



# MEGALONG PUBLIC SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Week 10

16th Dec, 2022



Dear Megalong Families,

What a fantastic year it has been this year! Thankyou to our wonderful staff, students, and families for their support this year. We have finished on a high note with eleven enrolments for 2023!

Thank you to our Parent and Citizens committee for their efforts to promote our small school in the region. Our Megalong Market stall was a success this year. We have built a strong family attendance at our meetings which makes our school such a collaborative space to ensure our children have the best educational experience.

Our final Presentation Day assembly was a wonderful way to spend time together celebrating the learning progress of our students. Their literacy skills and confidence to perform in front of an audience is excellent! We have built students Numeracy capacity this year with various learning activities. Our staff have given one hundred percent to provide assessment and small group instruction in Literacy and Numeracy this year and have built a goal mindset for our students that enables our students to be aware of where they are up to in their learning. The class has enjoyed lovely excursions this year and we look forward to next year attending Canberra for our year six Government and Science learning.

This term our swim school lessons, pet safety, first aid, rock climbing and Rural Fire Brigade visit ensured our students are up to date with safety learning. These lessons built resilience and confidence for students. They were also very enjoyable and built ability to respond and behave safely.

In 2023 we will start to implement our new K-2 curriculum which is streamlined for teachers and students and staff will enjoy the abundant resources provided by the DET. Along with new procedures for behaviour and attendance we will continue to collaborate with parents to build a shared vision for our small school.

We welcome new but familiar staff next year. Our new permanent staff member Assistant Principal Curriculum Instructional Leader Chelsea Walsh will join us every Friday. She will collaborate closely with staff to improve classroom ecology, teaching practice and support me in the office. We will be undergoing External Validation during term two and her support to collect evidence of our school vision, strategic directions for Literacy, Numeracy and Wellbeing will be invaluable. Our new teaching staff will be our wonderful Mr Jack Wolffs on Tuesdays for Sport and Science lessons. The students are excited to have him back at Megalong P.S. We also welcome Ms Wendy Hawkes who will teach the Creative Arts on Thursdays. She is a talented local artist and has worked in small schools and in various roles in her career. Of course, after Miss Keep has had her baby in term one, we will welcome her back to do 1:1 intensive support. Along with our wonderful familiar staff we also welcome Peter Heslop who will fill the role of teacher support. Peter has been at Megalong for a decade or two and will continue grounds maintenance. Lastly our lovely Administration Officer Siobhan who supports our school with well being for staff and students.

Next year we will no doubt be busy and will continue to inform parents with calendar events. We will endeavour to streamline to more digital communication with website calendar and newsletters and be printing less hardcopies. So please keep an eye on the website.

Students return on Tuesday 3rd February 2023. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed for 2023. Have a fantastic Christmas break!

Regards

Stephanie Scott



# Around the Playground and in the Classroom



Students have been busy finishing off artworks, like their awesome still life pears. They have also been having fun getting into the festive spirit!



**BANC** Blackheath Area  
Neighbourhood Centre

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



SAT  
17 DEC

**FAMILY ART PLAY  
POTATO PRINTING  
10AM - 12PM**

FRI  
20  
JAN

**HOLIDAY KIDS  
MINI MAKERS MYSTERY  
SCULPTURE CHALLENGE  
10AM - 12PM**

SAT  
21  
JAN

**FAMILY ART PLAY  
RECYCLED WOVEN WALL  
HANGINGS  
10AM - 12PM**

TUES  
24  
JAN

**HOLIDAY FUN  
CRAZY CREATURES NEWSPAPER  
COSTUME PLAY 10AM - 12PM**

WED  
25  
JAN

**HOLIDAY FUN  
DRAMA WORKSHOP  
1PM - 3PM**

FRI  
27  
JAN

**HOLIDAY KIDS  
SOLAR PRINT WORKSHOPS  
10AM - 12PM**

**Have a Safe and Happy Christmas!**

Save the dates for some fun,  
FREE art, craft & drama workshops  
at The Hub in the holidays!

**125 WENTWORTH ST  
BLACKHEATH**

**\*Contact BANC to  
book Holiday Fun  
Workshops with Liz  
4787 7770**

**Txt Hannah for  
Family Art Play &  
Holiday Kids  
0404 288 487**



# Indoor Rock Climbing

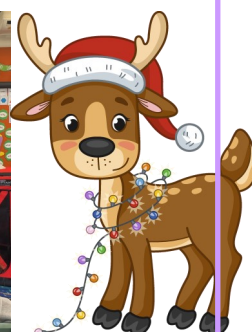




# Responsible Pet Visit



Students enjoyed a visit from Beatrice and her lovely dog Katie. They learnt about how to be safe around dogs



*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](mailto:contact@kookaburrakindy.nsw.edu.au)



0 to 18 years



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**Starts 1 December and ends 31 January**

**BLUE MOUNTAINS LIBRARY**  
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**your library**





# MEGALONG RFS VISIT



This week we had a visit from Megalong RFS Captain Rob Morse and firefighter Helen who talked to the students about the importance of being prepared for bushfires. They also told us about the new Fire danger ratings and showed students how to find out what each days rating is. The new fire danger ratings are used across Australia, meaning the same system is used whether you're at home or away. It has been developed using extensive community research from people living in bush fire risk areas. Students also learned that on days when there's minimal risk, like on days it's raining, you'll see 'No Rating' displayed. Students also loved getting inside and checking out the Megalong fire truck.









# Things to do in the School Holidays

Come and join the fun with NPWS ranger-guided activities for kids, teens and families. Discover, create, imagine and explore!

Summer 2023



## Claustral Canyon Virtual Reality

Experience one of the world's most spectacular canyons – Claustral canyon in the World Heritage Listed Greater Blue Mountains Area – using Oculus Quest VR.

## NPWS Blue Mountains Heritage Centre

Looking for a unique gift or experience these school holidays? Choose from a great range of gifts including Blue Mountains locally-made MTNS Made products, Australian made, and Australian designed products.

We also offer **gift vouchers** for your friends and family to experience the famous Claustral canyon located in the Blue Mountains with a virtual reality experience (\$10.00 per person)



End of Govetts Leap Road Blackheath NSW 2785 T 02 4787 8877



#NSWParks





**L** 7-11yrs

### Aboriginal Games for Kids

3 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 7-11yrs

### The Buzz on Bees

4 January • 10am-12pm



**J** 10-14yrs

### Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering

5 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 6-10yrs

### Leaping Lizards

6 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 8-12yrs

### Spotlight

6 January • 7pm-9pm



**L** 7-11yrs

### Aboriginal Games for Kids

9 January • 10am-12pm



**J** 10-14yrs

### Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering

10 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 7-11yrs

### The Buzz on Bees

11 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 6-10yrs

### Leaping Lizards

12 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 8-12yrs

### Spotlight

13 January • 7pm-9pm



**B** 6-10yrs

### Leaping Lizards

16 January • 10am-12pm



**J** 10-14yrs

### Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering

17 January • 10am-12pm



**L** 7-11yrs

### Aboriginal Games for Kids

18 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 7-11yrs

### The Buzz on Bees

19 January • 10am-12pm



**B** 8-12yrs

### Spotlight

20 January • 7pm-9pm



**B** 8-12yrs

### Spotlight

23 January • 7pm-9pm



**L** 7-11yrs

### Aboriginal Games for Kids

24 January • 10am-12pm



**J** 10-14yrs

### Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering

25 January • 10am-12pm

**S** For the Small and Curious **L** Living Country **B** Bush Alive **J** Junior Rangers

## School Holiday Program

T 02 4784 7301 E [BlueMtns.Education@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BlueMtns.Education@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Holiday activities \$20 per person. All activities are onsite at Blackheath.

Meet 15 mins before activity start time.

For more information and bookings visit <https://nswparks.info/bluemtns-kids>







Wishing everyone  
a Merry  
Christmas and  
safe and fun  
holidays!



## BANC WORKSHOPS & EVENTS CALENDAR

# DECEMBER

For more information, location, or to book an event, go to  
[www.banc.org.au/events](http://www.banc.org.au/events). No internet? Call 4787 7770  
All events are FREE unless otherwise noted.

BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED for most events, and numbers may be limited, so get in early

|  |   |   |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Sat 3rd Dec</b><br><b>Art Play With Lindena</b><br>10am - Noon  | <b>Sat 3rd Dec</b><br><b>HUFF Facilitator</b><br>Xmas Gathering<br>Planning to leave when fire threatens<br>10am-Noon | <b>Mon 5th Dec</b><br><b>Go with the Flow Art Therapy</b><br>10.15am-12.30pm & 1:30- 3:30pm | <b>Wed 7th Dec</b><br><b>Art Play on Wednesday</b><br>10am - Noon | <b>Thurs 8th Dec</b><br><b>Shared Reading Group</b><br>10am-Noon     | <b>Fri 9th Dec</b><br><b>The Inklings writing group</b><br>9.30am-Noon   | <b>Mon 12th Dec</b><br><b>Go with the Flow Art Therapy</b><br>10.15am-12.30pm & 1:30- 3:30pm |
| <b>Wed 14th Dec</b><br><b>Art Play on Wednesday</b><br>10am - Noon | <b>Thurs 15th Dec</b><br><b>Shared Reading Group</b><br>10am-Noon   | <b>Fri 16th Dec</b><br><b>The Inklings Writer's Showcase</b><br>10:30am -12:30pm            | <b>Sat 17th Dec</b><br><b>Family art workshop</b><br>10am-Noon    | <b>Sat 17 Dec</b><br><b>Lemon Twist Lesbian Meet Up</b><br>4pm - 6pm | <b>School Holidays</b><br><b>Tues 20th Dec 2022 - Fri 27th Jan 2023</b><br>*See our School Holiday Workshops Program for event details |  |

**Fri 6th Jan**  
**FRIDAYS AT 125**  
  
music, games and pizza for all ages and abilities.  
**No booking needed**  
5pm -7pm

**Christmas Holiday Break**  
  
Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre  
**will be CLOSED from Sat 24th Dec 2022**  
**\*Reopens Tues 3rd Jan 2023**

Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre exists to enhance the quality of life of all residents of Blackheath and surrounding areas. Together, our members, volunteers and staff are building a resilient, supportive and active community where everyone is included and no-one is left behind. Check [www.banc.org.au](http://www.banc.org.au) for social support, useful free services and more. Volunteers welcome!!