



## **Welcome to Week 23 for 2023 at The Lighthouse Toowoomba.**

Hello! 23 of 2023... oh would you look at that - numerology... surely this is a truly great omen for  
**TERM 3!**

Holidays fun is over and done and we are back to uniforms, lunches and the long anticipation of warm weather and countdown to September (Spring).

But the cold or mid year break hasn't slowed us down here, we have been busy welcoming people and projects through our doors and loving every moment! The Write Gallery was alive in glorious culture and colour for our First Nations Art Exhibit as part of NAIDOC week.

We put the finishing touches on our term 3 workshops, which kicked off this week! There are few spots left in some, but be quick if you are yet to sign up.

Our capacity to give has been bolstered by a few more wonderful book donations which we are so grateful for.

And our outreach programme at Harlaxton continues to mutually reward in so many ways as we edge closer to the completion our FKG Group book 'Wiimali' - very exciting!



## NAIDOC Week - First Nations Arts and Culture's launch and first art exhibition July 2023

*A review by Eden (Year 10 Centenary Heights High School)*

The Write Gallery's First Nations Arts Art Exhibit was vivid with history, culture and, of course, Country. The exhibition showcased paintings, weavings of traditional indigenous styles from a variety of mobs across the country. Aunty Barbara Walker, a proud Wiradjuri woman weaving gourds, tools, and items her ancestors using home-dyed raffia weaving has weaved since she was a child. Since she has started weaving full-time she feels progress when she is home in Wagga and "talks to the arts and sits with the arts and weaves."

The minimalist as well as eye-catching artwork from Marisa Ballinger of Ngayampaa and Wiradjuri tribes, brings a modern take on indigenous Australian artwork. Not to mention, Kalkadoon man Clay Dempsey's attention-grabbing and beautiful paintings that include crucial elements of the culture. A series of storytelling and colourful paintings were on display created by Megan Bartman, using Aboriginal symbols.

Kim Walmsley painted a vibrant inspiring piece illustrating how the memories and stories from her ancestors pass from generation to generation. The piece painted by Damon Miri Anderson was a stunning visual that set the scene of indigenous meetings in the mobs using bright colours to catch the attention of the viewer. Another modern take shown in Cheryl Moggs' artwork presenting a glimpse of a view into the pasts of her ancestors yet recounting it in a 21st century way.

Isabella Hazard's piece was incredibly compelling as it showed a young woman bound by today's society but receiving joy from learning her culture and about Country, showing something Indigenous people struggle with. It was incredible to see these artists share their knowledge of Country, art, as well as their ancestors' stories. Overall, the First Nations Art Exhibit, showed various forms of Aboriginal people's stories and history.



## Radio with Marisa at The Lighthouse

Marisa Ballinger, one of a group of inspiring First Nations's artists, who have joined together to share their culture and inspiration behind their incredible artworks and vision for the future of First Nation creatives, did her first radio interview with David Iliffe from ABC Southern QLD Radio in the Write Gallery!

It was a fabulously informal, and (as pictured) fun way for Marisa to impart her cultural and creative wisdom.





## FKG/Building Blocks

Emma, Emily and Eden (our wonderful work experience wizz from Centenary Heights) made a visit The FKG Group to explain all things Lighthouse and accept some generation donations of books and gold coins to support reading in the community.

Emma explained what The Lighthouse is all about and its epic mission: to get Toowoomba's head dug in a book. She also recounted the story of The Lighthouse and how the incredible business started. The FKG and RPG employees asked some further questions about what is happening at the Lighthouse and how they can get involved... Which is such a wonderful thing to see! But, if the hosts of the visit were not generous enough, they had brought in some little children from their inhouse childcare facility 'Building Blocks' to donate handpicked books to the Lighthouse's one-way library! So very cute! Plus, seeing some friendly and familiar faces again from the group. Although the team's visit to FKG was short, it was fun and filled with big-heartedness.

We truly couldn't do what we do without the instrumental support of FKG and it was rewarding to share with them how their generous backing makes a difference.



## Grinning with glee for Wiimali!

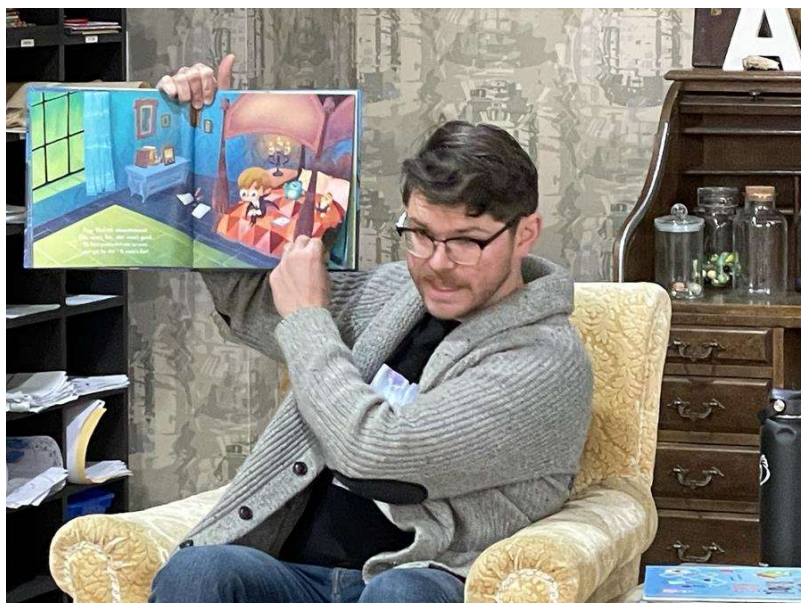
Wiimali illustrator Ezeahl from Harlaxton State School is hands down our favourite image from the holiday fun! Just look at those cheeky chops. Ezeahl and friends had a ball working on the book in the school holidays, helping illustrate the pages of the cultural collaboration that we absolutely cannot wait to share~



## A double book launch for Rory H Mather!

Local Children's Author and friend of The Lighthouse [Rory H. Mather](#) had his DOUBLE book launch in our space and gave us a whiff of Vlad's Bad Breath - as he read from his title of the same name! We just loved offering The Lighthouse for this wonderful event and author achievement. We look forward to having Rory with us for another reading soon.

And a big thank you to our favourite bookseller, the wonderful Janelle from [Dymocks Toowoomba](#) for your incredible support as always and making Rory's titles available on the day.



## Books With Hooks

We're visiting the library today,  
We're in amongst the books.  
There are crannies everywhere  
And even a couple of nooks.

We get to choose an adventure  
And who we take it with.  
I think I've found a direction  
And now I leave forthwith.

I've boarded a pirate's ship  
And now we search for gold.  
We might be occasionally  
naughty  
But that'll eventually get old.

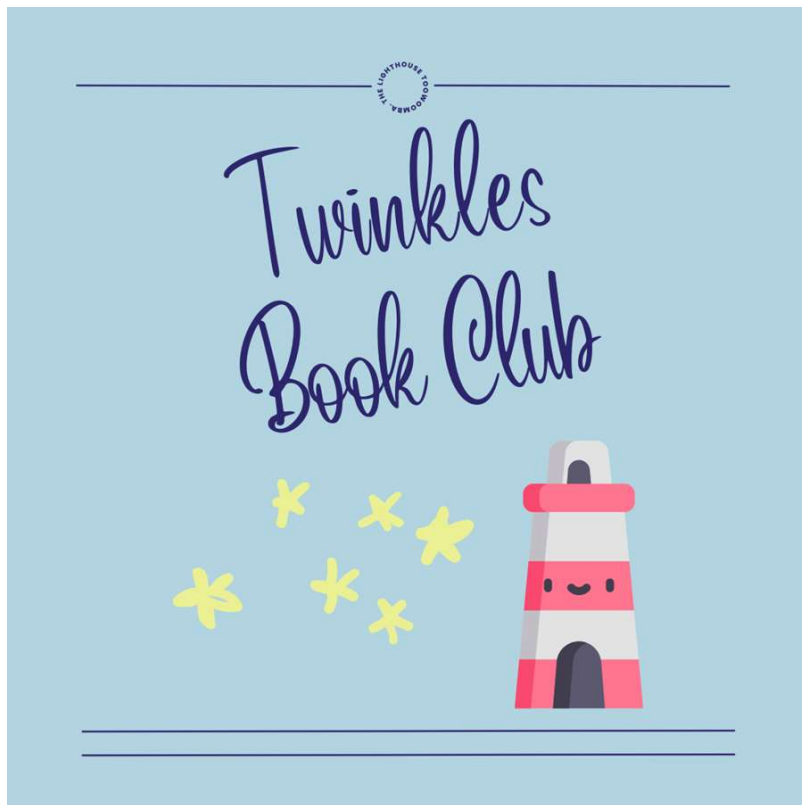
Now that I've got the booty  
I think I'll drive a race car.  
I might get bored with circles  
So I'll drive off really far.

I'll drive to the top of a mountain  
To see what I can see.  
Maybe jump on a passing plane  
Then laugh and giggle in glee.

Lucky I came into the library,  
While I wear my parachute.  
I'll jump from that plane  
And float on down – you beaut!

With the wind in my hair  
I'll make friends with a raptor.  
Then I'll land in my soft bed,  
But first... just one more chapter.

© Janet Munro 7 July 2023



## Twinkles Book Club... Volunteers WANTED

The Twinkles Book Club is a program run by The Lighthouse Toowoomba is based around reading books to toddlers and their caretakers. It provides somewhere safe and peaceful for toddlers to use to learn, explore and allow their curiosity to take flight. Reading to toddlers can be an integral factor in the children's development. Storytelling can help toddlers learn about and identify sounds, words, and language. Additionally, it can also help to



stimulate their imaginations, expand their social skills and vocabulary, and allow them to learn more about the world which they live in. This allows parents and their children to strengthen their bonds. The club also permits the young children to meet other people and more children that are their age, further broadening their social skills and helping to coax them into coming out of their shells.

INTERESTED? Email

[emma@thelighthouse.toowoomba.org](mailto:emma@thelighthouse.toowoomba.org) for more information.





**ART EXHIBITION**  
**15-23**  
**July, 2023**

*The journey*  
OF AN  
ART THERAPIST

**FREE ENTRY**  
Open 10am - 3pm daily  
The Write Gallery, 126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba  
Join us for Community Art Therapy classes on  
Tuesday 18 and Thursday 20 July

**For More Details**  
[admin@momentummentalhealth.com.au](mailto:admin@momentummentalhealth.com.au)

 **The Lighthouse**  
GUIDING CREATIVITY

 **momentum**

[Momentum Mental Health](#) exhibition 'The Journey of an Art Therapist' is on for the next two weeks with the official opening Friday 14 July at 5:30pm. Don't miss this fabulous opportunity to experience art therapy for FREE! No need to book, just drop in.

Momentum is remarkable in its offering of support to anyone who needs it! “People come along for a myriad of reasons,” Chris Black, Chairman of the Board said. “This could be anything from struggling to find purpose day to day or wanting to build stamina to get back in the work force, and our unique offering of wellbeing activities partnered with the 5 Ways to Wellbeing program underpins our practice.”

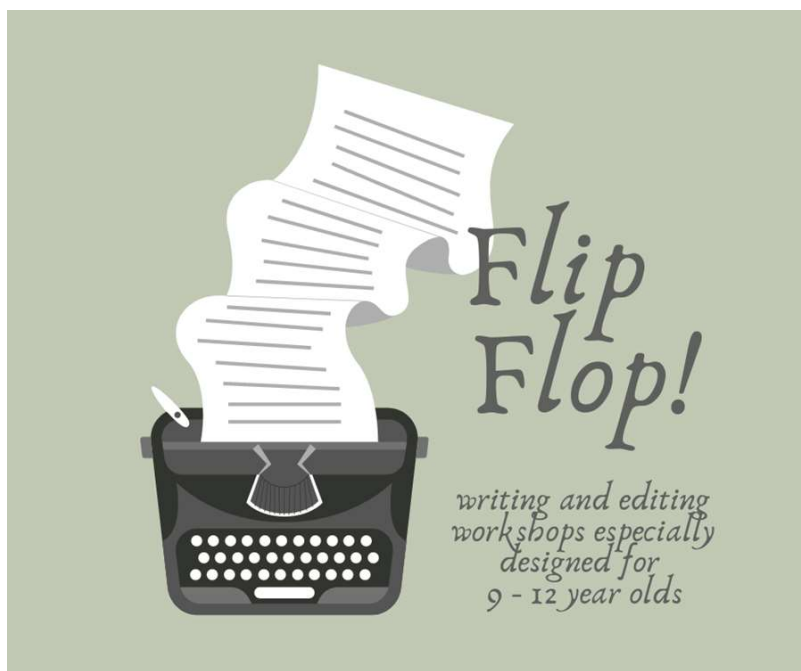
**The exhibition is open from Saturday 15th of July to Sunday 23rd July, 10am-3pm daily.  
Entry is free.**

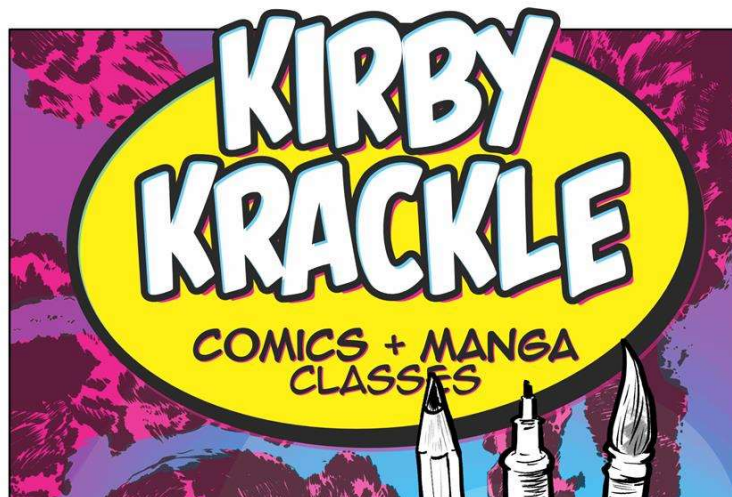
Momentum will be hosting free Art Therapy sessions, and a Journalling and Storytelling session for interested participants. Please email [admin@momentummentalhealth.com.au](mailto:admin@momentummentalhealth.com.au) if you would like to attend.

- Journalling and Storytelling 10am-12pm, Tuesday 18 July
- Art Therapy 1pm-3pm, Tuesday 18 July
- Art Therapy 10am-12pm Thursday 20 July

**Workshops - last places available!**

This weekend and it is the last possible chance to secure places in our FREE workshops! (Simply click the images below for direct links!)





## PLEASE... WE NEED TO KNOW!

Thank you to all the previous workshop participants who completed the Survey sent to your inbox. The responses really help us fine-tune what we are offering! It only takes 2 minutes, so if you have had a child attending any of the workshops here at The Lighthouse and missed it the original email AND you would still like to be heard, [here is the link](#)

THANK YOU in advance...

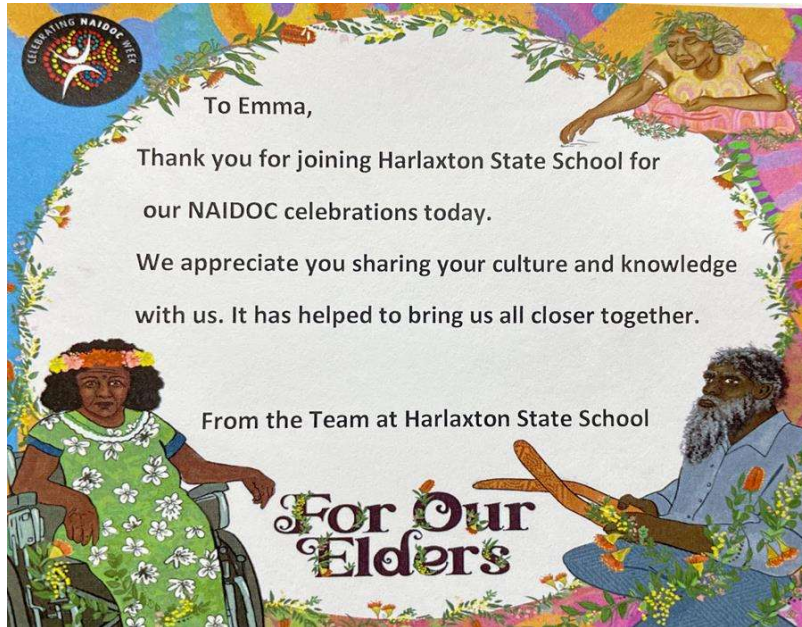


## Get your Hello Baby Entries In!

THE HELLO BABY COMPETITION for children aged 8 and under is [OPEN](#). (Yes, we are shouting because this is sooooo much fun, the perfect winter holiday activity, and a gorgeous opportunity for your little ones to have their art in 1. an exhibition, and 2. some will win the chance to be featured in the Hello Baby Calendar to be gifted to newborns at the Toowoomba Hospital.

This is made entirely possible by a grant from [The Queensland Charitable Foundation.](#)

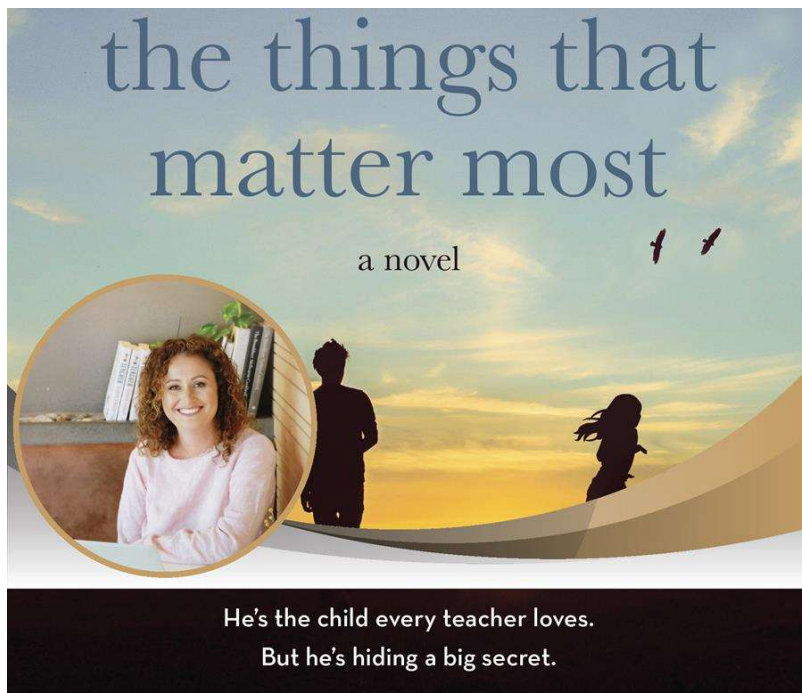




We had a BALL visiting Harlaxton for their NAIDOC week celebrations, sharing the 'nearly ready' book Wiimali to 182 children in 6 unique sessions throughout the day. Thank you to all the teachers and staff and visitors who truly made this day remarkable and memorable.

And the feedback to the book? 'I like the story' (Erin, 7) and 'The story was amazing' (Lenny, 7) - well, we think we have nailed it!





## GABBIE STROUD BOOK LAUNCH

**16** August 2023 **5:30PM** | The Write Gallery  
In Conversation with Ellie McLiesh

THE LIGHTHOUSE TOOWOOMBA | \$15 TICKET  
126 MARGARET STREET, TOOWOOMBA CITY, QLD

**SECURE YOUR SPOT HERE:**  
**[THELIGHTHOUSE200WOMB.A.ORG](http://THELIGHTHOUSE200WOMB.A.ORG)**



## Thank you!

Book donations... Oh boy... what a great week... We are lucky to have had a spot on the newest electronic billboard in town asking for Book Donations - and it worked! This week we received glorious donations from St Mary's College, Tanya Lewis, Jim Dawson and Amy Taylor. Thank you all. Dedicated volunteers like Glenda Challenor are bundling up the books and we will be taking them to every child at a school with our Twinkles Book Club Outreach Program.



One last thing! Do you know Cody  
Donnelly?

We owe him \$20! How surprised were we to find  
this money order in one of our book donations.  
We'd love to get it back to him, so get in touch if  
you know how we might track him down. Email  
[emma@thelighthousewoomba.org](mailto:emma@thelighthousewoomba.org)

**Stop Press!**

Were you looking for more opportunities for FREE  
workshops for school groups / community groups  
by remarkably talented and internationally  
recognised artists? More details available upon  
request.

[YES PLEASE we hear you say! Secure your  
booking today.](#)



The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba, 4350

We acknowledge the original Indigenous 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](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org)

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)