

MEGALONG PUBLIC SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 6

27th November, 2020

Dear Megalong Families,

The last few weeks of term are arriving! As the weather warms up, I remind everyone to ensure your child has a water bottle and hat. There will be many events we will be catching up on during this term, along with presentation day and parent interviews during the last two weeks. We will be conducting fire drills and revising bushfire procedures based on Department updates from last year in 2019. We will also be having learn to swim lessons on Fridays with a private instructor Lisa who is an Australian Swim trainer. Just a reminder of our P&C meeting on Friday 3pm the 11th of December. This will be an important community meeting which I would like to spread the word to local community members of Megalong Valley.

Kindergarten Orientation

Children engage in structured learning activities on Tuesdays and Thursday each week. Students will practice morning literacy, and middle session maths routines. These orientation days are important for students to gain confidence to attend school five days next year in 2021. If you know of any children in the Megalong region who would benefit from these days please remind them.

Online Enrolment System

The online Enrolment system can be accessed online through our website. Otherwise a paper copy can be collected from our front office. We also have a kindergarten orientation bags that can be posted to parents or picked up at our front office for parents considering enrolment in 2021.

Bee Pollination Day

Students had a great day learning about the importance of bee pollination and the life cycle of a bee. Students played bee maths games and enjoyed extra classroom activities making bee craft. They learnt about the importance of bees in seed dispersion and how bees are needed for farming.

Red Hands Cave Excursion

As part of our Indigenous NAIDOC celebrations this Tuesday we went on an excursion to Red Hands Cave at Glenbrook National Park. This was an exciting way to celebrate Indigenous culture. The caves hold significant rock paintings aged between 500 to 1660 years old. A tour was conducted by an Aboriginal tour guide Cameron who is from National Parks. We learnt about Aboriginal culture, history and traditions from Cameron who brought along artefacts. The day concluded with a short dip and lunch at Blue Pool. Students were reminded to bring a packed lunch and wear their new shirts and hats on the day.

Athletics Carnival

Last Wednesday we had our combined small schools Athletics Carnival with Katoomba North Public School. We had a great day, and made new acquaintances with children from Katoomba North. All students participated in every event! Charlie achieved 2nd in the 800m race! We are very proud of Charlie!

AECG PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

A new Partnership Agreement 'Walking Together Working Together 2020-2030' between the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, and the Minister for Education and Early Childhood. This important consultation and agreement means our school will continue to embed identity, culture, heritage and Aboriginal language in our school plans. This partnership will underpin having high expectations of achievement for all Aboriginal students and respect true history, heritage and connection to land. All teaching and non-teaching staff will complete Aboriginal cultural awareness training, with refresher courses every three years, supported and/or delivered by the NSW AECG.

Garden Produce

Each week we harvest from our school garden and cook up spinach, shallots and eggs from our lovely hens, Emerald, Hudson and Sapphire. We will be using recipes from the OzHarvest program to add to our wellbeing program in 2021.



Bushfire Preparation

As the bushfire season has now arrived we are now setting in place new and revised bushfire procedures at school. The time has flown by, and we now have to prepare for the possibility of fires this season. The department and all local services have ramped up communication by updating the Megalong mobile reception and a Principal app for connecting to all services when a possible closure of school might arise. The WHS bushfire procedures have been simplified and additional improvements of checklists put in place. After the fires last year and Covid-19 this year, there has been an increase in services for mental health and wellbeing which can be utilised by parents, students and staff. Please visit our office if you require any support or information about these services.



P&C

The next P&C meeting will be on Friday 11th December. Everyone is welcome.

Reminders..

- ◆ **School Drive Subsidiary**—Apply at Transport NSW by the last day of term!
- ◆ Keep an eye on what is coming up as there are a lot of fun activities planned for this term
- ◆ **Please remember to fill out an Absence note if your child is absent from school. Please remember to fill out the Late arrivals/Early leavers register if your child is late or if you need to pick them up early.**

Dates to watch for...

Term 4 - Kindy Transition

-every Tues and Thurs morning

20th November— Mufti for Rural Aid

20th, 27th Nov & 4th, 11th Dec— Private Swim Lesson

23rd November—Water week begins

26th November—Bushrangers Incursion

11th December—P & C and Xmas Party

15th December— Camp at school

16th December— Last day of Term 4

A graphic for the 'MUSEUM OF FIRE 2020 ART COMPETITION'. It features a red brushstroke background with a paint palette and a paintbrush. The text 'MUSEUM OF FIRE 2020 ART COMPETITION' is in bold black letters. Below the graphic, there is text about the competition and the Museum of Fire logo.

To pay tribute to our brave firefighters following the horrors of last summer the Museum of Fire is hosting our first art competition for primary school-aged children. We encourage all parents and schools to ask students to paint, draw, etch or use any medium they like to get creative and produce a work around the topic of bushfires.

Those selected for our short list will be displayed in the Museum over summer and a panel will then select a winner from those in our gallery. We will also have a viewer's choice award that will be voted on over the summer by visitors to the Museum and also online in our virtual exhibition!

Please see the terms and conditions below before entering your artwork.

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

Topic: Bushfires

Competition Entry Dates: Entries open 1st November 2020 and close 30th November 2020

The logo for the Museum of Fire, featuring a stylized flame and the text 'MUSEUM OF FIRE'.

Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

sunsmartnsw.com.au



NAIDOC Week

The class will be celebrating in a variety of lessons across the week, including connection to country and Aboriginal values of culture, traditions and landforms in Australia. The astronomy of the emu, canoe and Aboriginal dreamtime story telling. On Kindergarten orientation days, we will use our yarning circle and learn the 8 ways of connecting to country using stories verbally and non-verbally. On Remembrance day, we will learn about how Aboriginal people served in both wars and the historical timeline of significant events for Aboriginal people in Australia. On Friday, we will learn about Aboriginal ways of bushfire cold burns and the importance of looking after ecosystems.



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day we celebrated with a small ceremony on our school grounds. We placed a poppy wreath and recited poems and sang the National Anthem. We also read biographies about significant people who used their healthy wellbeing to care for others. We read about Weary Dunlop and the Simpson Donkey. Students discussed the importance of looking after our own wellbeing of physical, mind, heart and spirit in order to keep healthy and resilient. They identified that humour is a great way to combat sadness and build motivation and hope in themselves and others.



RED HANDS CAVE EXCURSION



Lunch and a swim at Blue pool before heading back



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



Blackheath Kookaburra Kindergarten Inc

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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.

Times and Fees: Hours: 08.30am – 4pm

Days: Monday – Friday

Fees: Health care card holders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: \$12.50 per day

4 year olds: \$26.00 per day

3 year olds: \$30 per day

*minimum two days per week

Annual Enrolment Fee: \$60 per family (includes centre hat)

Morning Fruit Levy: \$24 per term.

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.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Around the Playground and in the Classroom



Working hard on the cubby— getting it ready for some grass flooring, solar lights and outdoor kitchen



Chicken Update..

We have giant eggs!!



Kindergarten Transition

- ◆ Kindergarten Transition will run throughout term 4 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
- ◆ We welcome all enrolled students for 2021 to join us and get to know what schools about.
- ◆ Enrolments can be done online or call the school to enquire about enrolment or to book a school

