

Subject: Newsletter The Beacon #38

Date: Friday, 3 November 2023 at 12:30:11 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

From: The Lighthouse Toowoomba

To: Emma | Child Writes

Picture This!



Welcome to Week 41 for 2023 at The Lighthouse Toowoomba.

We are still fondly bathing the afterglow of the Harlaxton State School's 'Wiimali' Book Launch, and if we aren't distributing children's picture books, or writing and illustrating books, then we are finding now homes for books; planning workshops for more books; organising events around books; setting up 2024 workshops focussing on the skills required to create books.

Every day at The Lighthouse we intend to TURN THE PAGE and improve the literacy outcomes of the children in our community, supporting those who work with our most vulnerable children, and create awe and excitement with our spaces and

our exhibitions to ensure a healthy amount of curiosity is thrown in for good measure.

Our admin assistant Emma has been lugging boxes of books around town (and entirely because of the generosity of The FKG Group, there are a 1000!) and giving them to schools to gift to their youngest students - Kulila Indigenous Kindergarten, Rockville State School, Holy Name Primary School, Toowoomba North State School, Fairview State School, Glenvale State School, Toowoomba West Special School, Clifford Park Special School, and the WEYN (Wilsonton Early Years Network).

"Our Prep students were delighted to receive a beautiful new book this week, with exclamations of 'Is it all mine? Do I really get to keep it?' from a few of our little Preppies. Wiimalli is a beautiful tale, (and) the authors should be so proud of all they have achieved, and we are grateful to share in their story. With warmest thanks..." Holy Name Primary School

Sigh. Imagine the day when every single child aged 5 in the Toowoomba Region received a free book... (*see, manifesting that right there!*)

LEE FULLARTON + BOOK LINKS

OFFICIAL OPENING

FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
5:30PM TO 7:00PM

THE WRITE GALLERY
126 MARGARET STREET TOOWOOMBA

EXHIBITION CONTINUES UNTIL
WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 3:00PM

Mr Chippa



[BOOK LINKS](#) and **The Lighthouse Toowoomba**

are proud to present:

Mr Chippa and the Woodblock Carvers of Bagru

by author and illustrator Lee FullARTon

Lee FullARTon's exhibition 'Mr Chippa', featuring the wood block carvings from the artisans in Bagru, includes loads of interesting workshops and opportunities for adults and families. More information about the workshops is available upon request hello@thelighthousewoomba.org.

The Opening Night! - Friday 2 November 5:30 to 7:00pm. Bookings required - it's not too late and it is a free event.

And would you like a signed copy of Lee's book? Easy to organise now, perfect for the lovely creatives in your world for Christmas! Use the QR code below.

**PREORDER YOUR
SIGNED COPY
TODAY!**





Would you like to join us on Saturdays this month for some very special workshops with Lee Fullarton and her guests?

Sandyha is a very active and generous member of Write Links and has won countless awards for her books. [Adult Workshop with Lee FullARTon and Sandyha Parappukaran](#) - Saturday 11 November 10am to 12noon. Booking required. Book Links Members \$20, Non-Member \$25. Limited places.

Plus Up Late with Mr Chippa! - Saturday 11

November Gallery open until 7:00pm. No booking, families welcome, FREE event.

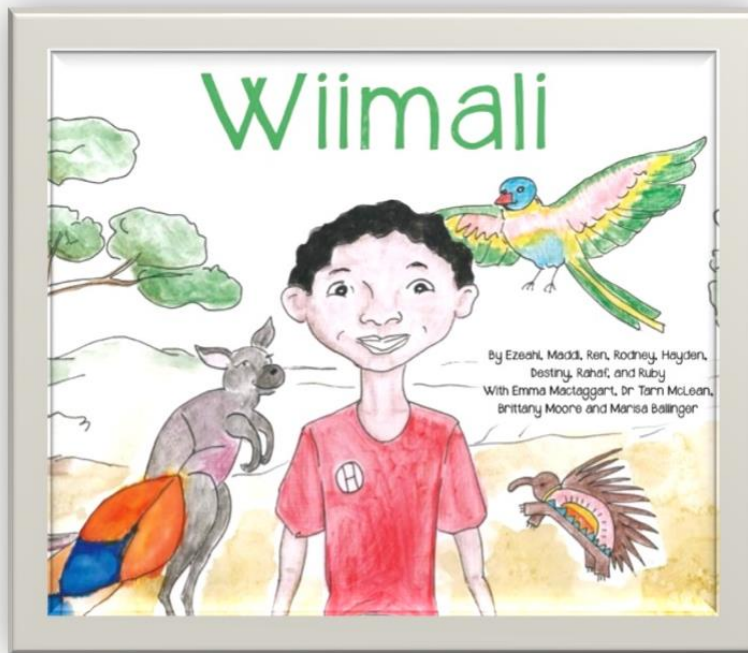
[Family Workshop](#) - Saturday 18 November 1:00 to 3:00pm. Bookings required. Free event.

[Adult Workshop with Lee FullARTon and Catherine Parker](#) Saturday 25 November 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Booking required. Book Links Members \$20, Non-Member \$25. Limited places.



Multicultural Australia supports Community Hubs at Darling Heights State School, Newtown State School with the dedicated support of Ricky Adams, and Harlaxton State School with Carmen Walmsley orchestrating the magic that happens there.

Carmen (pictured above) nearly escaped being lauded in this newsletter - and then we were sent this photo! Proudly accompanying her is one of the Wiimali authors, Hayden. We are incredibly grateful Carmen picks up the phone...that's how simple is it to bridge what sometimes seems like a vast divide between school and the community.



Wiimali - a review by Sarah McMasters

This story shows the importance of nurturing the landscape, animals, and the culture of Australia. I really love the incorporation of the rainbow serpent throughout the pages of the book as the fire begins to spread - it really ties together the artwork. Why does the snake appear just as the fire begins to spread? I wonder why there was a gas bottle sitting on the side of the road and is this (and opportunity to) talk about issues of littering? The landscape can be as dangerous as it is beautiful, and this book shows how important it is to be careful in the face of danger and to listen to the environment. Overall, I really enjoy the creativity of this book.

POP-UP EXHIBITIONS

SO MUCH TALENT TO

CELEBRATE!



Shining a light on the talent of our young people!

Adapt Mentorship hosted a thrilling exhibition 'Changing the Narrative'. All the artists worked incredibly hard in a series of workshops supported by CatholicCare. Anyone can say 'I am going to...' and then leave it at that! To actually create something and then share it with the world, being vulnerable and knowing you will hear the fiercest of critiques amongst the swathe of support, is brave beyond words.



Concordia Year 6 Students

Same format, immensely different interpretations! This richly diverse exhibition was joyful, thought-provoking, and as we loitered observing how proud the children were of their work as they described their pieces to their parents and family and friends was very special. Skateboards as art - amazing!



Red dots galore for the Yalari Fundraiser!

Guests were literally scurrying to find work that hadn't been sold! With over 80 adults and children in the Gallery as the International Fiesta's entertainment provided the backdrop, the energy was electric.



Why hello Newtown State School!

Jo and Charlotte share a 'Twinkles Book Club' Outreach day at Newtown State School each week, and these treasures read and play whilst their mothers do the Citizenship class. We love everything about this collaboration!





Painting 'en plain air'...

If only we could bottle the sound of the children as they bound upstairs to join another workshop! If only you could hear the laughter rolling through the building, the gentle chatter, and yes, often squeals of delight. Terese was ably assisted by fabulous volunteers Lily and Miki (thank you both) and marched the children along the road to paint outside, inspired by the stunning architectural features on The Stand Theatre. (Oh to be 10 again!)

We are so happy to share that Terese has already committed to being back in Term One of 2024, and we know you will keep an eye for the next newsletter for when we release the tickets.





FKG Group

It's an honour and privilege to have had the opportunity to be involved in this project! A special congratulations to the authors!

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Rojin Rash

Congratulations [Emma Mactaggart](#) and [The Lighthouse Toowoomba](#) on amazing work you do in the community 🥳🥳.

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TAFE Wellbeing Day Expo

With a veritable host of 'who is who' in the wellbeing zoo, we joined in the fun at TAFE on Tuesday 31st October. With groups of young adults to more mature students, we worked with our signature 'crowns' and showed what connection looked like, how we shared more than our differences, and yes, distributed more books to homes. Knowing the books will accelerate the migrant and refugee families language skills accelerates their ability to connect with the community, with social groups, with employment.



In a happy partnership with LFB / LFK

Tanya Founder of Literacy for Kids, Literacy for Boys, spent the morning showing us how her literacy platform works, and we are really excited to announce we will be offering the program for FREE to the first 10 children who sign up on Term One next year. It will be available term about, so a different batch of children will be involved Term Two, Term Three, and Term Four.

And a clue as to what to look for when we release the places? HELLO CLUB!

SEASONAL ART MARKET

INTERESTED?

[CLICK HERE](#)

Calling artists of all ages!

We are launching the SEASONAL ART MARKET and expressions of interest are due 1 January 2024. That may well seem like ages away, but if you are looking at the art accumulating in your studio, and you are BUSTING for an opportunity to sell you work, this could well be exactly what you are looking for. Basically, once a quarter we are hosting an art market for 20 days, with 10 artists, and each is allocated a portion of wall space in The Write Gallery, and there is no commission charged on sales.

Art Teachers - just a thought... after seeing the remarkable success of the children involved with the Yalari art exhibition, consider booking a 'wall' for a group of students!

[There is a great deal of information to share, so click here to read on...](#)



The Great Postcard Project program is back for Term Four for this group of writers from Toowoomba Anglican School. Every Friday they visit, and we explore the exhibitions in situ (so yes, Adapt's sandtalk installation last week, this week in the children's writers centre, and next week with Lee and Mr Chippa!)



Just one more thing:

You hear us say 'thank you' all the time, yet not for a second is it without heart-felt gratitude. Whenever you read 'we' it is related to the equivalent of 1.3 employees, and a merry band of volunteers. It is not possible to be The Lighthouse' without any of them.

Thank you VARIETY QLD for supporting our Writing for Wellbeing workshops. We know what worked, what didn't and what we need to improve! Thank you again to The FGK Group for being such formidable partners.

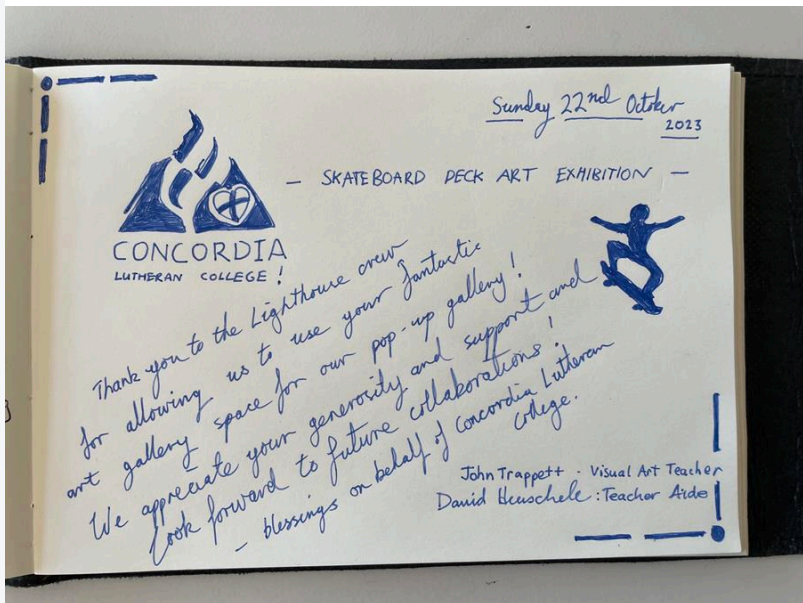
Did you know that Asset Locksmiths (we didn't catch the gentleman's name!) responded in mere

moments to our plea for assistance to fix an external lock, and for no charge. How did we get so lucky! Thank you.

And thank you Kat Lynn for your amazing fundraiser. It was really clever to set up once, and offer 15 minute timeslots with a hugely discounted price for headshots. We love ours, and we trust the others all feel the same way.

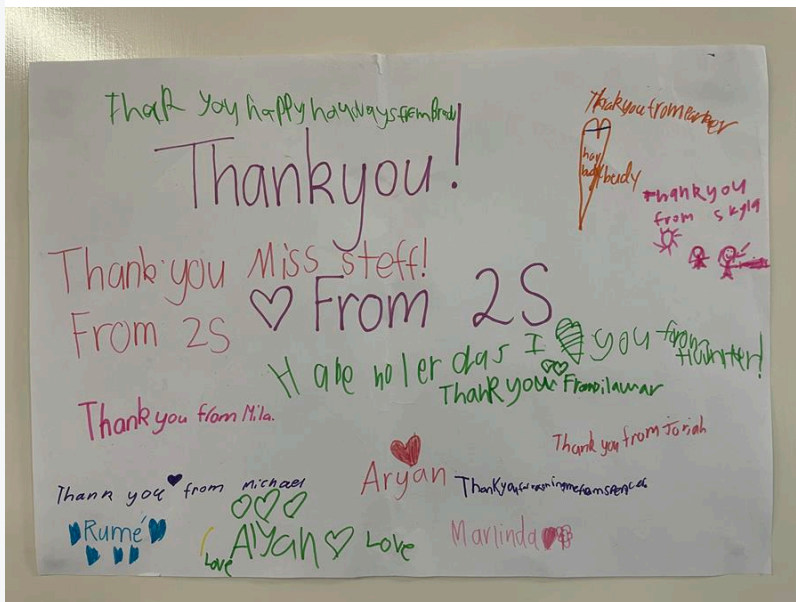


Have you been to The Lighthouse before? If you haven't, usually you sometimes will catch Emily dressed up sharing a video book review, pounding a keyboard nailing another grant application so we can continue to bring a veritable feast of workshops to children for free, and keeping us all in line. One thing you will always see is Emily smiling! She is the light in The Lighthouse.





Thank you to Kynan and the 'krew' from [Winangaliin Fusion](#) Your energy and enthusiasm certainly do empower communities. The Write Gallery has very challenging acoustics when in conversation, but with music that you can feel to your core like the music and story and songs you shared, it was a resounding successful space to showcase your troupe.



The Lighthouse Toowoomba
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, 4350

We acknowledge the First Nations storytellers of the land on which we work and tell our stories. We respect the ongoing relationships with water, land, and story by the people of this place, their elders, their ancestors, and their emerging leaders. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.

If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletter please use the button below or email us at hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org

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