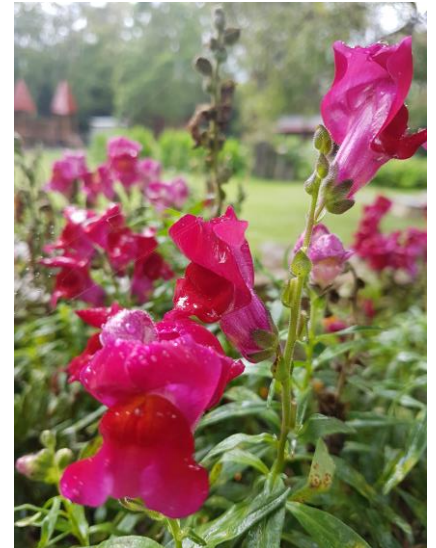


NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The end of 2017 is fast approaching and there is an expectant “busy-ness” in the air as we prepare all of the events and happenings that finalise our school year. I would like to say a warm thank you to the PAFA team and all the student and parent volunteers who brought the Advent Markets to life last weekend. The social life of the school is made rich by the energy, enthusiasm, impulses and activities of our parent community. As the year draws to a close it is a fruitful soul activity to review and reflect upon all that has unfolded. Next week the teachers will come together for our last whole school faculty meeting for the year and we will spend some of this time reflecting collectively on the 2017 journey; I will share some of our musings in next weeks’ newsletter.



Congratulations to all the Primary classes who have put on their plays this term. The amount of work that teachers and students put into these productions is significant. Many of the children must face their fears, overcome their nerves or “relinquish” the lime light to others. They have the chance to meet and develop aspects of themselves through the characters they are chosen to play, that may seldom otherwise have the opportunity to arise and be seen. Aspects of the children’s social-emotional health are strengthened and developed each year through the class plays. I am greatly looking forward to the Class 12s final major production that will be presented next week. Make sure it’s in your calendar!

Class 12 Production

Ruby Moon


by Matt Cameron

Tuesday 5 December
1pm & 6pm

Wednesday 6th December
1pm & 6pm

\$5 at the door for night time performances

Mature Concepts
Not suitable for children under 13



Dates to Remember

Friday 1 December

Class 7 Final Assembly
POSTPONED DUE TO RAIN
FORECAST

Thursday 7 December

Year 12 Graduation, 11.30am

Friday 8 December

Class 7 Final Assembly
Upper Strings Ensemble

Term 4 ends

The increasing heat heralds the approaching summer holidays and the Christmas season. During summer, our souls have a tendency to be drawn out beyond ourselves; we feel to surrender to nature and our surroundings. If we are not careful we can become passive at this time of year. It is important we find ways to stay present in world happenings and open ourselves up to receive in a conscious way, the light that is streaming towards us. It is a time when descending forces urge us not just into moral reflection but action. The season of Advent and Christmas may inspire in us inclinations towards charity and giving; donating to foundations etc. Sometimes we ease the burden of our social conscience through these random and isolated acts of giving, but we remain oblivious to, choose to ignore or feel overwhelmed at the thought of actually doing something to address the root cause of the problems we see in the world today. We can all make a difference to the state of our world if we simply begin in our own homes and focus on the values we impart to our children through our actions. This season I would urge you all towards this kind of moral action; to help bring back for your children

and your families some of the depth and meaning of this special time of year that is all too often focussed on receiving and consuming.

Love and light to you all.

Pep Wright

Vacation Care December 2017/January 2018

Bookings are now open for Vacation care. Please see the booking form and program in the email body.

Kylie Turner, OSHC Co ordinator

Ph: (07) 34309614, Email: oshc@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au

2017 CLASS 12 GRADUATION CEREMONY



ALL INVITED TO COME AND CONGRATULATE AND FAREWELL CLASS 12!

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER

11:15AM START ASSEMBLING

11:30AM – 12:30PM

HALL

CLASS TWELVE 2017

The journey for 2017's graduating Class 12 began at the beginning of 2004 when a new group of Prep students entered the Preschool doors. The class started in Class 1 with Melissa teaching them, as a class of 30. In Class 3 Melissa moved on and the class finished its Primary School years with Chris and Antonia as teachers.

Over the years, students came and left. Molly was the Guardian of this group and lovingly oversaw their wellbeing and progress for the next three and half years, and Mel and Robyn have held them in this role for the last 18 months of their journey.

The group are a very diverse and eclectic bunch of young people. They share great, though differing, senses of humour, a capacity for deep caring and compassion, the ability (especially once there is no other choice), to step in and step up, and a capacity to question - everything!

Moving into the future, along with much questioning, uncertainty and big dreams, the class have hopes to see themselves reaching towards the goals they currently hold for themselves.

- Nathan and Dylan - business men (successful and preferably very wealthy)
- Ruby - journalist
- Sarah - Station work with specialist skills in horse care
- Kai - a comic artist
- Kristian - Personal Trainer
- Sav - Whatever comes her way
- Lili - Criminologist



First of all, congratulations to all of you. You should be very proud of yourselves for accomplishing this goal, for most of you, the first major goal of your lives.

You have finished your Senior Project and your last Main Lesson and you are well into the completion of your Class 12 production. You are all looking forward to starting a new life, and we are sure that this is an exciting, but maybe also somewhat scary time for you. Nobody can foresee with any certainty what the future holds for you. There's only one certainty in your future: your life is about to change and the key to all

the doors you may enter, lies within you. The future is in your hands - no one else's. Your guardians, Robyn and Mel, really want to wish for you all, courage for the future, the capacity to trust in who you are and your own abilities, and the strength to not be afraid of meeting your challenges and using them to grow.

Whatever and wherever their journey takes them we wish them all the very best and hope every one of their dreams can come true. To finish, a thought from Ralph Waldo Emerson (American poet) "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail."

Robyn Maggs & Mel Erhartmaier – Class Guardians

ANY LUTHIERS OUT THERE?

Hello All,

My name is Dominik, from Class 11, and I am currently looking for a mentor who is a luthier (instrument maker) who is willing to meet weekly or fortnightly to instruct or help guide me in the right direction in building an electric bass guitar. If you're willing, please contact the school to notify me or if you're willing to meet immediately, my email is domhaala@hotmail.com.

Cheers, Dom

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS IN THE KINDERGARTEN

Down at the 'other' end of our school, little hands have been quietly preparing some very special Christmas gifts. In all three Kindergarten classrooms, the children collected and placed star jasmine, silky oak leaves, onion skins, flame tree flowers and marigold flowers into a special potion of gum leaves to eco-dye their Christmas cards for their families. Such a natural and simple way to connect their young minds to the beauty that surrounds them as summer arrives. Anne, Michelle and Stacey have had much joy in guiding the children in designing these extraordinary reflections of nature.

Wishing all our families and dear colleagues peace, goodwill and love, over the Christmas holidays.

From the Early Childhood Faculty





Firstly, thank you to all of the people that I have spoken to over the last few weeks who are enjoying the articles. It does make it easier to commit to writing each week when I know there are people out there who are reading and finding a use for my gentle wafflings. This week we look at one of my favourite vegetables, Asparagus.

Asparagus is what we call a perennial vegetable, from the Latin *perennis*, meaning, “lasting the year through”. And that’s what it does, year after year. This is opposed to the more common vegetables, which we plant in the garden: broccoli, lettuce, tomatoes, corn etc., which have a life cycle of vegetative growth, flowering and then fruiting within the one year. We call these plants annuals. These plants have their place but are rather flashy and pert when compared to the faithfulness of a stalwart vegetable such as asparagus.

It is dead easy to plant the seeds. They initially pop up quite effortlessly with beautiful delicate fernlike leaves which bely the fact that they are a very hardy plant. These little ferns will grow to about a metre tall within a year and wisdom tells us to just let them grow. Be sure to feed them well with lots of compost; mulch them with old straw, or lucerne or my favourite, sawdusty old horse manure that I pick up from the stables around the corner. The essential trick to asparagus growing, if you can call simple patience a trick, is to let the plant grow unhindered for a couple of years. Commit to a spot, whack ‘em in, and stand back.



A baby asparagus plant. Isn't it cute?

It is what is happening under the ground during these first two years that is important. The fronds that are growing up from the tiny little spears are providing energy from the sun’s loving light, to the root system below. The plant spreads its roots in a thick mat under the ground and many growing nodes known as crowns are forming. It is these strengthening crowns that will in future years provide us with abundant spears. The stronger and more extensive the root system and crowns, the more spears we will have later, so let them grow and rest assured that you are saving for the future. It is a bit like a self-managed asparagus based superannuation fund.

The spears will lengthen into the fern like leaves and maintenance is really quite minimal. Water when you can and keep the big weeds out of there. You will find that some plants may produce seed. These are female plants and some say they should be removed so that the bed doesn’t become too crowded with new plants. Also, the male spears are meant to be fatter and more succulent. I myself aren’t too fussed. Any new baby plants can be transplanted to extend your patch and female spears are still mighty edible. Our garden isn’t just about optimum production right? Let nature take its course.

After two or so years, come winter, we slash the foliage completely with the assurance that these sturdy herbages will return. We bed them down under a thick blanket of some more sawdusty horse manure and mulch, feed them well with some slurried cow manure and perhaps some blood and bone or chook poo. There is a silence and stillness as the earth draws inward and the crowns pause and reflect. With the coming of spring;

with the welcome rains (or some good hosing); with the growing warmth the magic happens! When pencil sized pears pop up, they are good for harvesting. And harvest you shall! They keep on coming for months!

You can heap up the mulch around the spears to blanch them if you wish, as many connoisseurs will insist on (blanching means that you deprive the stems of light so that they have a white colour, as some folks do with celery). I myself prefer my spears packed full of green chlorophyll goodness. I don't bother heaping. Perhaps I am lazy, or just like my gardening simple and easy.

Be sure, that next year, after summer has been and autumn signals the coming of more inward reflection; after the gluttonous feasting which sees you turning green at the thought of another asparagus based dish; that you let the fronds grow anew and that the plants have a few months to harvest some precious light for the crowns down below.

After your asparagus bed has been cranking for a few years you will be able to dig the crowns up and divide them to extend your asparagus patch. These crowns will not require nearly as much time to get established and will be producing perhaps within twelve months. Remember the rule of thumb: if the spears are the size of a pencil, they are good to go.

In addition to its ease of cultivation, it is clear that fresh asparagus is really good for you. Isabelle Shippard's book, *"How Can I Use Herbs In My Daily Life?"* which I strongly recommend to any gardener, speaks extremely highly of the therapeutic properties of asparagus. I myself simply love the fresh spears, lightly sautéed in butter and garlic, as a breakfast of champions. In fact, fresh spears broken off and munched in the garden are pretty much unbeatable, even if they do make your wee smell a bit funny. It has a taste reminiscent of fresh green peas.

Gardening lore tells the rather melancholy tale of returning to an old farmyard, abandoned in all probability due to the whims of modern economics, and finding the only thing still battling on, perhaps even *thriving* in the decrepit vegetable garden, is the asparagus patch.

It is worth noting that my gardening students, who planted the seeds a few years ago in the central asparagus bed in the primary school garden, will be able to come back and harvest themselves some delicious spears. They will be my age then and wrangling their own kids through school. I think that is a beautiful thought.

I'm off sailing across Moreton bay with Class 11 this week in our school made Dories. There is a delicious irony in being simultaneously a sailor out on the briny deep and a gardener, so I'm counting on you to remember that the best fertiliser is the gardener's shadow. Please, get out there and get your hands dirty for me.

Thanks,
Dave Rule



The ripe berries of the female asparagus plant containing crunchy little black seeds.



The spiderlike, robust and practically indestructible asparagus root system complete with crowns.

2017 AN AMAZING YEAR!

A year full of great moments and fun

We at PAFA have enjoyed helping to create:

- Working Bee's
- Friday Foodies
- The 80's extravaganza dance night
- Bush Dance
- Advent Market
- And raised much welcomed funds for our school & children

PAFA HELPING HANDS

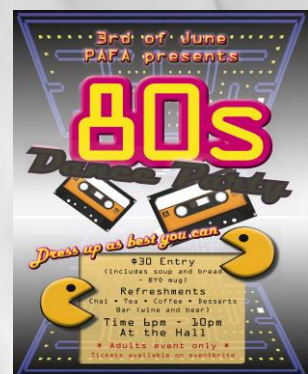
Importantly

We have helped to build on our spirit as a growing community of parents and friends

Our team is growing with room for many more passionate people, so make 2018 the year that you reach out and say "hi"

May you all have a safe, connective and loving time over the festive break with New Year Beginnings empowering you!

PAFA Helping Hands
svsspafa@gmail.com



Employment Vacancies

Hard Craft (Manual Arts) High School Teacher

Samford Valley Steiner School (SVSS) is seeking applications for a Hard Craft (Manual Arts) Teacher to commence in a part-time teaching role in 2018. The right person will have a demonstrated ability as a craftsperson and good woodwork/manual arts discipline knowledge appropriate for high school curriculum. The successful candidate will deliver the Hard Craft Steiner Curriculum from Classes 8 to 12.

This position is a one-year contract as a 0.4FTE position commencing in January 2018.

Applications close at 4pm on 15th December 2017.

For further information, please contact Tim Dunn via email tdunn@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au

Site Management Officer – Samford Valley Steiner School

Samford Valley Steiner School (SVSS) is seeking applications for a Site Management Officer commencing late January 2018. The Site Management Officer will work in close collaboration with the Business Administrator to ensure the school is well maintained and is aesthetically pleasing. The role is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Grounds and Buildings at the School and the supervision of a 0.8 FTE groundsman plus the schools garden & cleaning contractors. This position also assists with the planning and execution of building projects. The position is 0.8 FTE, or 4 days per week.

Applications close at 4pm on 4th January 2018

For further information, please contact Roger Craig via email ba@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au

NOTE: Please refer to the role descriptions for these vacancies – they can be found on the school's website:

<http://www.samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au/employment-opportunities/>

CRAFT NEWS

It was a rather rainy almost winters day while we crafted our Christmas Angels today. Next week is our final crafting week for the year, we will finish off the Christmas Angel or bring along anything you would like to finish off. If you need any guidance or help I am happy to assist.

With next week being our final week, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone that has come to Craft this year. I hope we have had some projects that you have enjoyed making that you have proudly displayed on your nature table, given as gifts, used yourself and of course enjoyed watching your children play with. I have really enjoyed seeing many new faces and of course the familiar faces as well. It has been a year that has gone very quickly for me and I look forward to my Wednesday mornings to spend time with our diverse community. I hope you will continue to come next year.

This year Craft Group has made the toys for the Lillipilli Room, Classes 1 and 2 and we donated a box of handmade goodies to families that lost everything in the Ex Tropical Cyclone Debbie floods that went through Lismore and Murwillumbah.

Next year will be a big year for Craft Group, festiValley is a big event for the school and for the Parent Craft Group, money that we raise from our sales goes back to our school. I have been consulting with our crafters over the last few weeks seeking ideas as to what people would like to make in 2018, our list so far;

- Wet felting for needle books,
- Teeny Tiny Waldorf doll in a woven moose basket
- Farm animals - cow and calf, pig family, horse and foal, sheep, chickens, cat, dog, alpaca
- Standing doll family - make as many as you like Parent doll/s, kids, grandparents etc



- Dragons
- Gnomes
- Unicorns
- Woven basket and little needle felted easter eggs
- Mother Earth and her root babies
- Tiny little fairies

As it is a festiValley year weekend workshops will also be run, there will be a number of paid places to attend as well as free volunteer places for the finished item to go to our festiValley stash

- Waldorf dolls
- Playmats
- Wall hangings
- Felted fairy houses

This list takes us up to festiValley, I am happy to receive feedback on any other items our community would like to make. If you have a crafting skill and would like to teach us I would love for you to come and host craft group.

I am also seeking expressions of interest for help in coordinating Craft group next year, if you are interested and would like to help me please contact me and we can have a chat. My email is traceyhuxtable@yahoo.com.au or mobile 0411 114 867

Warmly Tracey

ASSOCIATED INITIATIVES

These Steiner/Anthroposophically related activities and services, whilst not directly related the school, can be seen to be in sympathy with and supportive of the impulse of Steiner education.

Melbourne Rudolf Steiner Seminar - Teacher Training in Rudolf Steiner Education

Full time study in 2018. We invite individuals interested in Steiner Education and Teacher training to get in contact with us for a phone or Skype to learn about our full-time accredited course, the Advanced Diploma of Rudolf Steiner Education (course code 10527NAT CRICOS 071548J).

There are still limited places available for this course, commencing early February 2018.

The Seminar has welcomed students from all states and territories of Australia and from around the world to study this course over the past twenty-five years.

Hear about this unique inspiring course and find out about the rewarding career and ample employment options that await - there is a great demand for professionally trained Steiner teachers in Australia and overseas.

Our full time course, based upon the philosophy of Rudolf Steiner is aimed at individuals seeking to become a qualified registered teacher, in order to work in both Steiner schools and/or the mainstream sector, and practising teachers wanting to shift their career to work in a Steiner school.

This course offers a pathway to a Bachelor of Education at Australian Catholic, Deakin and Charles Darwin Universities and the University of

School Contact Information

Phone:
3430 9600

Email:
info@samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Samford-Valley-Steiner-School-106275046117815/?ref=hl

Website:
www.samfordsteiner.qld.edu.au

Address:
5 Narrawa Drive
Wights Mountain QLD 4520

CRICOS Registration:
RSEGB T/A Samford Valley Steiner School **CRICOS 03326J**



Technology in Sydney. This is an accredited two-year full-time course. VET Student Loans and Austudy are available for eligible students.

Where: The Melbourne Rudolf Steiner Seminar, 37A Wellington Park Drive, Warranwood, 3134.

Email: office@steinerseminar.com Phone: 03 9876-5199 Information: www.steinerseminar.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Please note: All Classified Advertisements are submitted by individuals for the community benefit. They do not in any way express the views, opinions, endorsement or policy of the school and should not be relied upon as such.

There is a flat \$5 charge for each advertisement and payment is required prior to inclusion.

Need to Borrow a Car

For a week from December 6 to 13. SVSS
Parent looking to borrow a SMALL, AUTOMATIC transmission car. For personal use, short trips in the Samford to Chermside area. Safe driver with clean driving record and current Queensland DL. If you can spare your car during this time, please SMS Smitha on 0475 889 547. Very happy to pay a reasonable rental fee & fuel costs.

¾ Violin for sale

Lovely violin in great condition (in new case)
Bought new for \$260
Selling for \$190
Katrina (Primary School office)
Ph: 0400 025 044

Granny Flat for Rent

Fully self-contained Flat (The downstairs of an upstairs downstairs home) A few minutes from the centre of Samford Village.

Partially furnished with Washing Machine
/Fridge /Lounge - sofa bed /Bar Stools.

1 bedroom /private sit out /own entrance. Suit single or couple.

Prefer healthy lifestyle. No smoking or parties.
\$280 per week includes gas/electricity. Bond required. Call/Text 0417 143 981
Catch Janet at school

Northside Fitness News!

Two reasons to join us at Team NF!
SATURDAY CIRCUIT AT CAGED FITNESS

Caged Fitness is an awesome outdoor gym - 408 Mt Glorious Road (approx. 4km out of Samford towards Mt Glorious on right hand side).

We are now there every 1st and 3rd Saturday, 7.15am.

- Includes rope climbs, cargo nets and monkey bars.
- Post workout coffee/ refreshments at The Shack!
- Suitable for ALL FITNESS levels

Steiner Parents Special Offer - Come and try our Group Classes!

Complimentary first week + 3 extra classes with any Group Pack purchased (5, 10 or 20 sessions) + Free 45 min Holistic Health Coaching session (covering the 6 Foundation Principles of Health – Movement, Breathing, Nutrition, Sleep, Hydration and Thoughts)
CALL NICK TODAY 0434 990 572

Creative arts therapy: Sessions & Courses for Adults and Children

Creative arts therapy creates a space, where a difficult challenge or condition in the soul can be brought and explored in a gentle way. Using a range of artistic activities and arts practises, sand play, painting, drawing and form drawing, clay modelling, writing and conversation, an unravelling begins. This may happen over a series of sessions with both guided and more open activities. Art making generates inner warmth and nourishment, helping to restore balance where astrality presses too deeply on the soul. Reflective opportunities help to assist understanding, ultimately strengthening one's resolve to move forward by oneself.

This therapy is also most suitable for children. With the assistance and involvement of the parent/parents a series of sessions is structured to meet the child's needs. Drawing upon Rudolf Steiner's fourfold view of the human being a way is sought to support and lighten the unfolding challenges that have become a hindrance for the child. A therapeutic story or

artistic reflection is offered to the child as a completion of the series of sessions.

Kate has had a background of many years working in the creative field, as a crafts and handwork teacher in the Steiner Schools system and is a qualified Creative Arts Therapist.MA (CreativeArtTherapies), Grad DipArt Therapy & Couns. MIECAT. Member ACA
Kate Sharp Mb: 0401884205
E: sharpcatherine1@gmail.com
www.katesharpартsttherapy.com

Steiner Childcare - Rose Blossom children - Camp Mountain

Spaces available for children aged 2 - 5 years for 2018. "Providing the most favourable conditions allows the child to educate her/himself from the perspective of her/his own destiny". For 6 years we have provided care to many Steiner and non-Steiner families and continue to improve our methods from year to year. Our 'home' is beautiful and Michaela and I strive for our days to be calm, rhythmical and life-enhancing.

Call Vicki Kearney after 3 pm 3289 3602

Looking for an Eco-Friendly Kitchen Renovation for 2018?

As a family within the Steiner Community, the team at Easy Living Kitchens would love to design and deliver a stunning New and Eco-Friendly Kitchen you'll be Guaranteed to Love.

Locally manufactured from local suppliers where available, with a commitment to eco-friendly and sustainable processes with a minimum negative impact on the environment using high levels of recyclables. Manufacturers that manage waste responsibly through numerous recycling programs including aluminum and metals, used oils and timber waste recycled back into energy. Easy Living Kitchens offer a great range of eco-friendly styles, finishes and functional solutions for any type of kitchen you can imagine or need.

To Book your Free Kitchen Design Consultation and have your kitchen renovation planning underway for 2018, contact us at <http://www.EasyLivingKitchens.com.au> or Call Us on 1300 650 681. Don't forget to mention

"Steiner" to claim your Special Bonus as our way of saying Thank You...

Samantha (Class 3 parent) Easy Living Kitchens

Summer Jam

Kerry Beaumont (Eurhythmy Accompanist, www.kerrybeaumont.com.au) is running a Holiday workshop for young keyboard players of all levels: December 13-15 at The Gap Uniting Church.

- play in a Keyboard Band - maximum 4 members
- sing with the band
- learn more about chords and how to use them in Pop Music
- play team music games
- minimum one year's playing experience required (no need to be able to read well)

For more information please contact Kerry: 0400999622, kerry@kerrybeaumont.com.au

Nature Tales Family Day Care in Dayboro

Steiner and Community based Family Day Care for children aged from 6 weeks onwards. Daily Program includes cooking and eating an organic morning tea, storytelling, singing, art and craft, painting, playing and having fun!

Govt.accredited, CCB and CCR available.

For enquiries and bookings please phone Emma on 0400 826 991.

Mon-Fri. Open during school holidays including casual care. Pick up available from Samford Valley Steiner School some days.

Now Taking Bookings for January, 2017

Homeopathic consults

Cyena is a new mum at SVSS this year (daughter, Sage, is in StarGold) and is a Homeopath with over 8 years experience in practice. She works with families who prefer to use natural medicines to help with a wide range of ailments. Homeopathic medicine is completely non-toxic and acts gently, allowing children's bodies to recover without strain on their immune system. Homeopathy is holistic, taking into account the physical, mental and emotional aspects of the child's experience. Cyena practices classical homeopathy in conjunction with a naturopathic approach to health. Cyena

offers consultations by phone, at her home clinic in Gaythorne or at the SOMA room in the Lifestyle Centre on Mt Glorious Road by appointment. Available for consultation throughout the Christmas break. Call Cyena on 0418792827.

Nature Tales School Holiday Workshop for Kids

Fantastic Fun! Make organic Christmas treats and learn about your astrology sign through painting, clay, music, and games.

Time: 9.30- 2 pm, Monday the 18th of December.

Where: Dayboro

Investment: \$30 per child, \$25 with siblings.

Extra \$10 per family for extended hours babysitting.

Bookings essential please call Emma Forsberg on 0400 826 991.

Suits school age and up.

Rolka Creative Building Blocks

Rolka have been locally made for more than twenty years and are a great alternative to electronic devices. Boys and girls of all ages (adults too) will love creating all sorts of wonderful structures while developing fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, patience, imagination, interactive play and co-operation. The wooden blocks are educational, environmentally friendly, virtually unbreakable, no glue or attachments and have magical dimensions. Rolka are available in sets of 50, 100 or 150 and come in a calico bag with a fully illustrated Ideas Booklet. Call Richard on 3289 4505. www.rolka.net.au