

MEGALONG PUBLIC SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 6

16th November, 2021

Dear Families,

We have welcomed our new Kindergarten students for 2022! Our classroom has been a busy place these last two weeks. Our students have been lucky to enjoy our beautiful new playground equipment that has now been completed. A big thank you to Ric McConaghy and Ken Brown for their excellent workmanship.

Over the past few weeks, we have been busy putting in place our new classroom routine and learning goals. Students have begun to settle back into face-to-face learning. Students have been working on their mathematics problem-solving, reading fluency and reading comprehension. We have been enjoying choral reading and poetry to extend students vocabulary and reading fluency.

We have enjoyed our regular king parrots visiting our school. The birds are becoming regular visitors close to the entry of the classroom. Last week students enjoyed from the class window a family of currawongs feeding their babies. Students have seen gang, gangs and small flocks of blue wrens. It is wonderful to see students learning their names and appreciating their visits.

This week we will enjoy Musica Viva which will be an incursion online of musicians from Hungry and Russia. Students will be exposed to instruments, music and dance.

Next week, is photo day. Please remember full school uniforms on Thursday 25th November. We will be having the lovely Jodi McConaghy take the photographs this year. We will also be joined by Trish Doyle MP Blue Mountains, who will be cutting the opening ribbon of our new infants play equipment with us. Please feel free to join us mid-morning.

As part of our school wellbeing program, we are focusing on our Bounce Back program to recap resilience with our puppets. A focus on social skills is always a key element of our PDHPE unit. Students have also had a few lessons with Andris and Mrs Scott about mindfulness, yoga and the importance of sleep and drinking water. As it gets hotter this term students are reminded to pack their hats as part of our school sun safety.

This week I will be sending home a survey to capture your views on returning to school after remote learning. Please feel free to discuss any questions in the survey with me. I welcome your views and ideas for next year regarding your child's learning and wellbeing.

Our next P&C meeting will be Monday 22nd of November. All parents, and community members are welcome to come along. All visitors onsite require vaccination. The meeting will be at 3:35pm straight after school. Please notify any community members who wish to come along.

Stephanie Scott

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss days per year

5 mins
per day



=

3 days



30 mins
per day



=

18 days



Patterns of lateness
can have a serious
impact on your child's
education.

education.nsw.gov.au

ATTENTION:

For the safety of our students, please drive 40km p/h in the school zone! When entering the driveway, please drive VERY SLOWLY!! KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE!!!

40

Australian Pollinator Week Online Storytime

Attention all teachers, students, families, parents, kids and school communities!



Blue Mountains Library is bee-side itself to present an extra special online Storytime to celebrate Australian Pollinator Week with our extra special guest and resident insect ecologist, Amelie Vanderstock, from the Blue Mountains Planetary Health Initiative.

Join us from 10am on 10 November as Amelie shows us inside a native stingless beehive, sings songs and reads the bee-autiful book 'Bee Detectives' by Vanessa Ryan-Rendall and Brenna Quinlan. This book is read with special permission by CSIRO Publishing.

This special storytime, to encourage kids to get involved in the Wild Pollinator Count, will be available on Blue Mountain's Library's Youtube online Storytime playlist at [youtube.com/user/Bookcasesinthemist](https://www.youtube.com/user/Bookcasesinthemist) as well as our Facebook page at [facebook.com/BlueMountainsLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsLibrary) until the 30 November 2021.

You can find out how to become a Citizen Scientist with Amelie here:

<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/pollinator-count>

Recommended ages: preschool and primary aged kids.

BLUE MOUNTAINS LIBRARY

your library
library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au



Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

[sunsmartrnsw.com.au](https://www.sunsmartrnsw.com.au)

Blackheath Kookaburra

Kindergarten Inc



Kookaburra Kindy is a community run preschool in beautiful Blackheath. We have provided quality preschool education to children aged three to five for over 65 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.

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

Ph: 02 4787 8977 9-11 Park Ave, Blackheath, NSW, 2785

E-mail: contact@kookaburrakindy.nsw.edu.au

MUSEUM OF FIRE 2021 ART COMPETITION Resilience

The year 2021 tested the resilience of many Australians.

Following the devastating bushfires of the 2019-2020 Summer we were faced with a global pandemic on a scale that we had never hoped to see.

The Museum is just one organisation that had to close its doors during this crisis to help keep the community safe and this took a major toll.

Many other individuals and businesses also struggled but as a society we worked together in the face of adversity. Therefore our 2021 Art Competition theme is saluting our frontline workers, including our firefighters who remain on duty protecting us all no matter what the situation is.

WHO CAN ENTER: Entry into this competition is FREE and open to all Australian primary school-aged residents!

Topic: Resilience

Competition Entry Dates: Entries open 1st November 2021 and close 29th November 2021.

Visit www.museumoffire.net for terms & conditions.



Calendar Events

Week 6— 12th Nov—Film by films due

Week 7—18th Nov—Music Aviva

Week 8—22nd Nov—P&C meeting

25th Nov—Photo day

Week 9—30/1 Dec—Film By Showcase

2 Dec Excursion Little Hartley

3 Dec School reports

Week 10—9 Dec presentation day

- 10 Dec Swim School

Week 11—13-16 Swim School

- 16 Dec last day for students

- 17 Dec Staff Development day

We have all been having GREAT fun with on our Kindy Transition Days!!



Great fun outdoors with the parachute!



In the Classroom and Around the Playground



Free community workshops with BANC



FREE PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2021
TIME: 1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM
ADDRESS: CLIFF VIEW COMMUNITY FARM
169 SHIPLEY ROAD, BLACKHEATH NSW 2785

CLIFF VIEW COMMUNITY FARM IS HOLDING A FREE PROPAGATION WORKSHOP. DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE PLANT OR TREE IN YOUR GARDEN THAT YOU'D LIKE TO PRESERVE OR HAVE MORE OF? WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE MORE TREES OR PLANTS IN YOUR GARDEN FOR MINIMAL COST? WHY NOT COME ALONG AND SPEND THE AFTERNOON IN OUR BEAUTIFUL APPLE ORCHARD AND LEARN ABOUT THE ART OF PROPAGATION.

Bookings essential at the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/propagation-workshop-tickets-208396368147>

If you don't have access to a computer, please call Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre on (02) 47877770 to book

Refreshments provided. Please bring a hat and sunscreen

The number of people in this workshop is limited to 15. People must be fully vaccinated in accordance with NSW Health Orders.

This activity has been funded by Wentworth Healthcare, provider of the Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network, as part of the Australian Government's response to the 2019/20 bushfires.



FREE COMPOSTING AND WORM FARMING WORKSHOP

DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2021
TIME: 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
ADDRESS: CLIFF VIEW COMMUNITY FARM
169 SHIPLEY ROAD, BLACKHEATH NSW 2785

Come along and spend the morning in our beautiful apple orchard and learn some practical tips and tricks on making quality compost. The workshop will be held at Cliff View Community Farm which is a volunteer run farm that donates most of the food produced to local food relief programs.

Bookings essential at the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/composting-and-worm-farming-workshop-tickets-206885609427>

If you don't have access to a computer, please call Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre on (02) 47877770 to book

Refreshments provided. Please bring a hat and sunscreen

The number of people in this workshop is limited to 15. People must be fully vaccinated in accordance with NSW Health Orders.

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The students were so excited to have our feathered friends try and join in on the classroom lesson this week.



Community Notices

BLUE MOUNTAINS
ARTFEST 12-28 NOVEMBER 2021

Great PRIZES for each stage

Deadline to Enter Friday 5th November

Kids

Megalong Books
Toy Shop
Colour

Open to students yr k - 6

Paint
Draw
Sculpt
Multimedia
Photography

Go to www.bluemtnsartfest.com.au for details and entry forms.

Start creating

Re-connect & Get Creative

Family art workshops FREE (& FUN)



No experience necessary!

Sat 4th Dec two session times:
10-11.30am or 12-1.30pm

123-125 Wentworth St, Blackheath
Bookings essential -
Please contact Hannah 0404 288 487
banc.org.au

NSW Health Guidelines in place on 4th Dec will be upheld

 |  This activity has been funded by Wentworth Healthcare, provider of the Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network, as part of the Australian Government's response to the 2019/20 bushfires.

Supporting Children Through Change and Uncertainty

Join the free online seminar for *Parents and Carers or Professionals in the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Lithgow and Wollondilly Local Government Areas.*

The last couple of years has brought many changes and losses for children, young people, and families all around Australia. There are so many questions about the impacts of the pandemic, natural disasters, and life changes such as bereavement, family separation and relocation - and how we can best support the children and young people in our lives.

Overview

Common questions:

- How can I talk about what is happening?
- What kind of reactions can I expect from my young person?
- How can I best support my young person?

Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Consider the range of impacts the pandemic is having on young people
- Explore ways of managing reactions of young people
- Hear about some creative ways of providing support

Join Us
for this free online seminar to discuss helpful ways to support children and young people adversely affected by change and loss events.


For Professionals
Tuesday 2 November - 3.30 to 4.30pm

For Parents & Carers
Tuesday 2 November - 7 to 8pm

*Click the time to access bookings

The Seasons for Growth suite of programs equip school and other professionals to support children and young people, parents/carers and other adults in sharing their experiences of change and loss in safe and creative ways, understand and attend to their feelings, and learn skills for adapting and recovering.

Get in touch
The MacKillop Institute,
Seasons for Growth Programs



goodgrief.org.au mackillopinstitute.org.au

Blackheath HUB

Wellbeing · Creativity · Resilience

What kind of activities would you like to see run in the Blackheath Hub?

Please fill out the community survey which you can find at banc.org.au (Events and Groups), pop into the Neighbourhood Centre (41 Gardiner Cres) for a paper copy or phone for one to be sent to you on 4787 7770.

Closing date for responses is 4 Dec 2021