8B

# PREFECTS SUPPORT THE BUSH FIRE APPEAL



Springwood and Winmalee High Schools were two schools among many that were affected by the recent bushfires in the Blue Mountains. On Friday 22 November the 2014 Prefects hosted their first mufti day and ran their first barbecue to raise money for these fire-affected high schools. Whilst Winmalee and Springwood weren't directly affected by the fires, many homes of students, staff and community members were. After having contacted the Principals and Prefects of both schools, the Pennant Hills Prefect body decided that any money we raised would be put in a student trust fund at both schools, to pay for excursions, school supplies and any other student needs, as they arise.



Students were encouraged to bring in a minimum donation of \$2 for wearing mufti in order to raise this money. There was a great response from the students: we collected \$1,087.

Additionally, to raise even more money, we held a Prefect barbecue at lunch time. We managed to sell out of 240 sausages. As well as feeding plenty of hungry students.

Mr Geoff Wing Principal

Mrs Jane Dennett Deputy Principal

Mr Brendan O'Byrne Deputy Principal

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The P&C has also agreed to give us the extra money we need to reach a total of \$2000. Thank you to the P&C for their generosity!

Thanks to all the students who got on board on the day. Winmalee and Springwood High Schools will each receive half of what we raised on the day. We're sure that both schools will be extremely appreciative for the donations, and that they will be put to good use in providing for their students.



Eliza and Benjamin School Captains







# LOOKING FORWARD

### Term 4 2013

WEEK <b>9A</b>	Monday Monday Monday Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Friday	2 December 3 December 3 December 4 December 4 December 4 December 5 December 6 December	Year 7 Swim School Year 10 Bronze Medallion End of Year Band Concert in the MPC Year 7 Swim School Year 10 Bronze Medallion Year 7 2014 ORIENTATION DAY Year 7 Swim School Year 10 Bronze Medallion End of Year Band Concert in the MPC Year 10 Bronze Medallion Year 7 Swim School Year 10 Bronze Medallion Year 7 Swim School Year 10 Bronze Medallion
WEEK <b>10B</b>	Monday Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Thursday Thursday Friday Friday Saturday Sunday	9 December 9 December 10 December 11 December 12 December 12 December 12 December 13 December 13 December 14 December 15 December	Year 8 Game On and Year 9 PASS Surf School Concert Band 2 and Junior Stage Band Tour Food Technology Excursion Concert Band 2 and Junior Stage Band Tour Concert Band 2 and Junior Stage Band Tour Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Concert Band 2 Tour Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Coffee School Barista Course Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition
WEEK 11A	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Thursday Thursday Friday	16 December 16 December 17 December 18 December 18 December 18 December 19 December 20 December	World Challenge Incursion Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition PRESENTATION EVENING Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award Expedition SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

# **VACATION**

## Term 1 2014

WEEK <b>1A</b>	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday	27 January 28 January 29 January 30 January	Public Holiday SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12 start Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 Start
WEEK <b>2B</b>	Monday	3 February	Year 7 Camp
	Tuesday	4 February	Year 7 Camp
	Friday	7 February	School Photographs
	Sunday	9 February	Band Camp
WEEK <b>3A</b>	Monday	10 February	Band Camp
	Tuesday	11 February	Year 7 Parents' Evening 4-6pm
	Tuesday	11 February	Band Camp
	Tuesday	11 February	Band Camp Concert 7:30pm MPC
	Wednesday	12 February	School Swimming Carnival—Abbotsleigh School
	Friday	14 February	SRC Leadership Day
WEEK <b>4B</b>	Wednesday	19 February	HSC 2013 Achievers' Assembly
WEEK <b>5A</b>	Tuesday	25 February	P&C Meeting 7:30pm Library
	Thursday	27 February	Meet the Music









#### **DEPUTY PRINCIPALS REPORT**



There has been much in the media lately about the relative academic success of boys and girls at school. The reasons are varied and often contested. It appears that even before formal education begins, based on the Australian Early Developmental Index that 28.2% of boys are at risk of

compared to 15.7% of girls.

In terms of test results and staying on to Year 12, girls are ahead, as is the number of girls holding a Bachelor's Degree. American author Michael Guran argues 'male and female brains learn differently'. Girls mature earlier in terms of academic ability, socialisation and the ability to articulate emotions.

Boys also prefer a teaching model with clear teacher direction, explicit goals, timely feedback and an orderly classroom environment where they know what they have to do to pass or fail. You may be thinking yes...and what is new?

Boys would profit from recognising the importance of open learning and self management, in an increasingly sophisticated world with a problem solving economy.

We are well aware of this at Pennant Hills High School and high on the agenda for 2014 is a review of boys' education, particularly in Years 8 and 9 where engagement can be a challenge. Literacy skills often seem to be at the base of many learning difficulties and parents are encouraged to engage their children, especially reluctant boys, to read widely and often in a sustained manner. Apart from the sheer pleasure of reading, it has many educational spin offs and benefits. Acknowledgement to Dr Kevin Donnelly – author of Educating your child: It's not rocket science.

The last day of school for students is Wednesday 18 December. The first day back for Years 7, 11 and 12 is Wednesday 29 January and Thursday 30 2014 for Years 8, 9 and 10. I will take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and for those lucky enough to take a break, an enjoyable and fun holiday.

Brendan O'Byrne Deputy Principal

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

#### **Links To Learning**

Congratulations to Samantha on graduating from Links to Learning: Certificate II Retail Beauty.

Links to Learning projects are run collaboratively with Department of Education and Communities secondary schools.



# Major Textiles Project in 2014 Texstyle Exhibition

Congratulations to Year 12 Textiles & Design student Emily who has had her Major Textile & Design Project selected in the 2014 Texstyle Exhibition. The exhibition showcases work of excellence from 2013 Higher School Certificate students who have completed Textiles and Design.



The exhibition will be included in the Expertise Events exhibition program at Rosehill Gardens as part of The Stitches and Craft Show in March 2014. Well done Emily!







#### PDHPE REPORT

With the school year winding up, our faculty seems to be accelerating in terms of the programs being conducted.

Last week, under the guidance of Mr Boyer, our school hosted a Sports Leadership day for selected students from our Years 8 and 9 elective classes as part of our involvement in the Premier's Sporting Challenge. Also attending were students from Asquith Boys, Asquith Girls and Chatswood High Schools. They attended coaching sessions on tennis, golf, rugby union, netball, softball, rugby league and soccer, all run by representatives from those respective sporting organisations. It was a great day and our students are now in a position to pass on the knowledge they have gained to their younger peers.

The spring grade sports competition recently finished, and of the twenty one competitions conducted, Pennant Hills High School made the grand final in fourteen sports and were premiers in nine. This is an outstanding achievement, and congratulations to all the students and staff for their efforts in representing our school so proudly.

Coming up over the next few weeks we have:

Year 10 My Life, My Future program was held this week. This is a mandatory program for all Year 10 students, including the Crossroads program and is developed to address some of the personal and social issues for young people in schools today. In particular the course focuses on the issues of goal setting, self esteem, interpersonal relationships, drugs, communication, safe driving and protective behaviours. The first three days were at Vision Valley, Dural where the students listened to presentations from a number of quest speakers, and also took part in a variety of adventure-type activities with the emphasis on challenging the individual, as well as developing team skills. The final two days were at school and students participated in a series of workshops designed to prepare them for senior assessment tasks and in planning for future career pathways. The program culminates in a presentation from NSW Police on cyber safety and youth issues.

Year 7 Swim School - Next week all Year 7 will attend a week-long Swim School / Lifesaving program (except Thursday) at the Loreto School, Normanhurst where they will receive practical and theory instruction leading to a number of lifesaving awards, based on their ability. Students will be at the pool for half a day and will have normal classes back at school for the remainder of the day. The cost for this has already been paid for in the school fees. Permission notes and an information sheet have already been issued.

**Year 10 PASS** students will be attending a Bronze Medallion course at Loreto Pool at the same time as the Year 7 Swim School.

Year 9 PASS and Year 8 Game On students will be attending a Learn to Surf program at Long Reef Beach on Monday 9 December.

Eight Year 10 students from the Sports Leadership Program have been selected to participate in a three day coaching camp at Narrabeen Sports Academy during the last week of term. During this time they will complete Level 1 coaching accreditation courses in two sports.

Neil Barrowcliff Head Teacher PDHPE

#### **SCIENCE**

#### **National Science Competition**

Students across Years 7 to 12 took part in the National Science competition, which reinforces the interest students at Pennant Hills High School have in Science. The results included; 23% Credits, 18% Distinctions and 14% High Distinctions. An outstanding achievement, well done!

# Year 8 (Essential Secondary Science Assessment) ESSA

The NSW Department of Education and Communities has implemented the mandatory statewide online testing of Year 8 students based on Stage 4 (Year 7 & 8) Science syllabus outcomes which were held on Monday 11 November. The school and parents will be able to access students' results early in 2014.

The Science faculty kindly requests that if any student has mistakenly taken a Science textbook or equipment home could they please return them to the Science staff at their earliest convenience.

Phil Scandizzo
Head Teacher Science & Agriculture

#### Do we have your correct email address?

This semester, academic reports for students in Years 7—11 will be emailed to parents and caregivers. If you have changed your email address since providing it to the school, please contact the office to update your details, or change them through the Parent Portal.



#### **Library News**

#### Year 7 Geography

During Term 3 and part of Term 4 students from 7GEG, 7GER and 7GEB have developed their roles as researchers learning how to avoid plagiarising with efficient planning, research note writing and accurate and complete referencing by participating in an *Australian World Heritage* study in the Library.

The Following students are commended for their diligence and attention to detail: 7GEB:Daniel, Melody, 7GER: Emma, Rosie, Taliah, Rebeka, and 7GEG Elizabeth, Liam, Raveen, Veronica Johns, Jade, Tabitha.

#### **Year 8 Science**

8SO was the last class to complete the *Trip to a Planet* research task in late Term 3 with great results. Particular commendations to: Michael, Chris, Sophie, Jacob, Marcus, Shannon, Madi, Darshna, Emily, Emmi.

#### **Premier's Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to the students from Year 7 who completed the 2013 challenge. You can expect your certificates soon!

Students may start the **2014 Challenge now** by accessing the PRC website for the reading lists. There is no need to buy books as *PHHS library* has over 800 books listed in the challenge. They are listed under **Reading Lists** at the *DEC Portal* or at *Library Enquiry* on the **Pennant Hills High School Intranet**.

#### Study periods, Senior Study and the Library

A great many senior students are now using these areas more often. We would like to welcome you and look forward to a productive 12 months. To ensure your study period time is used productively please remember the following simple procedures and you will have quiet areas in which to work, as you will need these in the next 12 months! We are happy to help you at any time.

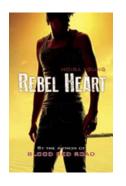


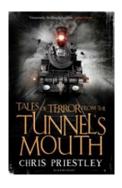
- Senior study is for quiet, individual study.
- Do not take newspapers or other casual reading to the senior study (unless it is for set texts in English).
- You are welcome to do group work in the main section of the library or ask Mrs Heywood for permission to use The Learning Centre.
- Check with Library staff before using upstairs computers.

#### **New Resources**

Students have been enjoying becoming familiar 3 new Surface RTs and 2 new iPads. Resources and Apps will be added to them as required. A class set of **Netbooks** has been a very useful addition and students in all years have greatly benefitted.

Below are some recently acquired great reads:











Best Wishes for Xmas and the New Year from the Library Staff!

Mrs Whitlock Library







#### CONCESSION CARDS

Students who have turned 16 years old are entitled to a Concession Card. These cards enable students to purchase cheaper fares on public transport at all times.

The cards are free and are valid from 1 April until 30 March the following year. Any student whose 16th birthday falls in the summer holidays may pick up their concession card in the last week of term from Public Reception.

#### SOUND ABSORPTION PANELS

Sound absorption panels have now been installed in the band rehearsal room. This has been met with great relief from students and conductors alike. It has taken many months in the making! After seeking advice from staff at Dolby, 9 panels were made up consisting of a wooden frame, special absorption materialacoustisorb and then covered with a light-weight fabric. This has been successful in absorbing the sound and improving the rehearsal conditions in the band room.

Special thanks to Mr Tyler who constructed the panels, assisted by Mr Dwight and Mr Randle. We are also most grateful for the support of parents involved, in particular Mrs Leggott and Mrs Turton, who also helped.

Carol Coomber **Band Coordinator** 

#### **Penno Prayer Meeting**

Mums, dads and grandparents, please come and join us as we pray for 'Penno' staff and students.

1st and 3rd Friday of each month during term 8.45am-9.15am

Please meet at Public Reception.

Enquiries: Kim Allan on 0410 548 350.

#### PRESENTATION EVENING

Wednesday 18 December 2013 7.30pm In the MPC





#### UNIFORM ITEMS FOR SALE

Parents and caregivers are reminded that most school uniform items are sold at two local shops: Cherryhills (Pennant Hills) and Ragamuffins (Westleigh).

#### **Sports Shorts and Track Suits**

Additionally, new (unused) school sports shorts and sports track suits are sold through the office at Student Reception. Sports shorts are available in a limited size range, while track suit jackets and lined track suit pants are available in S, M, L and XL.

#### Second-hand Uniform Items

Used uniform items are available from the uniform shop which operates out of the school's print room. Currently the uniform shop has stocks of senior uniforms, knitted school jumpers, boys' grey pants and boys' and girls' long sleeved shirts, all in a range of sizes. As the stock of used uniform items is constantly changing, you are advised to phone the uniform shop to check what is available before coming in to purchase these items.

Please contact Tracey Bain on 9473 5012 for any enquiries.

### APPLICATIONS FOR **EXEMPTION FROM ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL**

Parents and caregivers are reminded that any planned absence which extends beyond five days

is not treated as leave by the DEC.

An Application for Exemption from Attendance at School must be submitted

and, if approved, a Certificate for Exemption from Attendance at School will be issued.

This certificate needs to be carried with the student for the duration of their absence

and produced when requested by police or another authorised attendance officer.

Application forms can be collected from the school office or

can be accessed through the 'Downloads' tab on the parent portal.

Please submit the application at least 10 school days prior to your child's departure

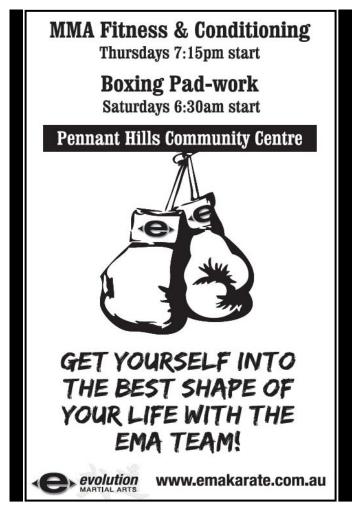
to ensure sufficient time for approval, processing and mailing of the certificate.

If your child's absence is due to an emergency or unforeseen circumstances such as a

bereavement, where it is not possible to provide notice 10 school days in advance,

please tell the office staff so your application can be expedited.











## **COMMUNITY NOTICES AND CONTACTS**

#### COMING EVENTS

Fairfield Multicultural Festival: Sunday 24 November 2013, 12-6pm. Bonnyrigg Community Centre.

15 performing groups from Africa, Latin America, Asia, Aboriginal, Middle East and Europe. For more information call NSW SLASA Community Hub on 9620 0288 or 0414 825 085.

Service of Remembrance for families and friends of children who have died or are missing: Wednesday 4 December 2013, 7:30pm at St Matthews Anglican Church, Corner Castle Hill and New Line Roads, West Pennant Hills. Representatives from several denominations, including hospital chaplains, will participate in the service and everyone present will be invited to place a flower on the communion table in memory of a child who has died or is missing. Supper will be served following the service. Enquiries: 9479 3700.

**Pennant Hills Public School P&C Association: Twilight Carols, Friday 6 December 2013, 6pm.** Cnr Ramsay and Weemala Roads, Pennant Hills. An evening of carols for the whole family accompanied by our school bands, choirs and string ensemble. Sausage sizzle, drinks, glowsticks and candles. BYO picnic rug.

Northern Sydney Youth Orchestra is a non-profit community organisation based in Beecroft. They welcome young musicians to join the orchestras. Auditions to join the orchestra will be held on 4 and 11 December 2013 and early 2014 or by appointment. For details contact the respective orchestra manager. Symphony—symphony@nsyo.org.au. Wind Ensemble: winds@nsyo.org.au. String Orchestra and String Sinfonia: strings@nsyo.org.au. Go to www.nsyo.org.au for more information or email info@nsyo.org.au.

#### STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

**Southern Cross Cultural Exchange**—Next information session: Tueday 19 November 2013 at 7:00pm at Lane Cove Library. www.scce.com.au or 1800 500 501.

LATTITUDE AUSTRALIA - volunteering and gap year placements for U/25s - www.lattitude.org.au or (03) 9826 6266

Student Exchange Australia NZ - scholarships available - www.studentexchange.org.au or 9997 0700.

World Education Program Australia (WEP) - www.wep.org.au or 1300 884 733 or email wep@wep.org.au.

Australian Institute of International Understanding (AIIU) - www.aiiu.om.au or 1800 174 407 - program costs apply.

Lions Youth Exchange Program - for 17-21 year olds - www.lionsclubs.org.au/ye

STS Student Exchange - www.sts-education.com.au or 1800 263 964

#### RECREATION AND SPORTING GROUPS

Dural Sport and Leisure Centre (A ministry of Dural Baptist Church) - www.dslc.com.au or phone 9651 2777

Hills Hawks Softball - All ages 4-adult welcome - www.hillshawks.softball.org.au or phone Hazel - 0414 474 461

Interested in Playing Cricket? Find out more at playcricket.com.au

North Sydney Girls Cricket Association: http://nsgca.nsw.cricket.com.au/

Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Rugby League Club - www.pennostags.com or 0418 677 511 (Ross Ruhan). All ages.

Beecroft Cherrybrook Junior Rugby Union Club - www.beecroftjuniors.com.au or 0439 904 457

Cherrybrook Table Tennis Club - 0412 520 854 - Enjoy social and competition table tennis.

Sydney Zodiacs Youth Dragon Boat Club - www.dbnsw.org.au or sydneyzodiacs@yahoo.com.au or 0410 655 764

Epping RSL Golden Kangaroos Marching Band - www.goldenkangaroos.org.au or 9868 3289 (Annette)

Northern Sydney Youth Orchestra for young musicians. Not-for-profit organisation. http://www.nsyo.org.au

2nd/3rd Pennant Hills Scout Group - 0408 121 690 (Greg Smithson) - Tuesdays (7-11) and Wednesdays (10-15).

Pennant Hills Girl Guides - 0438 284 592 (Fiona) - Meets Mondays (10-14 year olds) and Wednesdays (7-10 year olds).

St Agatha's Youth Group - for students from Years 7 to 9 - http://www.stagatha.org.au or 0409 847 208 (Laura)

West Pennant Hills Netball: Ashley - 0421 558 009. www.westpennanthills.netball.asn.au/

Thornleigh Softball: All games played at Galston. Contact Sharon—0407 442 402. thornleighsports.org.au/softball

#### **HELPERS NEEDED**

**Foster families needed -** Department of Family and Community Services - 8303 7644 Carers can be singles, couples, with or without children, and from any cultural background.

Volunteer with Easy Care Gardening - www.easycaregardening.org.au or 9983 1644 (Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai)

Bilingual Volunteers Needed - City of Sydney Meals on Wheels - For more information, phone 8512 4230.







### **COMMUNITY NOTICES AND CONTACTS**

#### HELP WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND NUMERACY

**Saturday School of Community Languages 2014:** For Information about language courses, including application forms and locations please go to **www.sscl.schools.nsw.edu.au**—2014 Enrolment Information. Applications for all years close on 21 February 2014. Year 7 applications must be sent as early as possible in 2014. For further information please contact Adelia Fuller, Principal—9244 5694.

Free adult literacy and numeracy classes - Meadowbank TAFE - 9942 3572. Reading, writing, speaking - group classes or 1:1 tutoring. Tutors also needed.

Free English courses for adult migrants - www.ames.edu.au - Classes at Hornsby, Chatswood and Eastwood.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORT

**The Kids Are All Right Website** for parents of Australian teenagers. For articles on teenagers plus a forum for parents of teens, go to **www.thekidsareallright.com.au**. Some of the articles to view: Starting high school is tough on parents too; Essentials for working teenagers; Mentoring for teens. There are many more available.

Tertiary Scholarships for children and grandchildren of Ex-Service Men and Women - Students selected on merit. Information and applications: www.avcat.org.au or phone 9213 7999 or 1800 620 361 (voicemail)

Jack's Youth Café at Hornsby - 5 Jersey Street Hornsby (a short walk from the station).

After school activities for students in a safe environment, run by Fusion Sydney North. Tuesdays-Fridays 3.00pm-6.00pm. *Bringing young people, their families and communities together with hope.* Phone 9477 1110.

Ability Options - a FREE service helping people with a disability into the job that's right for them. For more information contact Caroline Krix on 8811 1717 or email caroline.krix@abilityoptions.org.au

**Foster Care Association NSW Inc -** Providing advocacy, support and information to foster carers. **www.fcansw.org.au** or phone **4987 1847** 

Healthy Kids FREE Parent e-zine - important nutrition information and great recipes: www.healthy-kids.com.au

**Enrol to Vote** - If you are an Australian citizen who is 18 years of age or older, you must vote at all elections. Check if you're enrolled at **www.votensw.info**, enrol to vote at **www.aec.gov.au** or phone **1300 135 736** 

**Uniting** *Care* **Northmead** - 8839 5107 - Workshops and counselling for parents. Phone for more information.

Interrelate family centres - 8882 7850 - Phone for details of current workshops and courses for parents.

TOUGHLOVE - 1300 856 830 - Parents helping parents to deal with problems of unacceptable adolescent behaviour.

**Parenting Education for Mums, Dad and Carers -** www.nsccahs.health.nsw.gov.au/caparenting.htm Information and education provided by NSW Health - Northern Sydney Central Coast.

Centacare Broken Bay - 9488 2523 - Advice and support for parents.

Depression Support Group - 1300 794 991.

Hornsby RSL - first Sunday of each month. Run by Association of Relative and Friends of the Mentally III.

Parent Line - www.parentline.org.au or 1300 1300 52 - Free professional service 24 hours every day.

Kids Helpline - 1800 55 1800 - Free confidential service 24 hours every day.

Mission Australia - CAFS@missionaustralia.com.au or 9482 1366 - Free counselling and support service.

Single With Children - www.singlewithchildren.com.au or 1300 300 496

Non-profit social group providing exciting activities for single parents and their children.

Sydney Single Parents - www.SydneySingleParents.org.au or 9634 7502 (Hills) or 9411 1858 (Northside)

Hills Family Centre - 8805 7288 - Workshops and courses for parents and families.

Wesley Mission Family/Youth Services - www.wesleymission.org.au/centres/wesleydalmar/ or 8805 7288

Community Life Church Cherrybrook Life Centre - 9651 3534 - Counselling and parenting courses available.

Newcomers Club - www.sydneynewcomers.com.au - Social club for women, offering support and friendship.

NSW Health Free Dental Clinic for 12-25 year olds - 9687 2544 - High Street Youth Health Service, Harris Park.

#### **Rotary Club of Thornleigh Farm Markets**

Third Sunday of every month - 8.00am-12.00noon - car park (corner Phyllis St and Central Ave, Thornleigh)

Christ Evangelical Centre of Australia Chinese Language School - 0410 613 814 (Jenny)

Cybersmart website - www.cybersmart.gov.au - Part of the Australian Government's cybersafety program.

#### The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register - www.vifamilynetwork.org.au

Sponsored by the Royal Institute of Deaf and Blind Children, the Register collects data on Australian children with vision impairment. This data is used to improve services for children and to research eye disease and disorders of vision.

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