

THE CONVERSATION

WEEK 2 | TERM 3 | 2018

IMPORTANT DATES 2018 - Term 3

Information Briefing and Tour

Book in for a personal tour at any time or come to one of our regular briefing sessions.

Term 3 - Info briefing and tour

Friday 17 August

Friday 14 September

9:00- 4:00pm

Student Trial Days

Monday 20 August

Monday 17 September

Bookings essential

IFTS OFFICE - BLD 16

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 - 4:30pm

IFTS UNIFORM SHOP BLD

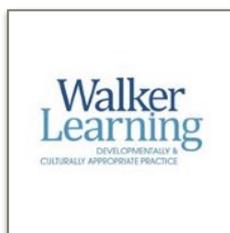
17

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

9:00 - 3:30pm

Principal's message

I would like to share some very positive news that affirms our school is most certainly on the right track. 2018 has been a big year for IFTS with NESAs (NSW Education Standards Authority) completing an inspection of the school whereby they assessed our registration and accreditation for our K-12 academic program and all aspects of our school operations. This has been our most significant inspection to date and the great news is that the inspectors will be making a positive recommendation to their committee for consideration of a full registration and accreditation for our school for an additional five years, where previously it has been year by year. Their comments were that they have seen tremendous progress and wanted to ensure we were aware of the significant transformation they have seen within the school over the past few years. This is a real point of celebration for our teaching staff in particular. Well done to our staff.



High School

Walker Learning Update

IFTS staff spent two days in the recent school break visiting two schools in Melbourne who have implemented Walker Learning. It was a great opportunity to see and experience

aspects of the homeroom sessions which has provided clarity as to what they should look and feel like. On return to IFTS, high school teachers have been working on refining their practice within their homerooms.

'Tuning in' - an aspect that allows students to become the focus of learning, openly discussing their goals, challenges and interests, has been a particular focus point. In the high school homerooms, we are also looking to introduce 'class meetings' which support students' voice through the discussion and debate of current topics of interest. For more information on Walker: <https://www.earlylife.com.au/walker-learning> or go to their Facebook page for further insight.

Important upcoming dates: Information Evenings

Monday 13th August- Moving to stage 6

5.30-7pm Building 27

Thursday 16th August- Moving from Year 6-7

5.30-6.30 Building 21

Pre Kindy Club

It was great to see so much enthusiasm at our PKC (Pre Kindy Club) sport stars session yesterday. There have been lots of friendships formed and our Kinder 2019 students are very excited about joining our current Kindergarten class this term at our Kinder Fun Days.

Next PKC event - Circus Skills
28 August

IFTS Athletics Carnival

Our recent athletics carnival was a great success with the following teams taking out Home Room Olympics honours:

1st Tim Walsh
2nd Brittney Procter
3rd Damien Mitchell



Important upcoming dates

CDSSA High School Athletics -
20/8/18
ASISSA Primary Athletics -
23/8/18

Kindergarten - Information Morning Tea & Tour

Our next info morning tea and tour is August 14 9:30am - 11:00am. Held in the IFTS cafe we are welcoming both Kinder 2019 & 2020 families who would like to hear more about our school and the programs we offer. If you would like to attend this event, please email me to let me know the names of those attending. All family members are welcome.

pfell@ifts.nsw.edu.au

Tennis *by Sean Carson*

Welcome all new and returning tennis students to the program. We are looking forward to helping you achieve your goals.

During the school break the Primary tennis students attended the National Primary School Games in Tamworth. It was very brisk -2°C in the mornings as our students went out to play this event, attended by more than 2000 primary school students from all over NSW, VIC and Qld.

Over the 2 days our students played fantastic tennis with the boy's team making it to the final. We are extremely proud of all our students on this trip and we are already planning next year's event.

Also a huge congratulations to IFTS Tennis Staff Rhys Searant and year 10 student Cooper Griffiths who won the AMT men's doubles at Gosford during the holidays.

Community



Boots For Africa (B4A) is a not-for profit organisation that collects pre-loved football boots and delivers them to children and adults across Africa. DONATE your old football boots to the people of Africa to help build communities and social understandings through the power of the game. Please bring to reception, Building 16 for collection by August 20. Next month our community efforts will be directed to our farmers.

Thirsty? Choose Water!



During Term 2, IFTS joined forces with other local secondary schools across Central Coast, Illawarra Shoalhaven and South Western Sydney and participated in a health promotion research project promoting drinking water.

The question was: Can a behavioural intervention and chilled water station increase water consumption and effect changes in students' knowledge, attitudes or consumption of sugar sweetened beverages.

Upon completion of an initial survey, our Year 7 pupils were lucky enough to be chosen to have a chilled water fountain installed in their classroom to promote water as a preferred drink.

In Term 4, students will experience a week of innovative, practical, and sugar shocking specialised PDHPE and Food Technology lessons using our school café to discover just how much sugar is contained in our everyday drinks of choice. Students will also play a variety of water/drinks based board games to further increase their awareness of sugar.

I am pleased to say our new chilled water fountain has been a huge success. In only 1 week, we have drunk enough water to fill 84 bottles!!

MAX POTENTIAL

Piper Menteith has taken on a 'Maxpotential' community service project through Mary Mac's where she plans to collect items such as toiletries, lightweight tents and non-perishable food and drinks for the homeless on the Central Coast. For further reading on this community leadership program please visit: <http://maxpotential.com.au/about.php>

Piper says: "I believe there is a need for this as I walk around and see the homeless on the streets begging for food or money and it has really impacted me - it's a very upsetting thing. So, I would like to try and make their lives a little easier and better."

I am aiming to collect at least 5 bags of items as described above to distribute to the less fortunate and through this project I hope to promote a greater awareness of the needy, Max Potential and the Mary Mac's organisation. I also hope to encourage others to assist the homeless.

If you would like to donate any goods could you please bring them to the school or send with your child for collection at reception, Building 16 by August 14.



The Aware Parent Course



Announcing our Aware Parent Course for Term 3, starting on August 21st (7pm) and running for 4 weeks.:

<http://www.theawareparent.com.au>

The course has been shown to:

- * Improve family dynamics
- * Increase cooperation and listening
- * Provide solutions for ongoing behavioural issues
- * Improve resilience, problem solving and emotional regulation for children.

Please call Alana on 0415 499 661



Contributing to the IFTS Return and Earn recycling cage to reduce our landfill waste is The Times Cafe, Kariang, a member of the Responsible Cafes movement which lists businesses that are committed to reducing waste. Sample their fantastic coffee and food and check out their other recycling initiatives such as providing food scraps and used coffee grind to customers for their compost bins and worm farms.

Primary School

The Primary School teachers recently spent 2 days in Melbourne visiting a Catholic school and an Independent school that have been implementing Walker Learning for nearly 6 years.

Behind the Walker Learning Pedagogy is an immense amount of neuroscience and science-backed research.

The resident K-2 students were highly engaged and able to clearly articulate what they were learning. The morning check-ins (we call them Homerooms at IFTS) demonstrated the importance of starting the learning day with intention and this is something the IFTS primary is doing quite well. It also reinforced the importance of 'Focus' child.

Teachers this term will start working on a "Statement of Intent - SOI" document. Each fortnight the Statement of Intent is planned by the teachers and based on the children's interest and social, emotional and academic readiness.

Another area we plan to work on this Term is our "classroom meeting" where students all have a voice in discussing world issues that are of interest or that are having an impact on society. The agenda and the meeting are run by the students with a Chairperson and minute taking keeping the meeting on track.

Also a work in progress is the gradual transformation of the teaching spaces into student centred areas. We will be asking for assistance with this from the school community so please watch out for more information about what resources are needed.

Please see the following link for more information on Walker: <https://www.earlylife.com.au/walker-learning> or go to their Facebook page for further insight.

Small Business Owners Looking for a cost-effective way to advertise and reach a specific target market? Contact Julie Dolan at jdolan@ifts.nsw.edu.au

Want to be part of a clinical trial?

By taking part in a clinical trial, you can contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge and, in some cases, to improved health for yourself or others with the same disease or condition.

Call us on **1300 742 326** or go to our website www.mytrial.com.au for more information.



We are currently conducting trials in women's health and Diabetes amongst many other disease indications.

