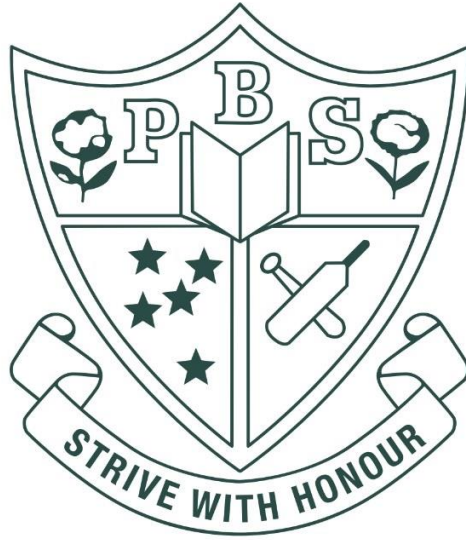




# Blackheath Public School Newsletter 4





Term 1 Weeks 8, 9 & 10 2025

Important Dates 2025



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**TERM 1**

**APRIL**

*4th ES1 & S1 NSW Cricket Workshop*

*7th Parent / Teacher / Student Interviews*

*9th Junior Shadow Ranger Excursion*

*10th Stage 2 Rhododendron Gardens*

*11th ES1 & S1 NSW Cricket Workshop*

*11th Last Day Term 1*

**TERM 2**

**APRIL**

*30th Students return*

*30th ANZAC Ceremony*

**MAY**

*2nd Cross Country*

*12th P&C Meeting*

*14th Games Day*

*16th Walk Safely to School Day*

*23rd Zone Cross Country*

*26th National Sorry Day*

*27th - 3rd June National Reconciliation Week*

*29th Public Speaking Years 4 & 5*

**JUNE**

*16th P&C Meeting*

*20th S2 Bathurst Excursion*

*26th Sydney West Area Cross Country*

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From the Principal



Dear Parents and Caregivers

We are rapidly approaching the end of a very busy term.

Throughout the term our students have participated in many incursions and excursions to enhance their learning. Our key learning areas are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment, Personal Development, Health and Physical

Education and Creative Arts. Our extracurricular opportunities sometimes connect with one, but often connect with many of these learning domains.

Students in years 3 and 5 completed NAPLAN testing which assesses achievements in literacy and numeracy. We look forward to receiving our results which will assist teachers to use the data to inform their teaching and learning practices.

We also enjoyed Ride to School Day and Harmony Day. It was wonderful to see so many students wearing orange. Thank you to the teachers who organised and supported these activities.

Ms Oreleon took our year 6 leadership team to the Young Leaders Conference in the city. It was a very early start and a late finish, but it was a fabulous opportunity for our leaders to hear some inspiring leadership stories. Thanks to the parents and carers who helped get their children to the station at such an early time and to Ms Oreleon too! Our leaders represented our school with excellent manners and participation.

A big thank you to Mr Musgrave who made the trip down to Penrith on the weekend to cheer on our STEM Pitch for Purpose team. Also, thank you to the students, Cyrus, Flynn, Argento and Lucas, and their parents for your commitment to this program on a weekend!

Two of our very capable swimmers competed in the Sydney West Area Swimming Carnival in week 9. Congratulations to Ruby R and Bernie W who both swam admirably with Ruby achieving some personal bests.

Grandparents Day was, as always, a huge success with the hall bursting with visitors. Mrs Lanyon did a great job preparing our students who sang beautifully on the day and Ms Shute ensured a wonderful book fair was held to build our library resources. Thank you to everyone who purchased a book for our library. We received many compliments from grandparents and grandfriends about how lovely the morning was. A very big thank you to Kath and her helpers in the canteen who provided a delicious morning tea.

The 2024 Annual School Report has been finalised and published on the school website.

We will not be having an Easter Hat Parade this year as Easter falls within the holiday break. We will however be holding a Book Parade in Term 3 as part of book week where students can be creative with their costumes and parade with their peers. We will also be holding an ANZAC ceremony at the beginning of Term 2 when students return.

The final day of Term 1 is Friday 11 April and students return for Term 2 on Wednesday 30 April. We wish you all a very happy school holiday break.

Thank you for your continued support of public education and our school.

Warm Regards, Kristin Hardge

## Tech Team

Blackheath Public School are proud to announce our fantastic technology team for 2025: Dusty, Isaac, Peyton, Jude, Gabi, Flynn, Eden, Hallie and Mae.

These students are volunteering their free time to support the smooth operation of technology across our school while learning new skills, and in doing so, contribute meaningfully by supporting both their fellow students and teachers in the use of ICT.



## Merit Awards



**K-H** Boon C

**1-2C** Ezra A, Lily S

**1-2KL** Atticus S

**1-2L** Claudia Mcl, Isa K, Ashton D

## Principal Awards



**K-H** Indie J, Sophia S, Arye M

**1-2C** Tyler L, Olivia M, Maddi F, Eleesha D

**1-2KL** Skylah B, Arabella D, Aamarni S, Zeke K

**1-2L** Cohen E, Isa K, Kobie L, Bianca W



**3-4G** Peytyn D, Georgie S, Elijah G, Mackenzie L

**3-4H** Anna T, Ivy W, Lucas F, Rose G

**3-4Y** Ayla JF, Rhys K, Tiana L, Alex R

**4-5M** Naomi C, Finn McA, Pippa P

**5-6K** Ali C, Kyan P, Charley H, Jaxon G

**5-6M** Rhys S, Mae K, Bernie W, Audrey O

**5-6OM** Electra J, Lucas M, Elke S and Luella J



### **"Caught you being good"**



Congratulations to our fabulous "Caught you being good" recipients.

### **"Success starts with being here"**



Congratulations to 1-2KL, recipients of "Snowy", awarded to the class with the best attendance since the last whole school assembly.



## House Points Trophy



The House Points Trophy is awarded fortnightly at our whole school assembly to the House that has collected the highest number of House points since the previous assembly. Teachers can award House Points for a range of successes such as positive behaviour, lovely class work and effort in activities. Congratulations to this assemblies winning House, the Platypuses!

## Green Team



There's always so much going on in our garden. The last few weeks we have enjoyed observing the lifecycle of ladybirds on our zucchini leaves. We've spotted eggs, larvae and fully grown ladybirds. These ladybirds and their larvae are a special type that eat fungus. Our zucchini plants were getting powdery mildew on their leaves and within a week these special fungus-eating ladybirds turned up to save the day! How cool is that?! We love learning about beneficial insects and their symbiotic relationships with plants.

We've also been saving seed from our parsley, kale, lettuce and coriander plants. We let these plants 'go to seed' as the flowers attract beneficial insects to our garden and it's awesome to observe the full life-cycle of a plant and then use these seeds for our next crop. Green Team members will also be taking some of our saved seed home to their gardens.

The chicken coop has had a big clean out and the girls are feeling fresh and clean with new wood shavings, and a mite and worming treatment. They'll also be able to stay warm and dry as winter approaches thanks to Mr Van Horen (Mrs Harris' husband) who donated his time and expertise over the weekend to waterproof the coop extension. Thank you Mr Van Horen - the chooks and the Green Team are very grateful.

Mrs Windsor and the Stage 3 teachers have also selected Green Team Leaders. These leaders will work closely with Mrs Windsor and support younger students. Their badges will be presented this Thursday 3rd April at the Stage 2/3 assembly.

There's been a change - The Green Team meeting will be at lunch on Thursdays for the rest of the year and Family and Friends garden volunteer sessions will be back to Thursdays 9-10am. Please come along and help us maintain our beautiful grounds. Mrs Windsor will be super grateful for even 15mins after the morning bell to help turn the compost or tidy up the veggie gardens.

If you are looking for ways to support the Green Team and our Sustainable Schools program and don't have time to volunteer, please consider buying a bag of chicken grain, a bag of wood shavings or buying a raffle ticket in our weekly egg draw. Tickets can be purchased any time the canteen is open and cost \$1. Any help is gratefully received. Thank you to Mr Albrecht (Lyra's grandfather) for his kind donation of extra compost bins - just in time for the chicken coop clean out. Thank you!

In some EGG-citing news... keep an eye out on the weekly egg raffle in the lead up to Easter. We think the Easter Bunny has been leaving chocolate eggs in the coop!!! You might find some chocolate eggs in the winning dozen if you're lucky. 🐣 🍫

HELP WANTED - If you're 'handy' and could help Mrs Windsor move our garden shed to a more convenient location near the veggie garden, please get in touch.

Mrs Windsor and The Green Team



*1 - Seed saving*



*2 - Spotted!*



*3 - Ladybird larvae*



*4 - Green Team caring for our worm farms*



*5 - Turning the compost provides oxygen and keeps our compost healthy*



*6 - Eggs don't get fresher!*



*7 - Thank you Mr Van Horen for our new weatherproof roof on the coop extension*



*8 - The chooks 'helping' with the coop clean out*



*9 - Raffle tickets available from the canteen for \$1. A winning dozen contains chocolate eggs and fresh chook eggs.*

## Peer Support

In the past few weeks, our students have enthusiastically engaged in their second, third, and fourth Peer Support sessions. These interactive gatherings delved into the essential qualities that make a great friend, the valuable skills needed to nurture friendships, and the significance of cooperation and active listening. It has been a wonderful opportunity for our students to strengthen their connections and develop important social skills together. In an exciting session focused on Harmony Day, our students came together to explore the essence of this important celebration. Through collaboration and creativity, they engaged in meaningful discussions about diversity and inclusion, showcasing their unique perspectives. Students produced some wonderful projects that highlighted the beauty of our multicultural community. It was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to learn from one another and celebrate the values of harmony and respect!









## National Young Leaders Day

Thank you to the amazing leadership team who met me at Katoomba for an early start! We had a fabulous day listening to and feeling inspired by the speakers at the Young Leaders convention at the ICC. I know the students learnt a lot more about resilience, goal setting and qualities that make effective leaders. We heard from Catherine Laga'aia, Thomas Duncan-Watt, Emma McKeon and Anthony 'Harries' Carroll and got to meet Catherine and Emma in person. We also got the opportunity to connect with other schools from all over NSW and enjoy the sights of Sydney.

Ms Oreleon

Some highlights of the day:

I had lots of highlights from the day, but one of my favourites was participating in the dance curriculum activities. I also liked how all the speakers were inspiring in different ways. And of course I loved the chips and ice cream from McDonalds. My favourite speaker was Catherine Laga'aia and the fact she established that you had to keep trying, no matter the obstacles that come your way. I loved all the speakers and learnt different things from each of them. It was a really fun day!

-Lucas

My favourite part of the day was listening to Catherine Laga'aia and how it's not always easy to become an actor but also, how fun it is to become famous. I also liked taking a photo with Emma McKeon because it's not every day that you get to meet the greatest Australian Olympian.

-Rafael

The highlight for me would have to be getting to meet the inspirational speakers such as Catherine Laga'aia, the actress for the live action Moana and Emma McKeon, the most successful Aussie Olympian. Overall, the day was a super fun one filled with laughter, occasional dance outbreaks, famous people and of course, Maccas!

-Olivia

National Young Leaders Day was such a fun day filled with dance, joy, speakers and McDonalds! We listened to four speakers: Catherine Laga'aia (Moana actress), Anthony 'Harries' Carroll (lifeguard from Bondi Rescue), Thomas Duncan-Watt (author and screen writer) and Emma McKeon (Australia's most successful Olympian). My favourite speaker was Catherine Laga'aia because she was very inspiring and interesting. But the best part of the day was definitely Maccas!

-Lilly

My highlight from the day was when we got to take a photo with Emma McKeon. My favourite speaker was Thomas Duncan-Watt, who is an author and screen writer. All speakers were great and gave the message of never giving up when times are tough.

-Lukas

My favourite speaker was Catherine Laga'aia- soon to be one of the most recognisable faces, as next year she will be starring in the live action version of Moana. She taught us that even though it might be scary, it is worth it in the end to do what you want to. By the time Catherine had finished speaking, I was motivated to be an even better leader.

-Gabi

My highlight was seeing all the different speakers and seeing their journeys. My favourite speaker was Anthony 'Harries' Carroll from Bondi Rescue. He was my favourite because he shared his experiences as a lifeguard and what we can do to help someone in danger.

-Peyton

At the Young Leaders' Day my favourite speaker was Catherine Laga'aia (live action Moana) because she showed in her speech the difficulties she faced and how she overcame them. I also really liked the fact that I got to ask a question to a Bondi Rescue lifeguard. Also, Maccas was pretty good too!

-Bernie



## Pitch for Purpose

Congratulations to our Pitch for Purpose Team including Cyrus, Flynn, Argento and Lucas, on their remarkable performance in the Pitch for Purpose challenge, coordinated by Rotary District 9685. Competing against over 70 teams, they reached the finals and earned a highly commended result for their innovation, teamwork, and clear communication.

Presenting their pitch and example product to an audience of over 600 Rotarians at the annual conference for Rotary District 9685 on Saturday 22nd March, the team displayed professionalism and excellence, bringing pride to our school and inspiring their peers. Well done on this exceptional accomplishment!





## Harmony Day & International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



We celebrated Harmony Day on Friday 21st March. This is also international day for the elimination of racial discrimination or IDERD day! Students donated a gold coin to wear orange and show their support and raise awareness for this special day. \$235 was raised and our SRC chose to donate these funds to Ronald McDonald House - a meaningful charity that supports families during a crucial time of need within our school community.









## Ride2School Day

The annual Ride2School Day encourages students to take active transport to school, promoting a healthier and more environmentally friendly travel method. This year's Ride2School Day took place on a disappointingly wet and cold Blackheath day. As a result, few students could ride or scooter to school. However, many who had decorated their helmets brought them in to show their classmates. On display were bejeweled masterpieces, tributes to favourite sporting teams, and even a helmet transformed into a Quokka! Congratulations to the two students in each class who were awarded canteen vouchers for the best decorated helmets.











## Cricket Workshops

Students from Kindergarten and Stage 1 have been enjoying cricket workshops presented by Adam, our Cricket NSW coach. We have been developing bowling, catching and batting skills in these fun, hands-on workshops. It has been wonderful to see each and every student

giving these new skills a try and developing greater confidence with both the ball and bat. One budding young cricketer announced that he “loved cricket” when told it was our workshop day. The workshops will run each week until the end of term, so there is a lot more fun to come!













## **PSSA Sydney West Primary Tennis Trial**

Loic demonstrated great skill and determination across five matches, totaling 25 games. He secured a win in one game, came tantalizingly close in three others, and battled through a thrilling golden-point deuce in another. One of the highlights was an incredible rally in his final match, which left the audience in awe. Congratulations to Loic on a truly fantastic performance—an achievement to be proud of!



## Kiss & Drop / Pick Up



Kiss and Drop / Pick Up Zones are created 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. For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools, please visit the parent section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

## Sydney West Swimming



Ruby and Bernie represented the Blue Mountains at the Sydney West swimming competition on Thursday, 26 March, with Ruby achieving personal bests in her races. Well done!

## Grandparents' Day & Book Fair



Our annual Grandparents Day took place in Week 10 and was attended by many Grandparents, grand friends and other important people who take on the role of Grandparents in our students lives. The morning started with students performing beautifully in the school hall, as every class and the school choirs presented choral items. The concert was followed by a delicious morning tea, hosted by Mrs Hardge, provided by the school canteen. Ms Shute was delighted that the Library Book Fair was generously attended

by our visitors, who purchased over \$3000 worth of specially chosen new books for the Library. Thank you to all who purchased books for the school.

Thank you to all of our visitors, especially those that travelled from afar, for attending our Grandparents Day celebration and making it a special day for our students.

## **Extended Leave Application - 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. [Extended leave \(travel or holiday\) application and certificate](#)

## **School Visitors & Volunteers**

All visitors to our school during school hours are required to check in by scanning the displayed QR code or via the office tablet. At this time, visitors are provided with the BPS Induction Health and Safety Briefing which they must indicate as part of their check in. This includes morning and afternoon home reading volunteers.

We welcome volunteers at our school, but in line with NSW DoE Policy all volunteers must have a clearance. Please inquire at the office what is required to perform this valuable role.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Payments**

A gentle reminder that all payments MUST be submitted via Compass, or in person at the school office, by the due date. If finance is an issue, please complete an assistance request form available from the office PRIOR to the due date.

## **Wholesome Kids' Cafe News**

Thanks from the WKC crew to all the wonderful volunteers this term, who have helped us provide nutritious and delicious food to our school community.



# wholesome kids café

## Wholesome Kids Cafe

Monday - Friday from 8.30am  
Volunteers always welcome!



ORDER IN PERSON OR ON THE COMPASS APP

### SNACKS AVAILABLE FOR RECESS & LUNCH

Chunky watermelon cup	\$2.00	Popcorn	\$1.00
Yoghurt cup with berries	\$3.00	Seaweed	\$2.00
Cheesy Scroll	50c	Dried apricots	\$1.50
Whole Apple/banana/orange	50c	Dried Sultanas	\$1.50
Sweet Treat of the week	\$2.00	Messy Monkeys	\$2.00

### LUNCH MONDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY ONLY

#### SANDWICHES ON WHOLEMEAL BREAD (GF AVAILABLE)

vegemite, honey, cheese	\$3.50
ham and cheese	\$4.00
ham, cheese and tomato	\$4.50

#### WRAPS - WHOLEMEAL (GF AVAILABLE)

chicken, mayo, lettuce, cucumber	\$6.50
salad cheese and hummus	\$6.00

#### HOT FOOD

sausage roll	\$6.50
corn fritters w salad (GF)	\$6.00
pesto pasta (GF available)	\$6.00
neopolitan pasta (GF available)	\$6.00
baked beans w cheesy	\$5.00
garlic bread (GF available)	

### TUESDAY ONLY PIZZA DAY \$6

Made on homemade wholemeal  
bases (GF available)

Margarita	
Pepperoni	
Hawaiian	
Sweet Potato, Feta and Pesto	
Homemade fruit Sorbet	\$2.00

### THURSDAY ONLY SUSHI DAY \$4.50 EA

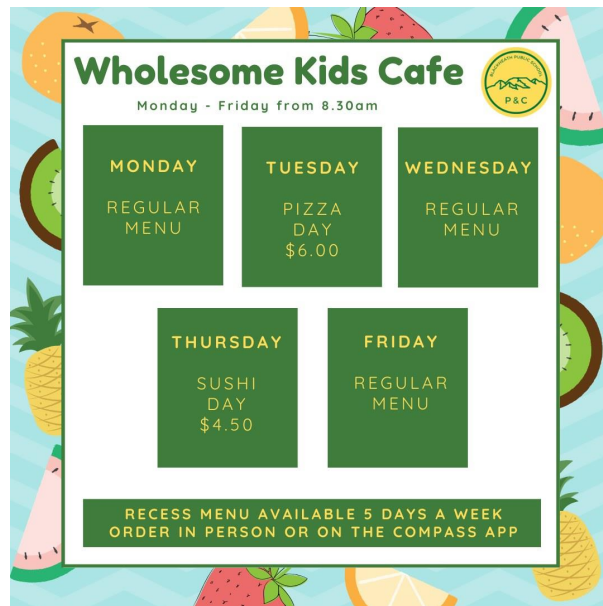
Sushi made fresh by Sushi & Co

Teriyaki Beef	
Tuna & Avocado	
Chicken Katsu & cucumber	
Vegetarian	
Small Edamame Beans	\$3.00
Fortune Cookie	\$1.50

### DRINKS

Water	\$1.00	Coconut Water	\$3.00
Chill J	\$3.00	Banana Smoothie	\$4.50
Poppers (Orange/Apple)	\$2.50	Berry Frappe	\$4.50
Blackcurrant/Tropical/Apple)		Hot Chocolate	Sm \$3.50 Lge \$4.50
Flavoured Milk (Strawberry/Choc)	\$2.50	Oat/Soy/Lactose Free	60c

Please email the canteen with any suggestions or variations your child may require, we are more than happy to accommodate with menu item adjustments for sensory issues or for a particular ingredient as long as it's in house, we'd love to assist you and your family!  
wholesomekidscafe@gmail.com



## Ethics Volunteers Needed

### Calling For Volunteers

### **Primary** **ETHICS**

For around an hour a week you can have a positive impact for the future on our children when you teach ethics, using an approved curriculum specifically designed for each age group in the school.

Topics include: How can we work out what's true? Should animals be kept in zoos? what is fairness? Is it ever ok to lie?

The teacher's role is not to make judgements or give their own opinions about right or wrong, but to encourage questions and reflection by the children themselves.

We rely on parents, grandparents, friends and community to deliver this wonderful program. It's rewarding, engaging and a way to learn new skills and connect positively with the future generation!

For interest in this unique activity please contact:

[Geoff Geraghty](#) our BHP coordinator at [0420 302 527](tel:0420302527).

Further details about **Primary Ethics** go to: [primaryethics.com.au](http://primaryethics.com.au)



## Community Notices



**VACATION CARE  
APRIL 2025**

ALL PRICES ARE REDUCED BY  
CCS COVERAGE  
e.g. 85% Coverage on \$120  
excursion is **\$18.00** out of pocket  
cost

**Monday  
14/04/2025  
Wheels Day**  
Join us for a fun day  
of Riding Bikes,  
Scooters and  
Skateboards  
Vacation Care Fee \$74

**Tuesday  
15/04/2025**  
**Archery and Boot Camp**  
Join us for some Archery Skills  
in the morning and then a Boot  
Camp in the afternoon  
Incursion cost \$26 + Vacation Care  
Fee \$74  
Total \$100

**Wednesday  
16/04/2025**  
**The Edge Katoomba**  
Join us for a train trip to  
Katoomba to see the new  
Minecraft movie with Popcorn  
and a Drink  
Movie + Popcorn + Drink + Train  
ticket \$26 + Vacation Care Fee \$74  
Total \$100

**Thursday  
17/04/2025**  
**Rock Climbing**  
Join us at the school to test  
your skills on a 8 Meter tall  
rock climbing wall  
Incursion Cost \$36 + Vacation Care  
Fee \$74  
Total \$110

**Friday  
18/04/2025**  
**Public Holidays  
Closed**

VACATION CARE  
APRIL 2025

ALL PRICES ARE REDUCED BY  
CCS COVERAGE  
e.g. 85% Coverage on \$120  
excursion is \$18.00 out of pocket  
cost

Monday  
21/04/2025

Public Holidays  
Closed

Tuesday  
22/04/2025

Flip Out Penrith

Join us on a bus down to Penrith and unleash your acrobatic skills at FlipOut in Penrith

Flip out + Bus \$46  
Vacation Care Fee \$74  
Total \$120

Wednesday  
23/04/2025

Cardboard Construction  
Join us for a fun day of Building anything you can Imagine in the hall

Vacation Care Fee \$74

Thursday  
24/04/2025

Water Fight + Survivor

Join us for a survivor Gameshow in the morning and then cool off in the afternoon with a centre wide water fight

Incursion cost \$26 + Vacation Care Fee \$74  
Total \$100

Friday  
25/04/2025

Public Holidays  
Closed

VACATION CARE  
APRIL 2025

ALL PRICES ARE REDUCED BY  
CCS COVERAGE  
e.g. 85% Coverage on \$120  
excursion is \$18.00 out of pocket  
cost

Monday  
28/04/2025

Sculpture Day

Join us for a fun filled day of sculpting with a trained Sculpturer

Materials \$16 + Vacation Care Fee \$74  
Total \$90

Tuesday  
29/04/2025

GAMES DAY

Board games inside and Ball Games outside plus a PS5 console in the demountable

Vacation Care Fee \$74

Wednesday  
30/04/2025

Back To School

Thursday  
01/05/2025

Back To School

Friday  
02/05/2025

Back To School

# BASKETBALL COME & TRY

FREE  EVENT

FRIDAY 4th APRIL 2025 | 4-6 PM  
KATOOMBA AQUATIC CENTRE

JUMP INTO THE WORLD OF BASKETBALL, GRAB A MATE AND  
REGISTER FOR A FREE AFTERNOON OF FUN!

ALL KIDS WELCOME | AGES 7 TO 12

SPECIAL GUEST COACH  
SYDNEY FLAMES PLAYER CAITLYN MARTIN

REGISTER NOW VIA LINK OR QR Code  
<https://bnsw.info/OMOG-Try>



## 2025 YOUTH SOCCER SEASON

FIRST GAME: 05 APRIL 2025

### JOIN THE FUN - REGISTER NOW!

Calling all young soccer stars!

The 2025 soccer season is here, and it's time to lace  
up your cleats, hit the field, and experience the  
excitement of the game!

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player,  
our league offers a fun, supportive, and competitive  
environment for all skill levels.

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED



**SATURDAYS LITHGOW**

Training at Blackheath Oval mid-week, games at Lithgow

Register by visiting  
[www.blackheathfc.com](http://www.blackheathfc.com) or  
find us on Facebook



## Parenting Programs TERM 2, 2025

Courses provided FREE to residents of Penrith & Blue Mtns LGAs.  
Phone 4720 6500 or email [groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](mailto:groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)



Program	Date/Time	Location	Register
<b>Circle of Security</b> Seven week program that helps parents form secure relationships and stronger bonds with their children (0-12 yrs).	Every Monday 12th May - 30th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Little Zak's Academy 14-28 Whitecross Rd WINMALEE	
<b>Tuning in to Teens</b> Six week program that teaches parents to help children (10-18 yrs) understand and regulate their emotions.	Every Monday 19th May - 30th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Online via ZOOM	
<b>Bush Playgroup</b> Six week interactive outdoor workshop for parents & carers and their children aged (3-5 yrs).	Every Friday 23rd May - 27th June 9:30am - 11:30am	Lapstone Public School 1/3 Achievement Ave LAPSTONE	
<b>Cool Little Kids</b> Six week program that gives parents skills to help their (0-6 yr) old children manage their anxiety.	Every Wednesday 21st May - 25th June 10:30am - 12:00noon ** Childcare available ** Must register	Blaxland Uniting Church Hall 72 Old Bathurst Rd BLAXLAND	

Register online at [www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](http://www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional knowledge holders and custodians of the land on which we work, the Darug and Gundungurra people.



## April School Holidays

### Workshops and Events

Book into one of our workshops, or come to a Drop In Event, these school holidays. More workshops are listed over the page. To book visit our website or your local Library branch.

[library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au](http://library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au)



### Collaborative Creations Bird Finger Puppets

Celebrating the *Birds of Australia* STORYBOX being in residence at the Springwood Hub, we are making bird finger puppets for our Collaborative Art Project. Library users are invited to make a bird finger puppet to take home and / or leave on a branch, in the branch.

### Learn to paint the Spinebill Honeyeater with Eloise Short.

10.00 - 11.00am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

12.00 - 1.15pm | Year 5 - Year 12 | \$6

Monday 14th April, Springwood Hub

Tuesday 15th April, Katoomba Library

To celebrate having the *Birds of Australia* STORYBOX at Springwood Hub, we have invited local illustrator Eloise Short to facilitate watercolour painting workshops of a local Blue Mountains bird.

Come and learn how to paint the Spinebill Honeyeater. Eloise will share with you her knowledge of how to draw and paint one of her favourite Blue Mountains birds.

You might recognise Eloise as the illustrator for the wonderful Picture books: *Leonard the Lyrebird*, *Lilah the Lyrebird*, and *The Black Cockatoo with One Feather Blue*.



### Hub Picnic Day



Pack a picnic and enjoy free games, craft and activities at Springwood Hub these school holidays. Visit the *Birds of Australia* STORYBOX in the forecourt of Springwood Hub & the facsimile of Gould's Book of Birds in Springwood Library - final weeks!

Wednesday 16th April | 11am to 2pm | Free - Drop In



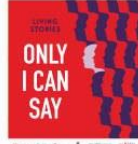
### Yarn Bird Craft with Naomi Oliver.

10.00-11.15am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Tuesday 22nd April, Katoomba Library

Come and create your own wonderful soft bird sculpture with Naomi Oliver. Be inspired by the wonderful *Birds of Australia* STORYBOX from the Australian Museum, currently visiting the Blue Mountains, and make your own feathered friend.

Naomi will guide you through the technique of folding and cutting your yarn to create your own colourful bird.



### Living Stories Writing Workshops presented by WestWords

Across April, join our free creative writing workshops hosted by WestWords and WestLit Libraries. Learn the skills you need to craft a short story and poem in these workshops hosted by professional writers.

Free | Bookings Essential

**J. Marahuyo**

Tuesday 22 April | Springwood Hub | 10-15 yrs | 10.30am to 12pm

J. Marahuyo is a neurodivergent Filipino-Australian award winning poet residing on Dharug country. She was shortlisted for the Newcastle Poetry Prize 2024, won the Writing NSW-Varuna Fellowship 2024 and won the Living Stories Prize 2024.

**Dannielle Viera**

Tuesday 22 April | Katoomba Library | 16 +yrs | 2pm to 3.30pm

Dannielle Viera has been involved in the Australian publishing industry for almost 30 years – first as a copywriter and then as an editor, project manager, proofreader and author. In 2021, her first illustrated children's book, *Amazing Grace*, was published by Library For All. In 2023, her debut picture book, *The Leftover Lemon Dilemma*, was published by Loose Parts Press.



### Eclectic Bird Collage with Liz & Elissa

10.00 - 11.00 am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6  
Wednesday 23rd April, Springwood Hub

Birds, Birds, Birds! We have all gone a bit bird-brained for birds, whilst the wonderful *Birds of Australia* STORYBOX from The Australian Museum is in residence. The kids' Team, Liz & Elissa, will facilitate this fun eclectic collage workshop, where we will prepare a range of materials: natural bark, a range of painted papers, all of which will add texture to your completed image. Choose from one of our local bird templates, inspired by Erica Wagna and Joanna Bell's picture book *Hope Is The Thing* to get you started, or you can come up with your own design. We are sure you will be impressed by your completed image.

**National Road Safety Week 2025**  
11-18 May

**DRIVE SO OTHERS SURVIVE**

**TAKE THE PLEDGE**  
[roadsafetyweek.com.au](https://roadsafetyweek.com.au)



Transport for NSW

## Victoria Pass slope repairs

Project update



### Nightwork on Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass from Tuesday 1 April 2025

Transport for NSW (Transport) is carrying out repairs to two damaged slopes on the Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass to restore the Highway to full capacity.

To minimise impacts to traffic, we will do this work at night. **For the safety of workers and road users, the Great Western Highway will be closed to all traffic during April work hours.**

#### When we'll be working

We will work on the following nights in April 2025, weather permitting:

- Tue 1, Wed 2, Thu 3 April
- Sun 6, Mon 7, Tue 8, Wed 9, Thu 10 April
- Mon 14, Tue 15, Wed 16 April
- Tue 22, Wed 23 April
- Mon 28, Tue 29 April

Work hours will be **8pm to 5am, Monday to Thursday**, and **7pm to 5am on Sundays**. We will not work on Friday or Saturday nights, public holidays or during peak travel periods.

#### Traffic impacts

During road closures in April all road users will be detoured via **Darling Causeway and Chifley Road**. Please allow an extra 15 minutes' travel time.

Works will continue until the end of 2025, however **after April only westbound lanes will be detoured**. We will keep the community updated on these closures.

Victoria Pass will return to normal operations during daylight hours.





with  
**HAZELBROOK-LAWSON and KATOOMBA  
GIRL GUIDES**

**Why do Girl Guides exist?** *Because girls do.*  
**What does that mean?** *Come to our Open Day event and find out!*

 Saturday 5 April 2025

 3-5pm

 All ages and families welcome!  
All visiting children must be accompanied by an adult.

 Lawson Girl Guide Hall, 14 Honour Avenue, Lawson, NSW 2783

 Jane | [jane.florey@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au](mailto:jane.florey@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au) | 0404 831 740  
Kim | [kim.monamara@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au](mailto:kim.monamara@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au) | 0422 381 482

[girlguides-nswactnt.org.au/OpenDay](http://girlguides-nswactnt.org.au/OpenDay)

Please refer to our school's Community Notice Board in the Administration Building for other notices.

## Acknowledgement of Country



We at Blackheath Public School would like to say thank you to the Dharug and Gundungurra People for letting us share your land. We promise to look after the land, people and animals too.