

**Subject:** Newsletter The Beacon #37

**Date:** Friday, 20 October 2023 at 3:20:54 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

**From:** The Lighthouse Toowoomba

**To:** Emma | Child Writes

New exhibitions, workshops  
galore, and a new book...



### Welcome to Week 39 for 2023 at The Lighthouse Toowoomba.

Without the slightest exaggeration, this week alone sees the production of over 39,500 pages of work created by children, with hundreds of calendars printed and gifted to the Toowoomba Hospital Foundation AND the release of 1000 copies of the children's picture book **Wimalli** today.

All our workshops are in full swing; we wait in anticipation for our pop-up exhibitions from Concordia, Adapt Mentorship, and Yalari; we are all organised for school visits from all the Year 5 classes from Toowoomba East State School, and Year 3 students from St Saviours, the Flexi School students, two groups of home-schoolers; Toowoomba Anglican School are back for their

custom-workshops; AND we anticipate the official opening of our next major exhibition on Friday 3 November.

Keep reading! You will be equally delighted at what we can achieve here with remarkable people within organisations who firmly believe there is immense value in COLLABORATION.

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[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@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org).

Here is the month at a glance, a mixture of workshops and experiences:

- [The Opening Night!](#) - Friday 2 November 5:30 to 7:00pm. Bookings required. Free Event.

- [Family Workshop](#) - Saturday 18 November 1:00 to 3:00pm. Bookings required. Free event.
- [School Workshops](#) - completely booked out!
- [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.
- **Up Late with Mr Chippa!** - Saturday 11 November Gallery open until 7:00pm. No booking, families welcome, 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.

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!**



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*



UPCOMING Events

The LIGHTHOUSE GUIDING CREATIVITY

126 Margaret Street Toowoomba CBD

Sunday 10am to 2pm  
*Skateboard Deck Art Expo* Oct 22  
Concordia Year 6 students proudly display their major art project.

Wednesday 5:15pm to 6:15pm  
*Changing the Narrative* Oct 25  
Youth Art Exhibition - creating connection through creativity. This is brought to you by Adapt Mentorship in partnership with Catholic Care

Yalari Year 10  
*Pay It Forward Art Show*  
28th October 2023

Saturday 5pm to 7pm  
*Pay it Forward* Oct 28  
Yalari Year 10 art show with students from Scots PGC, The Glennie School, and Toowoomba Grammar School



## Wiimali Book Launch!

It is always a remarkable occasion when a book is launched - nervous authors, excited guests, parents busting with anticipation, a mentor who is prone to tears at such events, an artist who declares this 'another first', the supporters cheering, and the donors acknowledged!

Today at Harlaxton State School, the FKG Group represented by Jack Gardner shared the spotlight the authors. We were also grateful Mohammed (Multiculture Australia) and Melissa (Toowoomba Regional Council) could celebrate with the children and the staff from Harlaxton.

If you are able to help us get this wonderful book into the hands of little ones in schools, please get in touch [hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org](mailto:hello@thelighthousetoowoomba.org) and let us know a time you may be able to pick up boxes. This will help us enormously!



## TOOWOOMBA ANGLICAN SCHOOL

A group of primary students from Toowoomba Anglican School are again participating a series of custom-designed workshops during Term 4. They will explore the five senses.

To kick off this exploration, we had the students

write postcards to someone they know, describing their surroundings through the lens of their senses. In this first session, our focus was on sight, and the students described the fascinating places featured on their postcards based on what they could see.

Among the descriptions, some students found themselves at a zoo, gazing at a giraffe and a gorilla, while others were situated in a New Zealand national park filled with exotic animals. Still, some ventured into the enchanting Daintree Rainforest, where they observed an argumentative Koala family.

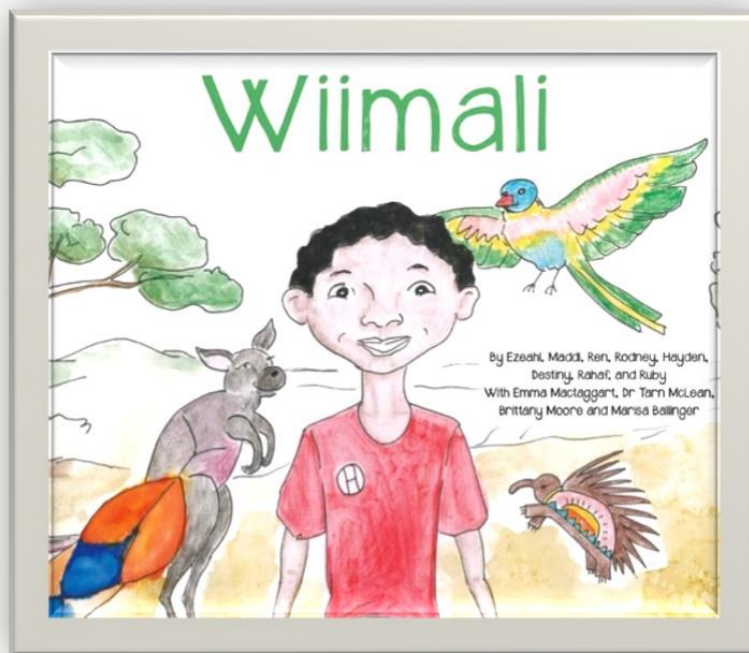
It was truly inspiring to witness these students harness their imagination to construct vivid scenes.



**Terese is back! All is well with the world...**

We really do love Thursdays! This week in Terese Eglington's Illustration Workshop the kids are dipping their paintbrush into the world of watercolour. The kids are doing brilliant

things from mixing watercolour paints to learning different techniques on how to make soft and beautiful artworks.



# 'Wiimali'

by Ezeahl, Maddi, Ren, Rodney, Hayden, Destiny,  
Rahaf, and Ruby

Guess what! Wiimali has also been accepted into the 'Our Yarning' collection for our favourite book sharers [Library for All](#). The following is directly from their '(truly, you should check them out!) website:

*Our Yarning* is a free digital library of culturally relevant education resources created by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Partnering with communities, we are creating 500 books written by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal children, putting learning in their hands. Delivered with our offline and off-grid technology, together we can pave the path of literacy attainment across Australia to unlock educational opportunities for the next generation.

Our Yarning aims to address the disproportionate impact of illiteracy and low education attainment among Aboriginal children and young people by providing access to stories and reading material that mirrors their own, varied experience of the world and their diverse identities across Australia.

Reading is the foundational skill that sets a child up for success throughout their literacy and learning journey. Confident young readers become engaged lifelong learners. The gift of story is a powerful and bonding way of ensuring children learn about the world in which they live – and gain the literacy they need to learn and thrive as they grow older.



### About the book:

Wiimali is a Gamilaraay word and meaning 'to light fire' and has been used with permission. This gives you the gentlest of hints as to what this book is about! The book explores the ideas of place, of connection, and finding your voice in just in time to make a difference.

Wiimali lives in Toowoomba and spends his days roaming the country with his friends. When they discover a grass fire started by a bolt of lightning, their perfect day quickly changes.

This remarkable book has been created by children from Harlaxton State School with support and guidance of The Child Writes Fund and the generous financial support of the FKG Group printing 1000 copies to be distributed for FREE to the children in the community.



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## DATE CLAIMERS

Got your diary handy? Here are the **'one day only'** pop-up exhibitions in The Write Gallery in

October!

**Concordia's 'Skateboards'** - Sunday 22nd  
October - for more information contact [John at Concordia](#)

**Changing the Narrative** - Wednesday 23rd  
October - for more information contact Susy and  
Adam at [Adapt Mentorship](#)

**The Yalari Art Exhibition** - Saturday 28th  
October 5:00pm - for more information [contact Penny](#)

These exhibitions all feature work by children. The Lighthouse Toowoomba is able to gift The Write Gallery to support their work at this point in their careers as creatives because of the ongoing generous support from our donors. This is actually what your donations enable us to do!

**SKATEBOARD DECK ART EXHIBITION**

**THE WRITE GALLERY**  
126 MARGARET STREET  
TOOWOOMBA CBD

**22.10.2023**  
10 AM - 2 PM

*Free event!*

Each year, Concordia Year 6 students undertake a major project for their Visual Art class. They explore the history of skateboard design, deck graphics and street art. The students plan, refine and execute their own design to create their artwork which makes up this unique and vibrant display.



CONCORDIA  
LUTHERAN COLLEGE

THE LIGHTHOUSE  
GUIDING CREATIVITY

**25th  
October  
2023**

*Changing the Narrative*

**Youth Art Exhibition**

*Creating Connection through creativity*

**Open 5:15pm - 6:15pm**  
**The Write Gallery**  
**126 Margaret St | Toowoomba**

This program brought to you by Adapt Mentorship in partnership with CatholicCare Social Services



Supported by



Yalari Year 10

**'Pay It Forward'**  
**Art Show**

with students from  
 Scots PGC, The Glennie School and Toowoomba Grammar School

**28th October 2023**  
 5pm - 7pm

The Write Gallery | The Lighthouse Toowoomba  
 126 Margaret Street, Toowoomba CBD

**Artist talks | Silent Auction | Raffle | Lucky Door Prize**

Variety of art for sale: student works, donated works, and beautifully painted gifts.  
Food and drink available.

Contact Yalari on (07) 5665 8688 for further information.

Artwork by Naomi Buchanan



### Writing for Expression - Variety QLD

Tanya Vessey led the first of what will be a series of four workshops, sharing the 'how' to write for expression, using narrative therapy techniques.

The creative process applied to writing allows children to explore areas of their life causing them grief, or torment, or confusion, transfer the attributes, actions, and emotions to a character, and then embellish to discover the outcome.

Dealing with trauma like this is a skill transferable for life and we are so grateful Variety QLD for the funding to trial this!





Ponder longer!

Flip Flop (our write / edit, then edit / write skills workshop) is again rolling along under the guidance of Sarah Bradbury. Sarah manages to juggle the most frantically full days and arrives here on Tuesday afternoons with her uber calm aura, and the children are incredibly responsive!

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The masterful (and incredibly generous) Tim Hunter (who has been wrangling a gang of aspiring teen writers - brave!) has released his first book and we couldn't be happier for him!

If you would like a copy, [please purchase via this](#)

[link](#) and then pick up from The Lighthouse.



## 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.

Interested?

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

### 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 Dr Tarn McLean, Marisa Ballinger, and Brittany Moore for bringing Ruby's character drawing of Wiimali, the collective aspirations for the setting, and the characters actions to life. 'Wiimali' looks exactly like the children planned for it to look, all because of your thoughtful, gentle, and generous contribution.

Thank you Michelle Von Pein for your kind and creative design of the book. You always seem to interpret the briefest of briefs and bring dreams to reality. The children are THRILLED!

And definitely with the biggest smile - thank you Julien from YellowBridge. You always bring such sunshine into The Lighthouse, and we love the books you donate as they will make children so so SO happy.



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.

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