WELCOME EVERYONE TO THE 2017 SCHOOL YEAR!

We are delighted to welcome many new students and families to our school community, to see the return of familiar faces, and to witness the transformations and growth of the summer holidays in our students.

We look forward to another year of adventures in learning!

During the holidays one of our long-held goals was happily realized with the installation of the climbing tower.

Stuart our Operations Manager, along with the grounds team and supplementary workers, spent long (hot/wet) hours over many many days on a multitude of tasks to ensure the tower was in place for the start of the school year. Stuart has documented the story for us to share…

THE JOURNEY OF A CLIMBING TOWER

Deep History
The first mention of building a climbing tower for the Primary children was 20 years ago during a College of Teachers meeting. The conversation reflected on the lack of upper body strength in children, a seemingly new phenomenon, possibly as a consequence of our risk averse society - don't climb trees, don't climb rocks, don't swing on ropes.

Recent History
10 years ago the College of Teachers investigated a climbing tower purchase and agreed on the tower now installed, but there were no funds available to proceed.

Parent Fund-raising to the Rescue
The situation with the lack of upper body strength in children highlighted 20 years ago has become almost a crisis due to digital technology in children’s lives - want to climb a tree - there's an App for that!

Thanks to the hard work of the School Community, Parents and Friends, and Fair Committee, fundraising money had accumulated to a point where the Teacher's wish for a climbing tower could be realised.

Things quickly swung into motion once the P & F and Teachers had agreed on the climbing tower project.
**November 2016**
- A site was chosen for the tower - behind Class 7 Room above the back playing field
- Three trees in the vicinity with structural problems were removed
- Tree stumps, including the three, were ground out
- The Tower ground plan was laid out, taking into account existing trees, and underground services
- There was just enough space for the Tower footprint

**December 2016**
- Earthworks were carried out to level the site
- The site was surveyed and marked out
- Five 1 cubic metre foundation holes were dug in preparation for concrete
- Christmas!
- Stainless steel anchor points were accurately located above the holes ready for a concrete pour
- New Year…

**January 2017**
- A massive storm filled all of the holes with water, one hour before the concrete pump and delivery was due
- Sullage pump was hired to pump out the holes
- Six cubic metres of concrete was pumped into the foundation holes holding the tower anchors
- Final earthworks were carried out to cut a drainage trench under the tower area, finalise the tower footprint, rebuild a storm water drain and complete contours around the tower area
- 32 hardwood railway sleepers were moved into position to define the "use area" and hold back pine soft fall
- Many deliveries of road base, garden soil and lawn turf
- Sleepers were fastened into position to define the use area
- 50 cubic metres of soft fall was delivered and raked across the 200 square metres of tower footprint
- Outside the use area, lawns were repaired and turf was laid
- At long last, a crane lifted the red tower net out of its delivery box and laid it on the ground
- The blue tower mast was inserted into the net
- The mast and net were lifted into position by the crane and were secured into position using large turnbuckles to the anchor points
- The tower assembly was rigged, tested and signed off
- Some final landscaping and tidying
- That's it!  *And now, in use…*
SCHOOL NOTICES & REMINDERS

SCHOOL PARKING
As the New School Year has started it seems timely to remind everyone of the internal egress and parking rules. It also is apparent that traffic signs, which are placed for student safety, are not being adhered to.

In the morning:
• kiss and drop rules apply in the top driveway
• parking in the top car park for early childhood parents
• NO PARKING OR DRIVING DOWN THE BACK

In the afternoon:
• parking is allowed down the back for early childhood parents only
• Primary school children are escorted to the bus shelter where they are to be collected
• please do not leave your car unattended in the bus pathway in the afternoon
• parking is available along Old Northern Rd from the school’s northern boundary

Early childhood parents need to be aware that High School lessons run from 8.45pm until 3.15pm and distractions and interference in these lessons by parents talking outside classrooms and little children running around and playing on the field is unacceptable.

Please try to be mind-full of the lessons and the safety of the students.

Also all driving within the school grounds needs to be at 5kph.

All parents need to remember that there is no play-ground duty after school as teachers are on bus duty and that playing back after school is not permitted. Children need to be collected quickly and efficiently at the end of the school day.

Thank you for cooperation.

AFTER SCHOOL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS
Also, a reminder please that if you need to advise children of changes to their after school/travel arrangements, please CONTACT THE OFFICE BY 1pm. We need to pass on these messages to teachers by the start of afternoon lessons, to ensure they reach the children. Thank you.

PARENT LIBRARY
We have a Parent Library with resources on a range of topics (parenting, Steiner education, play etc). The collection is in the school library, and is open for parents to access on Fridays from 2.45-3.30pm. Membership is $20 (a one-off payment).

If you can’t visit, enquiries can be sent to melissahm@lorien.nsw.edu.au

PLAYGROUP
Playgroup will not be running in Term 1, but we are expecting will be fully operational from Term 2.
2017 OPAL CARDS

Most students or parents/guardians won’t need to apply for the School Opal card if they held a 2016 School Travel Pass. However, a new application is required (if not already submitted) if:

- the student is just starting school or has not had a pass for travel before.
- the student has progressed from Yr 2 2016 to Yr 3 2017, or Yr 6 2016 to Yr 7 2017
- the student needs to be able to travel to multiple home addresses because of a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

If your details have changed, for example changing schools (other than moving from Years 2 to 3 or Years 6 to 7), your address or your name, then complete an application to update your details.

Applications must be made by a parent or guardian for children aged 15 years and under. Applications must be made by the student if aged 16 years or older.

For all information including forms:

MIDDLE SCHOOL – HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Information Evening

Thursday 16th February – 7.30 pm

‘The Lorien High School Journey’

This welcome and information evening is for parents of Classes 5, 6, 7 and all High School classes.

Other interested parents are welcome to come, and students from Class 10, 11 and 12 are also invited.

The gathering will be held in the Performance Hall and we hope to be finished by 9.00pm.

Program

* Welcome
Education Today, a Changing Environment
A picture of the Lorien High School Norman

* Curricula Stages
Understanding Bostes requirements Leanne

* Introduction to the Teachers
Post Lorien Pathways Norman

* Questions with the teachers Finish.

We hope that as many parents as possible will attend this information evening to help us build a stronger High School Community.
We have an active and productive P&F who welcome your contributions ~ big and small!

Attendance at meetings is not a requirement ~ though also most welcome!

You can contact the P&F at any time via pandf@lorien.nsw.edu.au

**FACEBOOK GROUPS:**

- Lorien Community: [www.facebook.com/groups/LNSCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/groups/LNSCommunity)
- Buy/Swap/Sell/Promote your Business: [www.facebook.com/groups/LNSSellSwapGiveAway/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/LNSSellSwapGiveAway/)
- Lorien Novalis Alumni page: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/LNSAlumni/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/LNSAlumni/)

**SUNSHADOW INDOOR SLIPPERS FOR SALE**

**OPENING HOURS**

- Monday to Friday: 9-10am
- Monday: 2-3pm

All welcome!
No experience necessary

All enquiries to: [donna.sherman@bigpond.com](mailto:donna.sherman@bigpond.com)
Explore Your Interest In Steiner Education

Sydney Rudolf Steiner College is a Sydney based, Adult Education College and Registered Training Organisation offering a range of courses inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner.

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Rudolf Steiner Education
Early Childhood
Creative Parenting
Anthroposophy
Craft and The Arts
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Communication
Creative Writing
Health and Nutrition
and much more…

With options for Professional Development, Part-Time Study, Distance and Short Courses for Teachers, Parents and all interests in Steiner Education.

Discover more at: www.sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com or call us on: (02) 9261 4001 to discuss your interests.
## 2017 School Year

2017 School calendar/planners are now available at the office

### Term 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 Jan</td>
<td>Term 1 begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Apr</td>
<td>Term 1 ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7.30pm (Novalis College) <strong>NEW DATE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Feb</td>
<td>Parent Meeting for classes 5 to 12 re High School 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Mar</td>
<td>Market &amp; Information Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>Class 2 Parent Meeting 6pm (classroom)</td>
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### Term 2:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Apr</td>
<td>Term 2 begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Jun</td>
<td>Term 2 ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7.30pm (Novalis College)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>Market &amp; Information Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-23 Jun</td>
<td>Winter Festival</td>
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### Term 3:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 Jul</td>
<td>Term 3 begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Sep</td>
<td>Term 3 ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Jul</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7.30pm (Novalis College)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Aug</td>
<td>Market &amp; Information Day</td>
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<td>2 Sep</td>
<td>Fair Day</td>
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### Term 4:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td>Term 4 begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Term 4 ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting 7.30pm (Novalis College)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Oct – 14 Nov</td>
<td>Class 6 Trip (NW Island)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>Market &amp; Information Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-24 Nov</td>
<td>Class 10 Tall Ship Sailing trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>Major Works Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dec</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY (for Open Day setup)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>Open Day</td>
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</tbody>
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### Quiet

Quiet I bear within me  
I bear within myself  
Forces to make me strong  
Now I will be imbued  
With their glowing warmth  
Now I will fill myself  
With my own will’s resolve  
And I will feel the quiet  
Pouring through all my being  
When by my steadfast striving  
I become strong  
To find within myself  
The strength of inner calm

Steiner Verse