

— The Autumn Issue 2025 —

# SHEN Swimming Carnival

*A newsletter made for homeschool families where  
fun, family and community intersect.*



## **On your marks, get set...**

**Tuesday 18th March, 2025**

**Wentworthville Swimming Centre**

Wow.. what a wonderful day we had at the SHEN Swimming Carnival for 2025! The weather was in our favour and excitement filled the air.

The wonderful parent and student volunteers arrived early to set up tables, signs, registrations and marquees. Soon enough the 158 swimmers and their families began to arrive. While there were lots of local families, there were also those who travelled from Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Bargo and everywhere in between.

After a brief introduction, the races and real excitement began.

As the 4 and 5 year old swimmers required an over 16 year old to be in the water with them, the older children stepped up (as homeschoolers often do) and so gently and beautifully escorted the younger swimmers up and down the pool. This lovely sense of community continued throughout the day.



There was a real team spirit as our volunteers, parents and teens alike, all stepped in, making the day run extremely smoothly. The kids had the most wonderful day and there was a lovely balance of fun and friendly competition.

As students were racing in the pool, the splash pool was filled with fun and frivolity by both the younger and older kids.

After the races concluded and swimmers were sufficiently exhausted, it was time for the thanks and presentations. It was great to see so many people stay for these important moments of gratitude, both to those who helped on the day as well as in the organisation of the event. We also congratulated the age champions with the presentation of a certificate.

## In the News bulletin

If you happened to watch the Channel Ten News on Tuesday evening, you will have seen that a reporter and cameraman attended the carnival, reporting on a story of the importance of swimming carnivals and learning how to swim. The students and parents who volunteered to be on film, be it in the pool or speaking with the reporter, did SHEN and all homeschoolers proud, showing our wonderful communication skills alongside the childrens' swimming abilities.



# Special thanks

The pool staff and lifeguards at **Wentworthville Swimming Centre** were all very helpful in contributing to a safe and enjoyable event.

We are always after volunteers to assist in all areas, however, if you are particularly interested in swimming and would like to join Deb in co-ordinating the carnival in 2026, please reach out by emailing [sportscarnival@shen.org.au](mailto:sportscarnival@shen.org.au). Systems are in place, support teams established (although there is always room to augment these teams) and Deb is keen to work with someone and share the fun with. On that note, if you would like to assist in the organisation of the Athletics Carnival on 25th August, please email [sportscarnival@shen.org.au](mailto:sportscarnival@shen.org.au) as Richard would love some more support.

Thanks must go to **Deborah** who was the main organiser for this event. A fellow homeschooling mother and volunteer for SHEN, this event would not have been possible without her.



Lastly, we appreciate **each and every one of you** for making the journey to be with us. Whether you travelled from the Central Coast, Blue Mountains, or the suburbs of Sydney, your enthusiasm and participation contributed to the carnival's tremendous success.

***“In swimming, every stroke and every breath counts. It’s the ultimate lesson in persistence.”***  
**Michael Phelps**



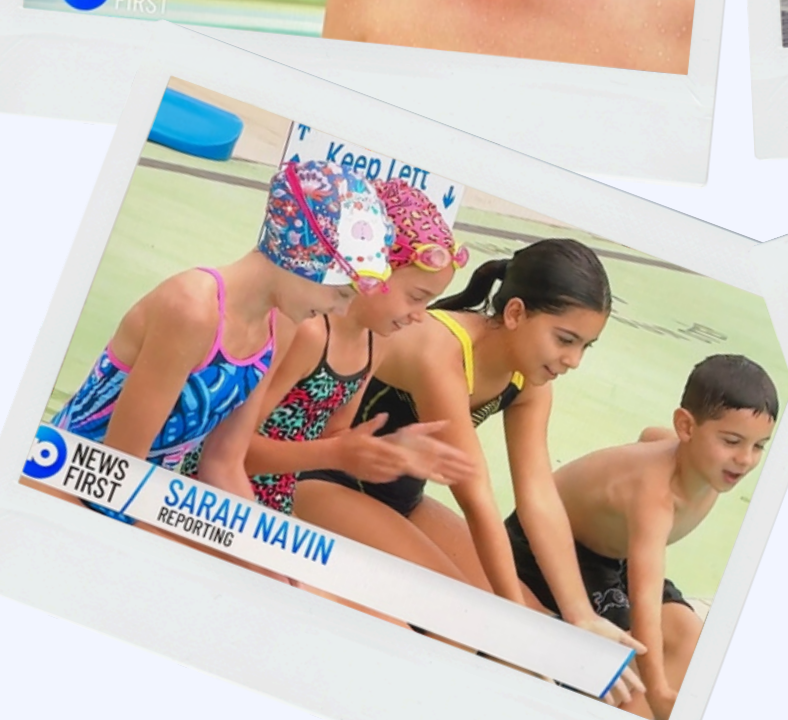
# SNAPSHOTS

*from the pool*



# SNAPSHOTS

*from the news*



**WE WANT  
YOUR FEEDBACK**

We'd love to hear your thoughts on the recent swimming carnival!

Your feedback is essential in helping us improve future events and make them even better.

Please take a moment to share your experiences and suggestions on the [\*\*2025 Swimming Carnival Feedback Form\*\*](#).

**\*\* Click or Copy this link into your browser to give feedback:-**  
<https://forms.gle/TS98rgLoWHWNzdTWA>

Volunteer to join the **Carnival Organising team** for this year's Athletics Carnival! The focus for our carnivals is on fun and community. There is plenty of support for our volunteers and you will be part of a lovely team! If you would like to join our committee please email [\*\*shen@shen.org.au\*\*](mailto:shen@shen.org.au)

Following our Child Safety Policy, all volunteers will be required to provide a Working With Children Certificate (WWCC). A Volunteer WWCC can be obtained free of charge through [Services NSW](#).



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

## **Athletics Carnival**

**When:** 25 August 2025

**Where:** The Crest Athletics Track, 70 McClean Street,  
Georges Hall

**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8**