

newsletter

VOL: 38 No.18

SHELLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

14th June 2019

Deputy Principal's Report

Attendance

Super Stars

Fun Day

Parenting Ideas

Dates to Remember



Principal's Report

Thank you to the small group of parents who braved the cold Monday evening last week to attend the June P&C meeting. A reminder that all parents are welcome to attend our monthly P&C meetings. The next meeting will be held on Monday 1st July at 7pm in Room 2 (next to the staffroom).

Last week, Shelley PS had a visit from Ms Cathy Brennan - Executive Director School Performance, Metropolitan North and Ms Toni Kember – Director Educational Leadership Bungarribee Network. Mrs Williams and I were proud to be able to share and celebrate the outstanding work being done by both students and staff at Shelley every day.

We received the following message from Mrs Brennan following her visit:

"Thank you so much for your time, and that of your fabulous team yesterday. The culture for learning is so impressive and is a testament to your vision and purposeful leadership for Shelley Public School. I loved the opportunity to visit so many classrooms and to see the impact for our students as independent learners who have purpose, clarity and intention for their learning progress."

The recent Book Fair was once again extremely well supported by our school community. Over \$5000 worth of books were sold! This will mean a huge boost back to our library in books from Scholastic. Thank you to all the Shelley Super Star Readers (and their parents and grandparents) for visiting the Book Fair.

Next week, we have the Stage finals of the Shelley PS Public Speaking competition, taking place, as well as another Year 6 visit to Mitchell HS and Round 5 of PSSA. Most weeks we have students out and about in the community – either participating in carnivals, debates, sporting activities or excursions. It is always a great pleasure to hear from teachers and parents how well our students have participated and behaved. Not only is it a testament to our wonderful students, but is also a great reflection on our school community and you as parents.

Shelley PS Public Speaking Competition

On Monday 1st July we have the Shelley PS Public Speaking Competition finals. Congratulations to all of the boys and girls across the school who participated in both the class and grade levels of the competition so far. The ability to write a speech and present it to an audience are tremendous skills to develop. I am very impressed by the level of participation by our students, their work in research and preparation and their amazing efforts in speaking with confidence, conviction and clarity. We wish all the finalists good luck!



e-Safety Tips and Ideas

Concerns regarding student safety online are constantly in the news headlines. It is important for us as educators and parents to be mindful of children's internet usage. Raising children in a time of intense focus on social media and online activity can be stressful and worrying for parents.

The office of the e-Safety Commissioner is committed to helping all Australians have safe, positive experiences online. They have some outstanding resources available for Parents and Caregivers. I have attached an example of the type of information available (Screen Time for your child – 7 tips).

I encourage all parents to utilise the eSafety commissioner's website:

- <https://esafety.gov.au/esafety-information>
Including the tips for parents and families.
- <https://esafety.gov.au/parents> Information (and links) include Privacy and your child, Online Safety Basics, Are they old enough? and Taming the Technology.
- The section titled "Big Issues" <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/big-issues> talks about Cyber-bullying, Time Online, Gaming and Unwanted Contact / Grooming.

The website is well worth a visit as it also has a great guide to popular games, apps and social networking sites.

Unsafe Driving

I feel like a "broken record" on my next point – however, the safety of our students is our paramount concern – and it seems a small number of parents are still not getting the message about safe driving around our school.

Over the last fortnight staff have personally witnessed some unsafe driving in the streets around our school. I urge **all** parents to please obey **all** road rules when dropping off and picking up students. When it comes to the safety of our children – surely taking a few more minutes to do things safely is worth the effort!

Areas of concern include:

- **Stopping on the crossing to drop off students.**
- Pulling into neighbours driveways to drop off students.
- Pulling up in the middle of the road or on the double lines to let students get out.
- Allowing students to alight from the car in the middle of the road (children should always get out on the kerb side of the road).
- Waiting on the opposite side of the road – and encouraging students to cross unsafely, and not at the crossing.



Blacktown Council Parking Officers frequently attend our school. Please be aware that parents caught parking illegally will be booked.



"Stranger Danger"

It is important that as a school community we work together to protect our children and keep them safe. Whilst safety forms an integral part of teaching and learning programs at school, it is important that children get consistent messages and reminders from both home and school.

We remind all parents to ensure they have conversations with their child about ways they can stay safe. Most importantly, make sure you talk to your child about vital safety tips - such as not talking to strangers. At a level appropriate to your child, talk about scenarios they might find themselves in - and talk about what they should do. (For example: what if a stranger asked you if you would like some lollies or if you would like to come and pat their dog?)

Kindergarten 2020

It is June already – and before we know it, we will be planning for Kindergarten 2020 orientation.

We are currently accepting applications for enrolment in Kindergarten 2020. **If you have a child who will be turning 5 before 30th July, 2020 and you are intending to enrol them for next year, please complete an application form as soon as possible and return it to the office.**

Likewise, if you have a neighbour or friends with pre-school children who is intending to commence next year – please advise them to complete their application in the next few weeks.

Our student numbers for Kindergarten have a significant impact on school organisation for 2020. We ask for your assistance in ensuring applications are sent in as soon as able.

“Application to enrol” forms are available either via the school website or from the office. Those parents who do not live in the catchment area and wish to send their children to Shelley PS are also required to complete an out of area application form, which will be reviewed by the Out of Area Panel.

Appointments / Phone calls to Teachers

If you have a concern or query about your child's learning, the staff at Shelley PS encourages all parents to let us know.

The first “port of call” should always be the class teacher as they will have the best knowledge of your child's learning. **If you would like to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher please either send a note or contact the office, or use the school app to request an appointment.**

If it is an urgent matter, you can phone to talk to the teacher – but please be aware that teachers cannot take phone calls during the teaching day. Likewise, if you phone before or after school, many teachers may also have meetings. If you call after 8:45am, you may not be put through to the teacher as they are preparing for class.

We do ask that parents DO NOT to talk to the class teacher during morning assembly, or at lines as they move into class.

Please be assured that we value open communication with parents, and our teachers will be happy to make an appointment to discuss your concerns at any time during the year.

Or course, if there is an emergency and you need to discuss something with us urgently, please phone the office and ask to speak to either myself, Mrs Williams or one of the Assistant Principals.

Parenting Ideas

In the often difficult job of parenting, one of the most important things we can do for our children is to help them develop resilience, confidence and optimism.

This week I have reprinted an article addressing this issue: “Teach Your Kids to Shrug!” (Although you may not necessarily agree with everything in these articles – remember they are provided as a springboard for your own thinking about how to deal with issues with your kids).

Although we never condone students making unkind comments or off hand remarks, it is an unfortunate fact of life that we will all at some time experience someone saying or doing something unkind. Helping children learn to deal with these incidents will set them in good stead for the future.

Jo-Ann Campion





Deputy Principal's Report

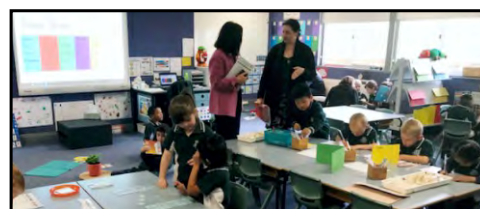
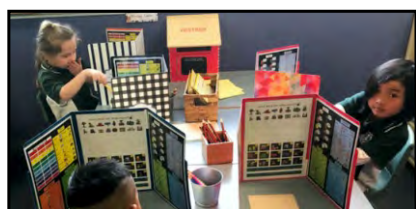
Sydney West Cross Country

Four Shelley Super Stars represented Blacktown Zone yesterday at the Sydney West Cross Country Carnival. Congratulations to all on your representative achievements - Nathaniel (18th), Jake (8th), Lacey (28th) and Nico (place not allocated).



Executive Director Visit

Last week we were pleased to host some very special visitors to our school. Ms Toni Kember – our Bungarribee Network Director and Mrs Cathy Brennan – Executive Director – School Performance – Metropolitan North, came to visit Shelley. Mrs Brennan visits a range of schools throughout the year and we were pleased to invite her to some of our classrooms during literacy sessions to observe writing across the school. Miss Greenwood – our Literacy and Numeracy Mentor, spoke about how we use data to inform our decisions and priorities in writing. We were proud and confident to have these special visitors observe some of the best practice happening here at Shelley.



Shelley Super Stars

It is wonderful that we are able to congratulate so many students on their fantastic achievements with the presentation of Super Star Badges. Remember to keep your child's white certificates in a safe place at home when you receive them! When you have collected 5 white awards, send them in to your child's class teacher. The white awards will be put in the class envelope and sent to me, so I can organise the Super Star Badge and put your child's name in the newsletter.

You can hand in your white awards to your child's class teacher at any time, however, remember it takes time to update our database, process the Super Star Badges and put your child's name in the newsletter. White awards must be handed in by Wednesday afternoon – for the Super Star to be presented at the following Monday morning assembly. Remember, your child's name must be listed in the Newsletter or Shelley Spotlight, for them to be scheduled to receive a badge at the next K-6 Assembly.

Compulsory School Attendance

Even though it is flu season and we have had outbreaks of illness, it is very pleasing that our parents are so diligent with sending in notes, -either handwritten or via the school App to explain why children have been away from school. Explanation of student absences are compulsory and it is vital that we work together to ensure our high rates of attendance continue, to ensure maximum education growth for our students.

**Your child's best learning time is
at the beginning of the day...**

School starts at 8.55 - Don't be LATE!



STUDENTS WHO ARE LATE WILL ...



**{ It's not OK
to be late! }**

- **MISS** the important social interactions with friends before the bell that can relax them and set them up positively for the work day ahead
- **MISS** the start of lessons so that learning becomes disjointed and difficult
- **MISS** the morning greetings, messages, roll call, lunch orders, collection of notes and monies etc.
- Distract other children when they arrive and interrupt the momentum of the group
- Receive unnecessary attention that may make them feel uncomfortable or embarrassed

What parents should know about school attendance:

Regular daily attendance is essential for your child's learning. Not only is it a legal requirement between the age of 6 and 17 years. It also greatly impacts on your child's quality of learning and their ability to reach their learning potential.

SOME QUESTIONS TO REFLECT UPON:

Do I have to send my child to school?

YES - all children are required by law to attend school between the ages of 6 and 17 years. Some children begin school below the age of 6. That is fine, but once the child is enrolled, it is expected that he / she will attend every day the school is open unless they are sick or have an acceptable reason.

When does attendance become important?

From the first day of attending school. Much of the play that goes on at school teaches your child many skills. If the basic skills are missed in the early years of school they are not fully learnt later on. It has been shown poor attendance in primary school leads to worse attendance at high school.

Do I need to send my child every day?

YES - this includes sports carnivals and excursions.

When may my child stay away from school?

The Department of Education accepts very few reasons.

The most valid ones are:

1. Illness/injury
2. Religious commitment

It is expected that dental and doctor appointments are made after school hours.

Having a birthday is **NOT** an acceptable reason for having a day off.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

It is a departmental requirement for all parents / caregivers to either notify the school verbally or in writing about the reasons for a student not attending school.

At Shelley, we are very proud of our strong attendance rates and work hard in partnership with parents to maintain them. This is of great benefit to the learning and engagement of our students.

If your child has been away from school, it is important to explain their absence with a note upon their return to school. Parents may also use the Shelley APP to inform us of the reason.

If your child returns to school without a note they will be reminded by their teacher to bring a note in. On the third day the classroom teacher will send a request for absence explanation note home. On the fourth day the classroom teacher will call the parent for a verbal explanation of a student's absence.

If a student does not attend school for 3 days (without prior notice to the teacher), the classroom teacher will call the parents to identify the reason for the absence and a medical certificate will be required to be presented upon the student's return.



Assistant Principals will hold attendance meetings with parents and class teachers after a student has

5 unexplained absences in a term

or

5 unexplained partial absences in a term

Mrs Williams or Ms Campion will request an attendance meeting with parents after a student has

10 unexplained absences in a term

or

10 unexplained partial absences in a term

**Congratulations to our Week 6 Shelley Super Stars:
Redster 2M, Mia 2P, Mikayla 6D, Isabella 3T and Lana 3T**



**Congratulations to our Week 7 Shelley Super Stars:
Michael 1D, Dalia 3S, Aaryan 4B, Blake 1D and Yuxin 1D**



PBL Update



Shelley Super Stars are Safe Respectful and Responsible!

Our K-2 super Stars use the playground equipment properly.

Our purple award winners at the K-6 Assemblies were **Ishaan from 3S** and **Jake from 2P**. Congratulations, we hope you both enjoyed your special canteen reward!

The PBL Committee





Shelley Super Stars

Congratulations to the following students on achieving their:



Lucy

6D



Ela

5J



Joshua

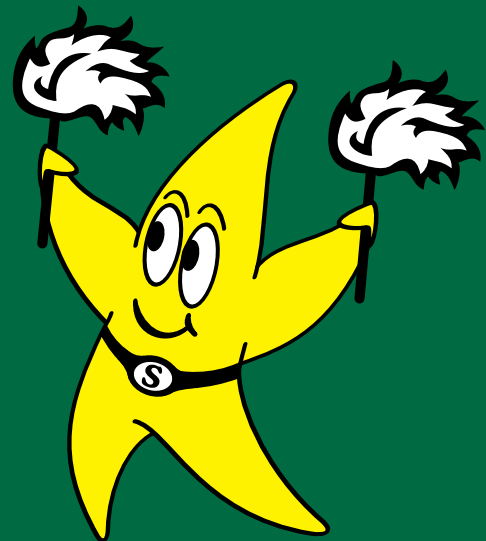
2P



Tarni
Leah
Declan
Shriyas

1T
1D
1D
2J

These students will be presented with their badges on Monday 17th June at the K-6 Assembly



Leanita Williams - Deputy Principal

Kids Matter

Shelley Public School Supports Mental Health and Wellbeing in our School Community

Speechie Corner - Tip of the Week

Play Licence Letters

An activity to complete this fortnight: Here is a quick word game you can play with your children when they are in the car with you.

How?

When in the car, choose a number plate in front of you and say the 3 letters to your child. Their role is to think of 3 words starting with those letters.

Why?

This will help your child's knowledge of letters and sounds in words develop.

What do I look for?

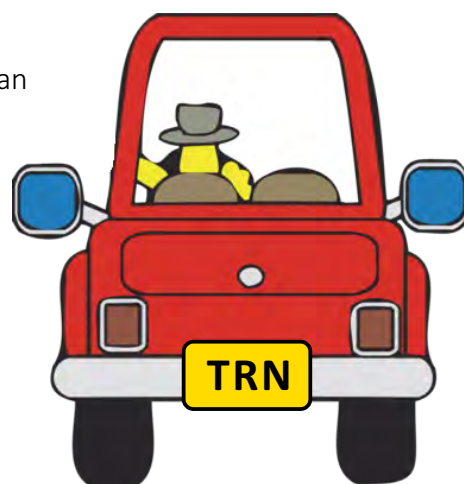
The ability to remember the 3 letters and the speed in which they come up with words.

How can I make this harder?

- The words they say must be more than 3 letters
- The words need to flow together for example: TRN = "The Rat Nibbled" rather than "Table Rat Nut"
- You have to make your sentence before the car is out of sight

Good luck!

Sophie Gill - Speech Pathologist



Green Team News

The Green Team was lucky to be awarded another grant from Blacktown City Council. This money will be used to consolidate and revitalise the compost and recycling programs at the school.

Already, a wonderful group of students and SRC members have helped label and sort new compost buckets which will be distributed this week.

We have filled another Earn and Return bin with drink containers and look forward to the cash that we earn from this recycling initiative. This is a pretty yucky job and a big thanks to those students who dive in each week (not literally) and sort and clean the bins, so that the school can earn some money and we save lots of plastic going into the environment.

Don't forget - empty your drink container, take out the straw, DON'T squash it, then place it into the yellow bins. Parents and community are welcome to add their drink containers with the 10c barcode to our big yellow bins too.

No coffee cups please - a keep cup or reusable cup is much better. There is an estimate that Australians use 1 billion disposable coffee cups each year! Every bit makes a difference.

A huge big thank you to Mr Casipit who is in the process of reusing some fallen trees for student furniture in our outdoor learning area. It is very exciting to see it coming together, and an army of small gardeners pulled lots of weeds from this space this morning - the barrow was overflowing!



FUN DAY



Family
and friends
are
welcome!

Tuesday
2nd July

The fun starts at 12:00

Our Year 6 students and the Year 6 Parent Committee are excited to announce Fun Day 2019!

We will have a variety of fun and exciting stalls - parents, family members and visitors are most welcome to come along as there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

All stalls will use tokens instead of cash

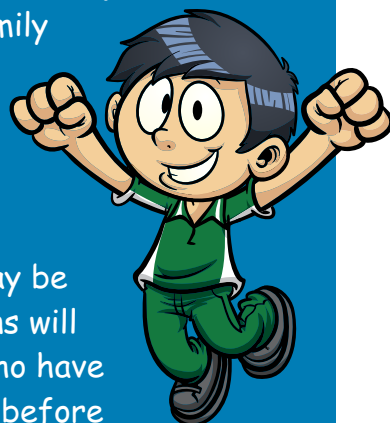
Tokens are worth 50 cents each, and may be pre-purchased via the office. Some tokens will be available for sale on fun day. Students who have pre-purchased tokens will be given them just before fun day starts. Please be aware that any unused tokens cannot be refunded or reused next year.

All classrooms will be locked until 2pm

Students leaving school early will not be signed out until the completion of the Fun Day at 2pm, and must be signed out at the office immediately before leaving the school grounds. Year 6 students are expected to remain until the end of the day, as they are responsible for packing up after the event.

This event promises to be an exciting day and we look forward to seeing you there.

Your support will ensure we are able to continue the Year 6 Farewell tradition with minimal charge to the Year 6 students and parents.



Dates to Remember



Week 8

Monday	17th June	K-2 Assembly - 2J Hosting
Tuesday	18th June	Year 6 High School Visit Mad Food Science Program
Wednesday	19th June	Mad Food Science Program Mad Food Science - Parent Session Maths Olympiad
Thursday	20th June	Footy Mufti Day
Friday	21st June	PSSA

PSSA

21st June - Week 8

Netball
International Peace Park
League Tag
Marayong Oval
Rugby League
Waites Reserve
Soccer
Morgan Power Reserve

Week 9

Monday	24th June	3-6 Assembly - 6F Hosting
Tuesday	25th June	Year 6 High School Visit
Friday	28th June	PSSA

Notes and Money to be Returned by Due Date

Year	Event	Due Date
K-6	Fun Day Tokens - note and payment	25 June
Year 4	Camp Instalment - \$58	5 July
Year 5	Camp Instalment - \$55	21 June
Year 6	Camp Instalment - \$70	21 June

Final Camp Payment Dates
Year 4 - Friday 9th August
Years 5&6 - Friday 6th September

Please note: copies of all notes and Newsletters are available on the Shelley website.

Footy Mufti Day

Wear your team colours
to school on

Thursday
20th June



Supporting
Stewart House

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Teach your kids to SHRUG!

The secret to having resilient, confident and optimistic children is to teach your kids to shrug!

It was so irritating, yet so effective.

I'm talking about my boyhood mate Terry's habit of **shrugging his shoulders** whenever anyone teased him or tried to persuade him to their way of thinking.

'Hey Terry, you're a **&&E@!'

Shrug.

'Hey Terry, everyone says your.....*&TR!'

Shrug.

'Hey Terry, I'm going to tell on you!'

Shrug.

His nonchalance used to drive everyone nuts!

So much so that he was rarely targeted for teasing despite the fact that he wasn't sporty, he wasn't cool and he was late maturing – all of which back then, as now, would put a boy in the 'to be picked on' category.

I thought of Terry recently when I was coaching a young person about how to respond to some schoolyard taunts.

This young person wore his heart on his sleeve, taking taunts and even witticisms too seriously for his own good. Unfortunately, some of his so-called mates used to enjoy seeing him become angry.

The best way to break this **toxic cycle of taunt-react-taunt** was for him to change his reaction.

So we did some coaching in the art of shrugging and before long my young charge was shrugging his shoulders, as if to say 'Whatever', and walking away at the first sign of a taunt.

Eventually he was channelling Terry so well that his nonchalance even began to irritate me.

Some things can't be ignored

Don't get me wrong. Kids cannot and should not ignore all negative comments directed at them.

There are times when they need to stand up and be counted. They don't need to be aggressive about it, but they do need to be assertive from time to time. Sticking up for a friend, rescuing someone who is being taunted or even looking out for a sibling's best interests at school are times when children need to assert themselves rather than shrugging off a problem.

Kids practise on their siblings

Socially savvy kids know that some of the negative peer comments directed at them need to be ignored. However, this is quite a skill.

Ignoring comments and choosing your arguments is something many kids learn in their battles with siblings.

Those noisy sibling skirmishes that annoy the hell out of parents actually toughen kids up for the less-than-pleasant social interactions that take place in the schoolyard.

Interestingly, my boyhood mate Terry was the youngest of four brothers. I guess he would have perfected the art of shrugging out of sheer necessity.

So, if you have a sensitive child who wears his or her heart on their sleeve, or a child who reacts impulsively to both taunts and witticisms alike, you may wish to introduce the **art of shrugging** into their repertoire of responses.

How to create a good shrug

Kids can practise shrugging in front of the mirror so that they can see what a good shrug looks like. There are 4 ingredients:

- 1 A 'whatever' look.
- 2 A shrug of the shoulders.
- 3 A simple, non-combative, non-sarcastic line such as 'You may be right', 'Whatever' or 'I hadn't thought of that'.
- 4 A final breaking of eye contact that indicates that they are in control.

A word of warning

If you teach your kids to shrug, you need to be prepared for them to use this shrugging technique against you when you direct some criticism or constructive feedback their way. If they do, you'll find out how damn infuriating nonchalance (even when it's fake) can be.

Oh, and you'll be seeing a child or young person who is exercising a degree of personal power that, when used smartly, will increase their overall social effectiveness.



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



Screen time for your child – 7 tips

There is a lot of conflicting advice and emerging research around screen time. But, the right amount of screen time can depend on a range of factors like your child's age and maturity, the kind of content they are consuming, their learning needs and your family routine. It can be easy to focus only on the clock and how long your child is spending in front of the screen, but the quality and nature of what they are doing online, and your involvement are just as important.

Consider your child's screen use in the context of their overall health and wellbeing – for example, is online time getting in the way of their sleep and exercise? Is it impacting on their face-to-face connections with family and friends? The answers to these questions will guide you and help strike the right balance of online and offline activities for your child.



1. Be involved

Sharing screen time and online activities like gaming with your child helps you gauge the appropriateness of what they are doing and manage potential risks. It's also a great way to start conversations with your child about their online experiences.



2. Work with your child to set boundaries for screen use

If you decide that setting screen time limits is right for you and your child, discuss these new rules with your child. Older children are more likely to cooperate if they have been part of the decision-making process. Colourful pictures or charts of daily limits and other important activities is a fun way to get younger children on board.



3. Be clear about the consequences of not switching off

Part of our role as parents is to set clear limitations and boundaries. The same applies to technology limitations so, being clear and consistent about the consequences for your child if they do not stick to these rules is paramount. The [Raising Children Network](#) provides some useful tools and advice.



4. Set device-free zones and times at home

Device-free zones can help you manage your family's digital use. Here are some ideas for setting digital boundaries within your home:

- no devices in the bedroom for younger children
- all screens off in bedrooms after a certain time for older children
- all screens off at least one hour before planned bedtime
- all family members switch off at dinner time
- charge devices overnight in a place your child cannot access



5. Ask your child to explain their screen use

Get your child in the habit of explaining why they want to be in front of a screen or online. It's a great way to get them thinking about their own digital habits and balancing screen time with other activities.



6. Use tech tools to help manage access

There are robust products and device functions which allow you to see which apps are being used in your home and for how long. But try not to use these tools to secretly monitor your child. Instead, be open about the process and check the whole family's usage, including your own. Start with [Google Family Link](#) for Android devices or [parental controls](#) and [Screen Time](#) for iPhone/iPad.



7. Lead by example

Your behaviour is one of the most effective ways to help your child develop a positive digital mindset. Show your child you can put down your device too.



2020

Applications Open

11-28 JUNE 2019

Applications for the Australian Youth Orchestra's 2020 programs are open from 11-28 June!

The AYO occupies a special place in the musical culture of Australia, where aspiring musicians get a taste of life as professional musicians, and where like-minded individuals from all over the country gather for intense periods to learn from each other, study and perform. Next year the AYO will be buzzing under the baton of renowned conductors including Matthew Coorey, Elena Schwarz and Elim Chan!

Head to www.ayo.com.au/2020applications to discover more and get started!

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RAISING RESILIENT KIDS & TEENS IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Topics included: 5 keys to
developing resilience, teaching
empathy and healthy
relationships.

**FREE WORKSHOP FOR PARENT
AND CARERS.**

THURSDAY 13TH OF JUNE
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
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To register your place in the workshop call
9621 3922. No childcare available. Free 3hr
parking in Library basement. Light
refreshments provided.