



**Term 1,  
Weeks 9 & 10,  
2024**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**TERM 1**

**APRIL**

- 3rd Peer Support
- 4th Backflips  
Against  
Bullying
- 8th to 12th Autism Wk
- 8th 3 Way Interviews
- 11th Peer Support
- 12th Last day Term 1

**TERM 2**

- 30th Students first  
day Term 2
- ANZAC  
Ceremony
- MAY**
- 3rd BPS Cross  
Country
- 6th P&C Mother's  
Day Stall
- 8th Musica Viva
- 13th P&C Meeting
- 15th Games Day
- 17th National Walk  
Safely to  
School Day
- 22nd Y4 Public  
Speaking
- 24th Zone Cross  
Country

**JUNE**

- 5th Narragunnawali  
Rehearsal #1
- 12th Sydney West  
Cross Country
- 21st Soccer Gala  
Day

Dear Parents / Carers,  
It's hard to believe this is the last newsletter for Term 1. It has been such a busy ten weeks! I hope everyone enjoyed the extra-long weekend for Easter - the weather was glorious! Last Thursday we had a wonderful day with so many grandparents and grand friends visiting for our annual Grandparents Day concert. All students performed beautifully – thank you Mrs McIntosh for preparing all classes and coordinating the concert on the day. Thank you too, to Mr Musgrave for being such a great sound guy!  
We also had a fabulous Easter Hat Parade in the afternoon with so many visitors! It was lovely to have our local pre-school children come along and enjoy the afternoon with us. Thanks, Ms Shute for compering and Mrs Tomiczek for the music! Thanks, Mrs Harris for organising this fun event for us.



The P&C did an amazing job on the day – running both the canteen and the cake stall. Paul, Alison and their helpers were flat chat making hot drinks and serving up lots of nutritious food and yummy treats. Liz and her helpers did a great job with the cake stall which was very popular – thank you to everyone who donated items to sell.  
Our grandparents also made very generous donations of books to our school library – thank you for continuing to build our impressive collection of quality literature.  
Of course, these events don't go ahead without lots of behind-the-scenes effort – our SLSOs did a terrific job setting up, topping up and packing up morning tea for our special guests. Our staff all pulled together to ensure the day was a big success – thanks to all who helped with big and small tasks on the day, including hall chairs, charging equipment, tidying up at the end of the day – the list goes on...

A big congratulations to Ruby R and Ella K who participated at the Sydney West Swimming Carnival last week and both swam personal bests on the day. Crosby M, Otto F, Gabby W, Mae K and Madeline N also represented BPS with admirable sportsmanship and spirited effort at the Sydney West PSSA Basketball competition. This Thursday all students will attend Backflips Against Bullying. Engaging students through parkour and acrobatics, Backflips Against Bullying is a program that features a high-energy performance by a team of incredible acrobats while teaching important messages about bullying.



In week 11, our final week of the term we will be holding our biennial Autism Awareness Week. This will be our third Autism week at BPS in which we hope to, again, educate the entire community about autism and the impact it has on the lives of those students (and adults) who are on the autism spectrum.

We will also be facilitating our teacher / student / parent interviews in week 11. Please book in your time on the Compass app.



The last day of term is Friday 12 April and students return on Tuesday 30 April for Term 2.

Warm Regards,  
Kristin Hardge  
Principal

## YR 5 OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT 2025

The application process for Year 5 opportunity class placement for entry in 2025 is about to begin. Applications are open from **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024** and close on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**.

What are opportunity classes?

Opportunity classes are one of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students. The classes are offered in Years 5 and 6, with parents/carers applying when their child is in Year 4. Opportunity classes provide an environment where students can learn and make friends with classmates of similar ability. This can benefit students' academic progress and wellbeing. Opportunity classes are not zoned.


Students successfully placed attend the opportunity class full time in Years 5 and 6 at the relevant public school. In most cases, students who have accepted a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with the opportunity class.

Parents of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are encouraged to consider applying for selective and opportunity class placement. For further information and support parents can speak with their principal or contact their local Aboriginal Education and Wellbeing Advisor.

Further information about opportunity classes including how to apply can be found at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

Philip Yeong





Merit Awards



5-6K Abigail G, Charley H & Liam A

5-6M Liam C & Henry C

5-6OW Ella K, Lucas McD & Jemima D



3-4G Harry McD, Enzo P, Daisy H & Layla B

3-4H Daisy N, Harry W, Alex R & Isobel S

3-4M Cedar M, Josie H, Peytyn D & Patrick C



K-C Leny K-C & Eleesha D

K-H Claudia Mcl &  
Avalon O-R

1-2KM Essie C & Atticus L

1-2L Demi M-P, Jasper J &  
Pippa S

1-2RP Amara R





## **BPS SWIMMING AGE CHAMPIONS**

Congratulations to our BPS Swimming Age Champions who received their medallions in our latest assembly.



## **SYDNEY WEST PSSA SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**



Ella K and Ruby R made a splash at the Sydney West PSSA Swimming Championship on March 28th!

Ella swam a personal best time of 37.75 seconds in her 50m freestyle event and Ruby achieved personal bests and top 10 positions in 200m IM(6th) where she dropped nearly 8 seconds, 50m freestyle (9th) and 50m backstroke (7th). She also did great swims in 50 butterfly (7th) and 100 freestyle (11th).

Amazing effort girls! We are all so proud of you!



## **SYDNEY WEST PSSA BASKETBALL**

Congratulations to our Stage 3 basketballers who played in the Western Sydney PSSA Basketball gala day last week at the Penrith Basketball Stadium. Crosby M, Otto F, Gabby W, Mae K and Madeline N represented Blackheath PS with pride, displaying excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. They competed against teams from across the Sydney West region and although not making it through to the final rounds, our students gained valuable experience competing at the representative level. Ruth Harris





BULLYING. NO WAY!



Thank you Blackheath Public School community for your support with Harmony day and Bullying No Way Day! Congratulations to everyone on dressing up in orange and being kind and respectful. We celebrated and recognised that our diversity brings us together and that we are very fortunate to live in Australia with people of all different backgrounds. In our classes we spoke about and did activities on inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. The SRC will be meeting next week to decide where to donate the raised \$273. SRC 2024

## BANC FOOD DRIVE



This year our school is part of the BANC food drive. If possible please donate canned food, packaged food, non refrigerated liquids but no fresh produce or anything that expires quickly. Bring any time until Monday the 8th of April. When you arrive at school take donations to your classroom where your teacher will arrange a spot for them to go. Poppy D and Ilka W-S, SRC.



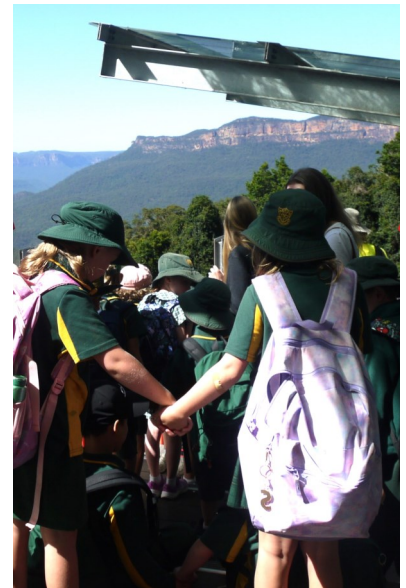


Ride2School day was celebrated successfully at Blackheath Public, despite a dreary start to the day. Lots of children rode from near and far with some beautifully decorated helmets on display. Thank you to everyone who participated, and to all of you who put so much effort into decorating your helmets! Cathy Lamond





# ST SCENIC WORLD EXCURSION



On the 26th March, Stage 1 went to Scenic World. We caught the bus and it was a 13 minute drive. Uncle David King did a Welcome to Country. Our tour guide was David King. First, we went on the Scenic Skyway and we saw the Three Sisters and a waterfall. After that, we went on the Scenic Railway. Some of us slipped off the seat! It is the steepest railway in the world. We went for a walk on the walkway. We saw a statue and then caught the Scenic Cableway back to the top. It was so much fun! Anna T 1-2RP

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who assisted us on our Stage 1 excursion to Scenic World and Echo Point! We appreciate you

giving up your time to help us out.  
Stage 1 Teachers



# THE GREEN TEAM

## Working Bee Day

It was a small but mighty crew of helpers for our working bee on Sunday. A huge thank you to everyone and their families who came along and helped with general garden maintenance and an overhaul of the garden area near the new flag poles. Many thanks to Sue, Mrs Harris and Gerard who worked all morning in the garden near the Kindy gates. Joe, Nick, Elena, Lais, Mrs White, Mrs Hardge, Nathan & Cass tackled the garden area near the flag poles. This involved weeding, removing stumps and planting a new camellia hedge. A special mention to students - Ella K, Bernie, Gabi, Emilia, Ivy, Hunter, Willow who also helped with planting some winter colour under our tree in the quad, trimming the native grasses and occupying Mrs Windsor's wild twins.

The new garden area is a work in progress and will look even more fabulous with further plantings to come and a new path and standing area around the flag pole. Thanks again! We are lucky to have such large garden areas in our school but these always require more maintenance than our GA can get to in his limited funded hours. Any help with the gardens is always welcome. Please contact Mrs Windsor if you're able to help on a regular or drop in basis. She'll alllllways be able to set you a gardening task :) Hillier Windsor





## KISS & DROP / PICK UP



Kiss and Drop/Pick up Zones are designed for your convenience and for your child's safety. Designed for quick entry and exit, these zones minimise congestion and risk when used properly by all parents and carers. These zones operate under the same conditions as no parking zones, which means you may stop to drop off or pick up children for a **maximum of 2 minutes**. You're required to remain in, or within 3 metres of, your vehicle. Fines do apply.

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US TO BE AWARE OF AND FOLLOW THE **ROAD SAFETY RULES** TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN. PLEASE REFER TO THIS LINK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/keeping-our-kids-safe-around-schools.pdf>

## EXTENDED LEAVE –TRAVEL or HOLIDAY

A reminder that under DoE procedures, parents/carers are required to complete an Application for Extended Leave—Travel and provide travel documentation, if they are travelling or holidaying outside of the school vacation period. Where the principal considers the travel appropriate during the school term, the absence will be recorded as holiday leave and a certificate granted.

## SCHOOL VISITOR/VOLUNTEER CHECK IN

In line with DoE policy, all visitors to our school need to check in by scanning the QR code, or via the office tablet. This includes morning and afternoon home reading volunteers. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PAYMENTS

A gentle reminder that all payments **MUST** be submitted on either Compass or in person at the school office by the due date on the note. Owing to our Department of Education system we cannot process money that comes in later than the day. If finance is an issue **PLEASE** complete an assistance form, available from the office, **PRIOR** to the due date.

# Our Wonder Wall



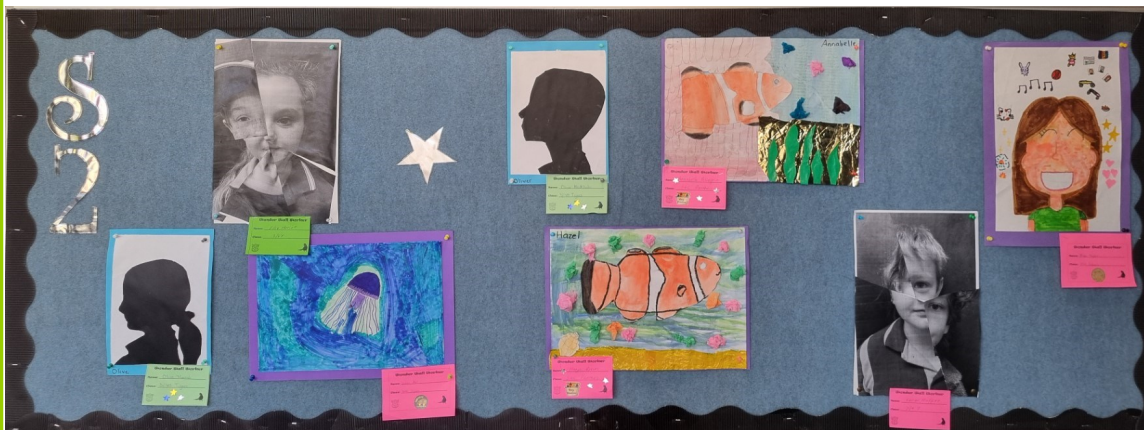
## EARLY S1

Claudia Mcl,  
Lenny K-C,  
Fern M &  
Marcy L



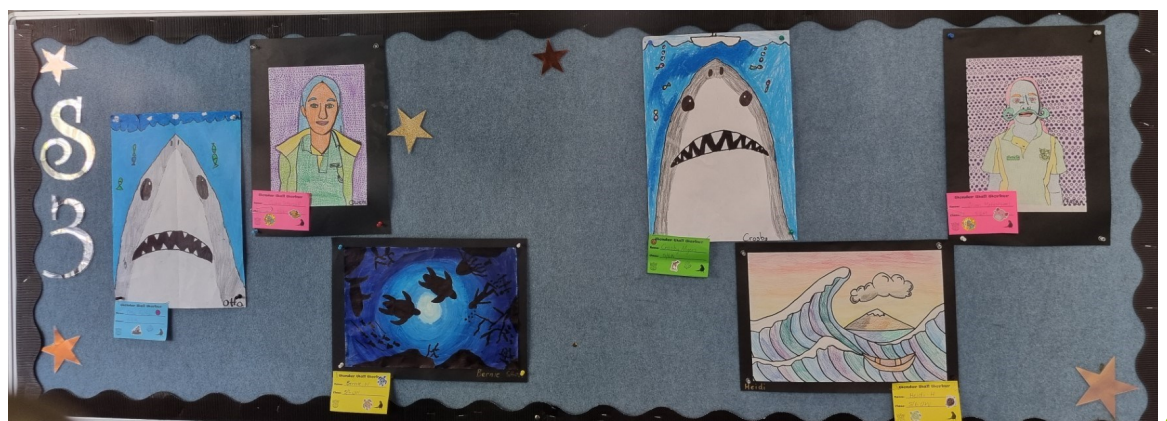
## STAGE 1

Atticus L,  
Rhys R-P,  
Demi M-P &  
Heidi R



## STAGE 2

Annabelle P,  
Hazel R,  
Ellie H,  
Olive W,  
Oliver McA,  
Lachlan A &  
Maple H



## STAGE 3

Owena T,  
Bernie W,  
Heidi H,  
Orion M,  
Crosby M &  
Otto F



# We're hiring School Crossing Supervisors



Help protect our vibrant school communities.



Be a road safety hero for school kids, caregivers, and school staff.



Be a second set of eyes for local motorists at busy times.



Earn an income and still have time to live your life to the fullest.

**Permanent part-time available**  
Blackheath Public School - 92673

### Does this sound like you?

- Willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Able to communicate with different groups and give clear instructions.
- Community-minded.
- Friendly and positive manner.

### Days and hours

- 20 hours each fortnight.
- Shifts are between 8:25 am - 9:25 am and 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm.
- Work Monday to Friday during school terms.

### Apply today

Applications close Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Visit [jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au](https://jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au) and search for **Reference Number: 92673** or search 'School Crossing Supervisors' for a full list or vacancies or scan the QR code to apply.

For further information, contact Sandhini Chaudhary  
E: [sandhini.chaudhary@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sandhini.chaudhary@transport.nsw.gov.au)  
P: 0466 343 704



[jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au](https://jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au)



Blackheath Kookaburra Kindergarten is taking enrolments for 2024.

Kookaburra Kindy is a community run preschool in beautiful Blackheath.

We have provided quality preschool education to children aged three to five for 70 years.

Our Educators are enthusiastic, warm and caring.

They use the children's abilities, strengths, and interests to individualise learning.

Kookaburra uses play based learning that follows the EYLF (Early Years Learning Framework).

We aim to support families and children in our community to reach their full potential and provide assistance and advice where possible.

Fee Relief is available.

Times: Hours: 08.30am - 4pm

Days: Monday - Friday

E-mail: [contact@kookaburrakindy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:contact@kookaburrakindy.nsw.edu.au)

Ph: 47878977

CALL OR EMAIL KERRIE TO BOOK A TOUR OF THE PRESCHOOL TO SEE OUR LOVELY LEARNING AREAS AND NATURAL PLAYGROUND AND TO MEET OUR WONDERFUL TEAM.

# Blackheath Cuckoo Playgroup

ALL WELCOME!

Where: Blackheath Public School [school hall]

When: Wednesdays (Term Time) 9:30am - 11:00am

Just turn up and meet other children, parents & carers in a friendly setting.

Contact Thrive on 02 4782 1555 for more information



A partnership activity of Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre, Blackheath Public School & Thrive Services





### Crossing the road

Together, choose the safest place to cross the road and talk about:

- STOP!** one step back from the kerb
- LOOK!** continuously both ways
- LISTEN!** for the sounds of approaching traffic
- THINK!** whether it is safe to cross

Keep checking as you cross the road.



### Getting to and from the bus stop

- Families are responsible for getting their child to and from the bus stop safely.
- Always supervise your child until they are at least 10 and hold their hand when walking to and from the bus stop or interchange and when crossing the road.
- When waiting for the bus, hold hands and wait as far back from the passing traffic as possible.

### On the bus

Remind your children to get on the bus and take a seat quickly and buckle up if there's a seatbelt on the bus.



### Getting off the bus

When travelling by bus, your child is most at risk in the minutes after they get off the bus.

Meet your child **AT** the bus stop or interchange after school. **NEVER** wait on the opposite side of the road and call them across. If you cannot meet your child, organise for a trusted adult to take your place.

**Always wait until the bus has gone, then use a safe place to cross.**

Talk with your child about what to do:

- if you are delayed and cannot meet them as usual
- if they catch the wrong bus
- if they get off the bus at the wrong bus stop.

Transport  
for NSW

# Bus safety for schools students

How families can help



TOWARDS ZERO





### Informal school bus stops

Informal bus stops are not sign posted and are usually found in rural areas. They may be at the front of a property or on the side of the road.

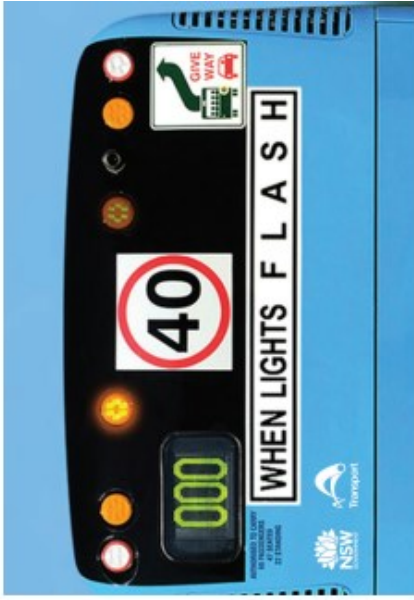
Drivers may find it difficult to see children at informal bus stops. Slow down to 40km/h when bus lights flash, look out for children crossing the road, and be aware that a stationary bus can impede the view of children around buses.

Parents and carers also play an important role in ensuring the safety of students around informal bus stops. If your child needs to use an informal bus stop, think about whether it's located in a safe spot that allows buses to stop away from the road, with good lines of sight in both directions, and includes a safe place for you to park your vehicle and wait. You can talk to your local bus operator or find more information at [roadsafe.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/informal-school-bus-stops.html](https://roadsafe.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/informal-school-bus-stops.html)

**Too many lives lost on NSW roads.**

**Our goal is zero.**

More information is available on the Families section of Safety Town: [safetytown.com.au/families](https://safetytown.com.au/families)



### Slow down to 40km/h when bus lights flash

Bus lights flash on the front and back of a bus when the bus is picking up or setting down school children.

Slow down to 40km/h when bus lights flash, unless a lower speed applies. The speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.



**NEW EDITION AVAILABLE NOW**

## DIGITAL CHILD SAFETY HANDBOOK

We are pleased to advise that a new edition of this valuable safety resource is now available online with updated safety content.

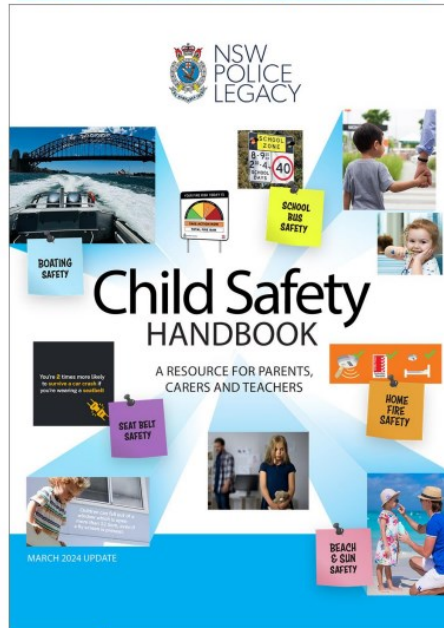
We urge all parents and carers to download this latest edition and discuss the safety content with your children.

**Child Safety Handbook App** available for download:



[Visit the Child Safety Hub](https://www.childsafetyhub.com.au)

[Read the Child Safety Handbook](#)





# Culture Dose for Kids

(and their parent/carer)

at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba



**8 FREE sessions on Sundays**  
**5 May – 23 June, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
**9-12yr olds and their parent/carer**

These FREE ART CLASSES are a collaboration between the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Black Dog Institute and the Art Gallery of NSW. This arts engagement program is aimed at supporting children with anxiety and those impacted by natural disasters.

Activities led by trained staff. Numbers limited to 10 – 15 young people & parent/carer.

Join us for Culture Dose for Kids (CDK), an eight-week term of Sunday morning art classes for children and parents to create together. Our Gallery is a safe space for self-expression to build confidence and foster social connections, to help support children and families through stressful or anxious times.

CDK sessions focus on childrens' wellbeing by exploring nature, colour and feeling through looking at the natural world artworks from both current exhibition and the Gallery's collection.



Follow this link and fill in the online form to apply.

Apologies to previous class members but, as this program has associated research outcomes, this class is for new participants only.

The development of this program has been funded by the Jibb Foundation and is a collaborative partnership between the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Black Dog Institute.



# Go4Fun

Healthy active happy kids



## Katoomba program

Day: Tuesdays in Term 2

Dates: 30 April to 2 July 2024

Time: 5pm to 7pm

Location: Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre

Pool program

## To register:

- Visit: [go4fun.com.au](http://go4fun.com.au)
- Call: 1800 780 900
- SMS: 0409 745 645 for a call back



It's free and run after school for 10 weeks



Make new friends



Whole of family approach



Build self confidence



Fun games and prizes



Learn about healthy eating

A FREE program for children aged 7-13 and their families to become fitter, healthier and happier

All families that are looking for support with healthy eating, physical activity and overall wellbeing are welcome to join

