This past week, I was truly thankful to be involved in some great events and occasions across our city, which kicked off with a special citizenship ceremony held on Tuesday 17 September, celebrating Australian Citizenship Day. This was also my last citizenship ceremony that I will confer for my Mayoral term. It has been an absolute honour to officiate these ceremonies and I have really loved the opportunity to meet with so many local residents, that are so joyful in finally reaching this special milestone.

Later that week, during my site visit to the Truganina East Integrated Family Learning Centre, I met with Sarah Connolly MP, to view the construction works of this fantastic new facility which will deliver early education, maternal child health and specialist support services for children and residents in the rapidly growing suburb of Truganina. The building works are progressing well and is on track for a February 2020 competition.

I also had the pleasure of attending the eighth annual Barry Jones Oration event, which aims to raise greater awareness of social, educational, economic and environmental issues in Wyndham. This year’s guest speaker, Professor Gillian Triggs was the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission from 2012-2017 and has recently appointed by the UN Secretary General as Assistant High Commissioner Protection. I really love this event and believe that it’s an initiative that has the capacity to activate innovative thinking and robust and healthy debate.

With the school holidays now in full swing it’s time to get your teenagers busy. We are so fortunate in Wyndham to have such a great range of youth programs and events across the municipality, especially during the holiday periods. Youth Service’s Holiday Action program runs daily from the Youth Resource Centre (YRC) and hosts a huge range of activities and excursions throughout the school break to amazing places including laser tag, sea kayaking, the movies and the Melbourne Show, this program is aimed at 12-15 years and requires a completed enrolment form to attend and fees do apply. The YRC is located on Derrimut Rod, Hoppers Crossing, with shuttle buses available for young people in other suburbs to access the program.

The libraries once again continue to offer a huge range of activities over the holidays for children and families including kids yoga, junk craft, midday movies, science workshops, kids origami puppets, plus heaps more. For full details, jump on the libraries section on the Wyndham web page, to find out what’s happening at your nearest library.

To find out more about other community events or to add your own event to the Council website, head to the What’s On section of the website and upload your information there.

Enjoy the term break.

Regards, Mia Shaw.