

Coming Up

Mon 13 Oct – Term 4 Staff Development Day

Tue 14 Oct - Term 4 First Day for all Students

Thu 16 Oct - HSC Exams commence (ending Fri 7 Nov)

Thu 13 Nov - Year 12 Formal

Mon 8 Dec - Year 10 Dinner

Tue 9 Dec - End of Year Presentation Evening

We are pleased to share our end-of-term newsletter for Term 3. Wishing all of our students, staff, families and friends a safe and warm spring break. See you all again in Term 4!

Celebrating the Graduating Class of 2025!

On behalf of our Katoomba High School community, I would like to congratulate all of our Year 12 students on their High School Graduation. We held a beautiful Graduation Ceremony on Thursday in Yanguu. It was wonderful to celebrate this fantastic group of students, share their achievements, and reflect on their time at Katoomba High School together with so many family members and friends.

Ms Devine and Ms van Capelle gave heartwarming speeches. Mr McLeod, Ms Bower and Mrs Tully presented portfolios and announced special awards with warmth and care. Our award sponsors showed up to share the many wonderful achievements with our students. The speeches by outgoing Captains Jude Bennett and Miette Hoekstra,

as well as incoming Captains Tess Rogan and Tani Hoffman were beautiful and heartfelt. The performance of Jeff Buckley's 'Last Goodbye' by Charlotte Evans, Ruben Saunders, Billy Parsons and Ruth West was stunning. And morning tea provided by our TAS staff and students was delicious and perfectly presented as always. It was a very special morning in every way with a theme of kindness and care throughout.

To our staff, families, friends and community, thank you for all you have done to support the Katoomba High School Year 12 Class of 2025 to reach this important milestone.

To Year 12, we wish you all the very best for your upcoming exams. You have epitomised the values of Katoomba High School and I know you will be successful in whatever path you choose. We look forward to seeing you again at the formal next month!

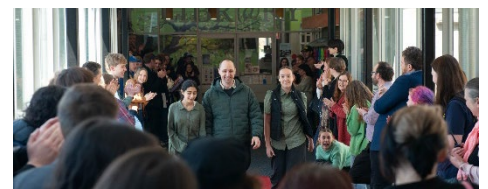






Year 12 Dress-Up!

It has been an action-packed last week of school for Year 12. In addition to Graduation, a celebration breakfast, and muck-up day, students and teachers enjoyed a dress-up day. Teacher dressed up as students and students dressed up as each other and as their teachers - there were some fabulous staff doppelgangers wandering around on Tuesday!





Year 12 Sleep In at School!

In the lead up to their final celebrations Year 12 students and some very dedicated staff spent the night at school for a good old-fashioned sleepover! There was singing, dancing, games, a pizza truck, lots of fun and friendship. Thanks to Ms van Capelle and all of the staff who helped out overnight! And thank you to our amazing students who made this a very special school event to remember!





Celebrating Excellence – Katoomba High School’s HSC Major Work Exhibition

On Monday 15th September, Katoomba High School proudly hosted its annual Higher School Certificate Major Work Exhibition, showcasing the incredible talent, creativity, and dedication of our Year 12 students. Families, staff, and community members were invited to celebrate the culmination of a year’s worth of planning, designing, and producing, as students presented their remarkable major works across a diverse range of subjects.

The exhibition highlighted projects from Timber, Multimedia, Visual Arts, Textiles, Music, and Drama with each work reflecting the individuality, imagination, and perseverance of our students. From finely crafted timber projects displaying precision and craftsmanship that would not be out of place in a professional workshop, to visually stunning artworks and innovative multimedia designs, the standard of work on display was nothing short of inspiring.

The Visual Arts works stood out for their depth and diversity. Each student told their own narrative with passion and skill, drawing audiences into personal stories and unique perspectives. A wide variety of mediums were explored from painting and sculpture to digital and mixed

media with each piece revealing a high level of technical ability and artistic expression. The result was a gallery-worthy collection that highlighted both individual creativity and the strength of the cohort as a whole.

In the Textiles domain, creativity met technical skill, with students producing pieces that demonstrated a deep understanding of design principles, material selection, and advanced construction techniques.

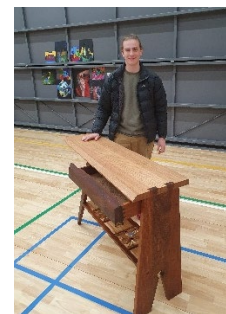
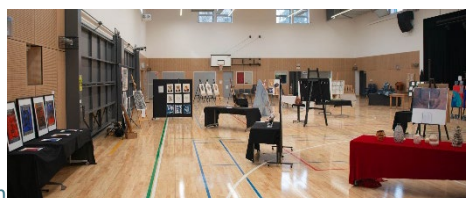
Similarly, in Music and Drama, students captivated their audience with polished performances that highlighted both their technical mastery and expressive artistry.

The exhibition was not only a celebration of achievement but also a testament to the dedication of our staff, who guided students through the rigorous process of developing and refining their major works to such a high standard. The results spoke for themselves, with works that approached trade quality and demonstrated the readiness of our students to step into professional pathways or further study.

The evening was met with admiration and pride from all in attendance, with many commenting on the exceptional standard of work and the creativity that defines the culture of learning at Katoomba High School.

We congratulate all Year 12 students on their commitment, determination, and outstanding achievements. The 2025 HSC Major Work Exhibition has truly set a benchmark of excellence, inspiring younger students and showcasing the incredible results and opportunities that can come from dedication and passion. Well done to everyone!

Mr McLaurin, TAS Teacher





Well done Year 12 Drama!



(Year 12 Drama on dress as a teacher day and on their final HSC Drama lesson).

Congratulations to Year 12 drama for all their efforts this year during class and in preparation for their live performance events including their HSC drama practical exam and HSC Showcase evening. The work that goes on behind the scenes in the performing arts is extremely detailed and quite laborious at times and the graduating class of 2025 HSC drama showed great commitment and determination. They were hard-working and committed to their craft of theatre. Congratulations again to Morgan, Charlotte, Malaika, Isla and Miette.

Ms Williams, Drama Teacher.

ONSTAGE HSC Showcase Nomination!

We are thrilled to share that Miette Hoekstra has been nominated for possible inclusion in ONSTAGE for Drama for her Individual Performance (Monologue) "Fine Young Men".

ONSTAGE is an annual showcase of exemplary HSC Drama performances and individual projects that will be held at the Seymour Centre from Saturday 7 February to Friday 13 February 2026. Having a student nominated for an HSC Showcase is an incredible achievement.

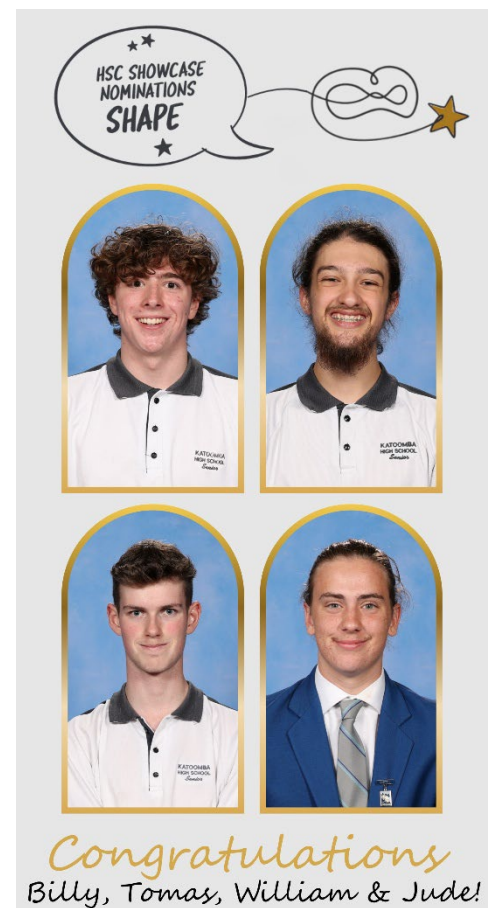
Congratulations Miette!

Ms Williams, Drama Teacher



SHAPE HSC Showcase Nominations!

We have also just received news that four of our students have been nominated for the Shape HSC Showcase for exemplary work in Industrial Technology! Congratulations to Billy Parsons, Tomas Russell and William Touhill for their Multimedia nominations and to Jude Bennett for his nomination for Timber! This is a very well-deserved achievement!



Around the Grounds

Promoting Peace with the Rotary Club

One of the first official duties for our new Student Leadership Team was hosting our annual Peace Pole Ceremony with Rotary Club members to mark the UN's International Day of Peace on Tuesday. Students spoke beautifully, made connections and engaged so well in conversation with our special guests from Rotary over a delicious morning tea provided by our TAS team.

In 2021, Rotary donated 100 Peace Poles donated to 100 schools across the country to mark the centenary of Rotary in Australia. Our Peace Pole was donated by the Rotary Club of Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise and planted in the garden along the walkway to the entrance of the main building.

The Peace Pole initiative began in 1955 after the Second World War. Now, more than 250,000 Peace Poles stand in over 200 countries around the globe, symbolising the common wish for a world at peace.

Our Peace Pole is marked with the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four languages: English, Dharug, Gundungurra and Samoan. Each year we gather with Rotary to reaffirm our commitment to Peace.

Thank you to everyone at Rotary for joining us for this special occasion and for doing so much important work here and around the world.



AECG Sports Day @ KHS

On Monday 8th September we hosted the Blue Mountains AECG Sports Day at KHS with 350 students from across the mountains who came to participate in cultural activities, games, tours of Birriban, delicious food and much more.

Thank you to Mrs Tully, Ms Paulley, Mr Simone, Mr Moulder, Mr Koch, Mrs Draper, Mr Erikson and everyone else who helped on the day.

Our student helpers were exceptional. They assisted in the setting up, packing up and running of activities. There are a few future teachers amongst this group. Our MCs spoke and represented our school wonderfully.

It was a fantastic day!

Mr Boothroyd, Head Teacher PDHPE



Year 12 Legal Studies Sudsy Challenge Success!

The Year 12 Legal Studies students have finished their Sudsy Challenge! They are showered and smelling lovely once again. The "Legal Legends" raised an outstanding \$4736 in total over two weeks of the challenge. Thank you to all the community, staff and students who help us raise this amazing amount. These funds help wash clothes, provide showers and a sense of community for those sleeping rough and experiencing homelessness through the non-profit organisation Orange Sky.

Orange Sky Australia is the world's first free mobile laundry service, dedicated to supporting people experiencing homelessness and hardship. Started from a garage in suburban Brisbane, the idea was founded by two 20-year-old mates, Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett. What started as a simple concept of offering clean laundry has evolved into something much more powerful. To learn more about Orange Sky visit their [website](#) and stay tuned for the KHS 2026 Sudsy Challenge with the next lot of students raising money for this great cause.

Ms Mah, HSIE Teacher



Wear It Purple Day 💜

On Friday 29 August, the common room was buzzing as our KHS students celebrated Wear It Purple Day. Students painted LGBTQIA+ flags, while allies proudly joined in, showing great camaraderie and support for diversity. With the WiP playlist setting the vibe, and hot chocolate and marshmallows in hand, the atmosphere was warm, inclusive, and full of positive energy.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part in making this day so special, reminding us all of the importance of acceptance, inclusion, and being proud of who you are.



KHS Out and About

Exploring Future Pathways: Students Engage in Ready Arrive Work Program and Industry Visit

Recently, our students participated in the Ready Arrive Work program, a three-day course designed to enhance their understanding of post-school pathways and support them to leverage their own skills for job applications. Upon completing the program, students were invited to take part in an exciting industry visit to Western Sydney International Airport.

During the visit, students enjoyed a unique opportunity to observe the ongoing Park Life Metro construction from the airport's observation deck. They actively engaged with the development process by asking insightful questions about the airport's expansion and the metro project.

In the afternoon session, students attended an informative presentation at the Western Sydney International Experience Centre highlighting potential careers at WSI Airport and the emerging city of Bradfield. They also received valuable information about apprenticeships, internships, and strategies to access future employment opportunities.

This experience provided our students with practical insights and inspiration as they prepare for their futures beyond school.

Ms Jose



Scenic World Celebration

On Thursday in Week 9, we celebrated the final day of our Scenic World Mentoring program for 2025 with a wonderful experience at Scenic World. Our Year 10 students and their mentors enjoyed a walk and talk, an amazing behind-the-scenes tour, delicious lunch on the balcony, and plenty of rides as well as an inspiring Welcome to Country and talk from Uncle David King, adding cultural significance and insight to the students' mentoring experience. On the behind-the-scenes tour students learnt about many aspects of the Scenic World business include their extensive retail operation, customer service, tour management, engineering, fabrication, food and beverage, marketing, finance and IT as well as their strong focus on sustainability practice. We even met their delightful office dogs! This was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the wonderful work Scenic World staff do in their everyday jobs and as part of this fantastic mentoring program.

We are grateful for our ongoing partnership with Scenic World and the time and energy their staff have given throughout this term to support our students. Thank you to Mrs Tully, Viktoria and Nikki for their organisation and to all of the students for participating so positively.





Mr McLeod Rocks!

Our very own Deputy Principal Mr Brad McLeod performing at the Joan this month in Penrith Musical Comedy Company's latest production of School of Rock! He played four different characters in the show including one that looks very familiar and the drummer in the band! Well done Mr McLeod!

We will miss Mr McLeod next term as he is taking up a temporary position as Relieving Principal at Fairvale High School. Congratulations on this appointment Mr McLeod. We look forward to seeing you around KHS again soon.



Spotlight on CAPA

Blue Mountains Nepean Dance Festival

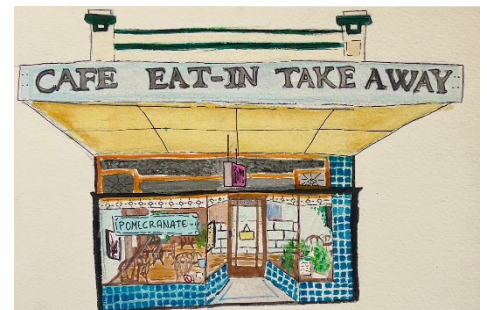
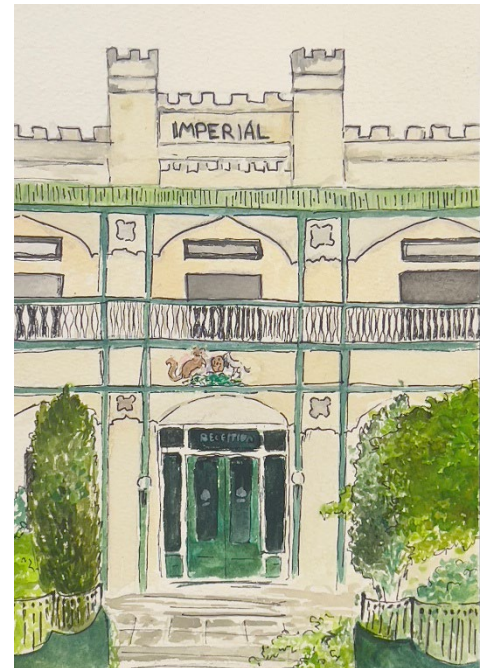
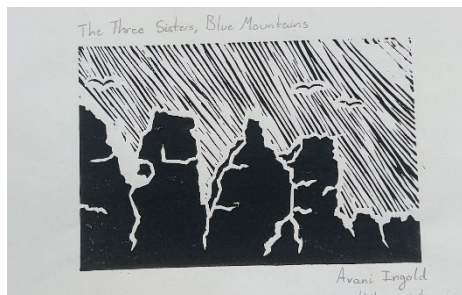
On Wednesday 3rd September, the KHS Dance Ensemble performed at the Blue Mountains Nepean Dance Festival. The festival ran over one week, with students from all over Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains performing. Our students represented the school wonderfully, as usual, and were a pleasure to take through this experience. Well Done!

Mrs Holz



understanding and artistic collaboration. A big thank you to Petra and Alan from the Blue Mountains Sister Cities Committee for organising this incredible exchange!

Ms Grahovac, Head Teacher CAPA



Art on Display in Japan

Our Visual Arts students have been exploring Katoomba's built environment and natural beauty through their artwork. We are delighted to share these creations with students in Sanda, Japan. The artworks will be exhibited and exchanged with Japanese students, fostering cultural

Outdoor Ed Adventures

Year 9 Rise to the Challenge

Year 9 Outdoor Education students challenged themselves in some rough terrain over two separate hikes in Week 6. Small groups supported by a teacher or local guide worked on their navigation, route finding skills and all enjoyed the experience. We camped on the Cox's River at the Breakfast Creek junction overnight and enjoyed a good dinner and campfire reflection time. Day 2 was an exciting creek crossing, route finding day back to the bus. Well done to all students for completing their second expedition. Any students that missed out will be able to attend a TAFE led hike in Term 4.

Mr Huxley



6 Foot Track Epic Expedition

In Week 5 of this term, Year 9 Outdoor Education students enjoyed a day walk around the Grand Canyon track in Blackheath then walked a scenic section of the 6 Foot Track over Bowtells Swing Bridge to Cox's River Camp. Everyone enjoyed the expedition.

Mr Huxley



The Sports Pages

Aleria's Run for Mr O'Connor

Year 12 student Aleria Turner recently competed in the Sydney West Athletics Championships and dedicated her run to much loved Mr Maurice O'Connor. Well done Aleria. Mr O'Connor was always so proud of you.



Recognising Sporting Achievements at KHS

In Week 7 this term we held the first of our end of year awards events recognising student effort and achievement. The Sports Presentation Evening was a brilliant night with so many families attending and lots of students receiving awards. It was great to hear about all the individual and team successes in 2025.

This has been a big year for sport and our House competition at KHS. The slide show reflected all the effort that staff and students have put into our sporting endeavours and the revitalised House System.

Congratulations to all the staff and students involved.





Well Done Hounslow Runners!

KHS students Annabel Dignam, Keira Atkinson, Kobi Gulson, Aila Gulson and Tani Hoffman ran the Hounslow 17 km last weekend and Finn Gulson ran the Hounslow marathon. An amazing achievement, especially for Aila who is in Year 7, and the others are preparing for their HSC! Amazing effort everyone!

The Perfect Bullseye!



Archie Taylor Brown in Year 11 gets a rare perfect bullseye!

Help Felix get to Fiji to play AFL for NSW U14s

Year 9 student Felix Craye is in his third year with the GWS Giants AFL academy, recently participated in an AFL NSW leadership camp and has now been selected to join the U14s team on an AFL NSW tour to Fiji in December! This is a fantastic achievement.

Players need to cover all of the costs of the tour, so Felix is doing some fundraising to help get him there. If you would like to help Felix, you can read more about his story and make a tax deductible donation via his Australian Sports Foundation page [here](#)



What's On at School

Pulse Dance Opportunity

We are excited to share that we have applied to be part of Pulse Alive Dance for 2026. This involves groups of students from NSW public schools joining together and learning the same choreography to participate in one of several massed dance items at the event. There are only a few places left. Rehearsals will begin next term. Interested students can collect a note from the Binyang staffroom.

Chickens for Sale

The Agriculture department is pleased to offer chickens at various ages for sale to students and staff:

- Baby chicks are \$10 each unsexed
- 10-Week-old chicks are \$20 each unsexed
- Point of lay hens are \$40 each

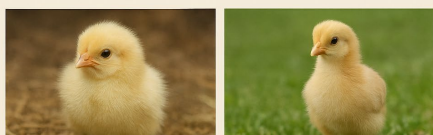
Please contact Mr McLaurin if you are interested.

CHICKENS FOR SALE - AVAILABLE NOW!

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- Baby chicks - \$10 each (unsexed)
- 10 week old chicks - \$20 each (unsexed)
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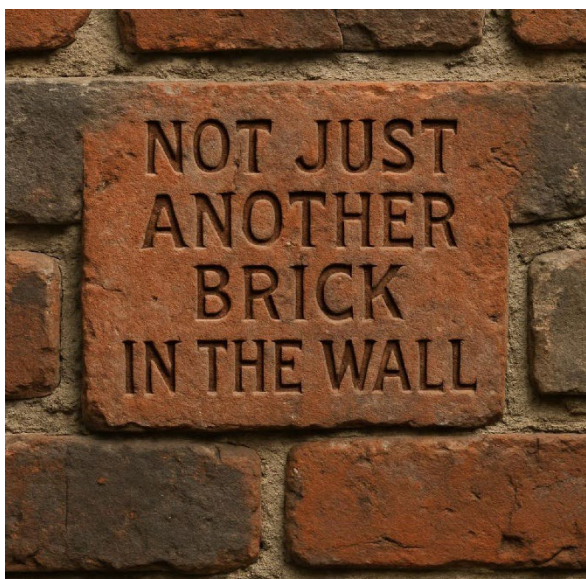


Please see Mr McLaurin if you are interested.
Thank you.

Would like to make your mark at KHS?

The KHS P&C have been working on a wonderful new fundraising campaign for our school. They are offering students, families, friends and local businesses the opportunity to have their name engraved on a 'personal paver' that will become permanent part of a path built by students leading to our new multi-purpose hall. This is a fantastic way to show your support and leave your mark on our school. You can purchase a paver featuring your individual, family or business name from as little as \$45 per paver.


Funds raised will be put towards a range of school projects such as the purchase of covered outdoor seating and outdoor fitness equipment. Please see the flyer and order form at the end of this update for more information. You can also order your paver online at bit.ly/KHSPavers. We can't wait to see our students create a beautiful new path that will become a lasting tribute to our school community.



Well, 'not just another paver in the path' to be specific, but that's the unique opportunity we're offering local businesses individuals and families with our 2025 Katoomba High School (KHS) 'Personal Paver' fundraising campaign. This is a fantastic way to show your financial support - 'time' 'memoria' - for your local public high school.

Individuals, families and local businesses can now purchase a paver featuring their name which then becomes an integral part of the path leading to the new multi-purpose school hall. From as little as \$45 per brick/paver to our Premium Paver array for a business logo at \$550, you can cement your support. Funds raised will be put towards a range of school projects such as the purchase of covered outdoor seating and outdoor fitness equipment.

Please show your support by choosing one of the Personal Paver tiers below:

\$45 per brick / paver for a family's or individual's name in a standard font	
\$75 per brick / paver for a family's or individual's name hand drawn with a simple image	
\$250 per brick / paver for a local business name in a standard font	
\$550 per brick / 'Premium paver' for a local business featuring their logo	



To purchase your Personal Paver please fill in the online order form [here](http://bit.ly/KHSPavers) or at bit.ly/KHSPavers. Alternatively you can collect a printed form from the KHS school office and return the completed form to office staff or scan and email the completed form to: katoombahighschoolpav@det.nsw.edu.au

KHS YEAR 7 2026 Orientation Day & Parent Info Evening

Orientation Day - 10am-1pm Tuesday 2 December

An invitation is extended to all Year 6 students attending Katoomba High School in 2026. The day will be a great opportunity for you to:

- Meet your year group
- Tour the school
- Ask questions about next year and feel a little bit more relaxed about starting high school
- Participate in a mini lesson

Transport will be provided. Students will be picked up and returned to their Primary Schools. Students are asked to bring a pencil case and recess. A barbeque lunch will be provided.

NOTE - If students have a medical condition and / or require medication on the day please contact the school as soon as possible to obtain the necessary medication forms.

Parent Information Evening - Tuesday 2 December 2025 6:30-8pm

An invitation is extended to parents / caregivers of Year 6 students attending Katoomba High School in 2026. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Katoomba High School.

The evening will be a great opportunity for you to:

- Meet other parents / caregivers of Year 7 2026 students
- Meet our: Principal, Deputy Principal and Year 7 Adviser
- Learn more about the subject areas in Year 7
- Find out more about school policies and procedures
- Ask questions



From the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Staff,

We finished off a very busy term with a very busy week this week, the focus of which was celebrating our Year 12 Class of 2025! It was their last official week of school before their study break and HSC exams. They have all achieved so much went out in style with lots of fun and frivolity as well as a beautiful Graduation Ceremony.

I would like to share the words of my Principal's Address for Graduation as a tribute to this fantastic Year 12...

Today is not just a time to celebrate your achievements, but a time for reflection. In particular, I wanted to reflect on what you have taught me over this remarkable year. This graduating class has been a reminder to me of the power of passion, resilience, individuality, and joy.

You have reminded me what it means to care deeply. Your passion for important causes—whether it's championing the environment, standing up for social justice, or supporting one another through difficult times—has been inspiring. You don't just talk about change; you live it. You remind us all that being young is not about waiting for the future, but about acting in the present with courage and conviction.

Your resilience has been nothing short of extraordinary. In a world that often feels uncertain and challenging, you have faced obstacles head-on, adapting and growing stronger. You embody the spirit of perseverance, showing that setbacks are not the end, but the beginning of new opportunities.



And then there is the "Katoomba Way" — that special something that makes this community unique. We do things a bit differently here. You have approached problems with creativity, you question the norm, and you bring your own flair to everything you do. Most importantly, you are willing to laugh at yourselves along the way. That ability to find humour amidst

pressure, to not take life too seriously, has created a community where learning and growth happen with kindness and joy.

In these times, when our world sometimes feels divided, my wish for you is simple but heartfelt: carry forward the values you've shown here — compassion, resilience, creativity, and laughter. Use them to build bridges, to open minds, and to unite people rather than divide them. Be curious not judgemental. The future needs your generosity of spirit and your willingness to listen and understand.

As you step out into the world beyond Katoomba High School, remember that you are equipped not just with knowledge, but with character. Believe in yourselves, continue to pursue your passions with the same fervour I have seen here, and never underestimate the impact you can make.

I am immensely proud of every one of you. Thank you for teaching me so much this year. Congratulations, Year 12, Class of 2025. Your journey is just beginning, and I can't wait to see the difference you will make.

Best wishes for your exams Year 12 and for whatever comes next! I look forward to celebrating again with you at the formal next month!

Regards,

Tess Devine

Year Advisor's Message

Year 12, the world awaits your talents, your ideas, and your passion.

May your journeys be filled with meaningful friendships, bold choices, and endless possibilities.

You are the future Year 12, and I know that my heart is warmed thinking that your generation will be taking charge.

Ms van Capelle
Year Advisor, Class of 2025


Congratulations Year 12

FROM EVERYONE AT KATOOMBA HIGH SCHOOL.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU AND WISH YOU ALL THE VERY BEST ON YOUR FUTURE ADVENTURES!

GO WELL.

Community Noticeboard



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!

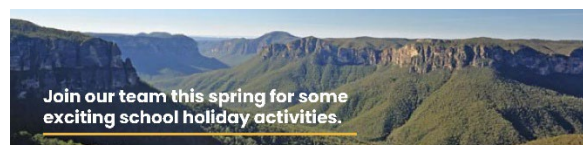
Grand Cliff Top Walk guided tour

Join a Discovery Ranger on a 3 hour guided tour along the Wentworth Falls section of the newly constructed trail. Learn about the unique ecosystems and how this spectacular 19km walk on Gundungarra country was created.

Operates every Saturday during school holidays

Spring 2025

For bookings visit: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/guided-tours/grand-cliff-top-walk-guided-tour



Join our team this spring for some exciting school holiday activities.

B Bush Alive **J** Junior Rangers

 <p>J 10-14 yrs</p> <p>Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering</p> <p>Tuesday 30 September - Blackheath</p>	 <p>B 7-11 yrs</p> <p>Bee Adventure</p> <p>Wednesday 1 October - Blackheath</p>	 <p>B 5-12 yrs</p> <p>Spotlight!</p> <p>Thursday 2 October - Katoomba</p>
 <p>J 10-14 yrs</p> <p>Navigation, Mapping and Orienteering</p> <p>Tuesday 7 October - Blackheath</p>	 <p>B 7-11 yrs</p> <p>Bee Adventure</p> <p>Wednesday 8 October - Blackheath</p>	 <p>B 5-12 yrs</p> <p>Spotlight!</p> <p>Thursday 9 October - Katoomba</p>



book now

Grand Cliff Top Walk Guided Tour

Operates every Saturday during school holidays

Holiday activities \$20 per person. Most activities are onsite at Blackheath 10am-12pm. Spotlight is held at Katoomba 7.30-9.30pm. Grand Cliff Top Walk is held at Wentworth Falls. Meet 15 mins before activity start time.
T 02 4784 7301 E BlueMtns.Education@environment.nsw.gov.au

nswparks.info/bluemountainskids



Spring 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



Woven Butterflies with Naomi Oliver

10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 4 | \$6

Monday 29th September, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.

Tuesday 7th October, Katoomba Library.

Come and make your own colourful butterfly! We'll use popsicle sticks, beads and wool to weave wings and bring your bright and cheerful butterflies to life.



Popstick Wall Hanging with Naomi Oliver

12 to 1pm | Year 4 - Year 8 | \$6

Monday 29th September, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.

Tuesday 7th October, Katoomba Library.

Create a colourful wall hanging using popsicle sticks and yarn. We'll play with patterns, wrapping and weaving the yarn around the sticks to build your own unique, decorated piece to take home!



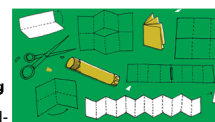
Zine Workshop with Estee Sarsfield.

10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Thursday 9th October, Katoomba Library.

Fri 10th October, Springwood Hub, Dining Room.

Snip snip snip! Make a Zine! Zines are small handmade books that can be about anything and everything. There are no rules! Stamp, cut, colour and glue to create your own zine, and learn everything you need to know to keep making zines at home.



Teen Zine Workshop with Estee Sarsfield.

12 to 1pm | Yrs 7 - 12 Highschool Students | \$6

Thursday 9th October, Katoomba Library.

Fri 10th October, Springwood Hub, Dining Room.

Get your scissors ready! Zines are small handmade books that can be filled with writing, art, collage, poems, politics or anything at all. Explore the endless possibilities of what a zine can be and everything you need to know to make your own.



BLUE MOUNTAINS LIBRARY

Blue Mountains Library



Hub Picnic Day & Great Book Swap

(Children & Young Adult Books)

Springwood Hub

Tuesday 30th September

11am to 2pm | Free - Drop-in

Our Hub Picnic Day is on again, pairing our theme with the Springwood Hub's children's theatre show, *Imagine*, based on the Alison Lester book. We will have craft inspired by the book's themes & will be joined by BMCC Waterways Team & Springwood Neighbourhood Centre. Come and enjoy the fun & craft.



During Hub Picnic Day, BM Library, Belong Blue Mountains and Paint the Blue REAd are hosting our **Great Book Swap**, a fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. For a gold coin donation, (or using our unique QR code to the ILF donation page), swap some good quality books & help raise funds for communities in need.

Come, join in the fun and help us welcome in Spring!



Wonderful Wildflowers - Collaborative Creations

All Blue Mountains Library Branches

Saturday 27th September - Sunday 12th

October | Free - Drop-in

Spring into your library branch and celebrate the wonderful wildflowers of the Blue Mountains. Learn about our local endemic species and colour the designs to bring our wildflower scenes to life, creating a unique landscape piece in each library branch.

Community Noticeboard

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?

Free Event for Families with Children 0 to 12 years old

Tuesday 30th September
10 to 12 pm

Presbyterian Church Blackheath
123-125 Wentworth St

Morning Tea
provided

Come for a fun morning with
books and more



Mountains Outreach
Community Service

get in touch with Amy
for more information via
childandfamilyCD@mocs.org.au



GIRLS YOUTH VOLLEYBALL ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Youth girls born 2009 or later are welcome
to come along and join in the fun!

Wednesdays - 6pm - 8pm (2 hours)

Olympic Park Sports Halls

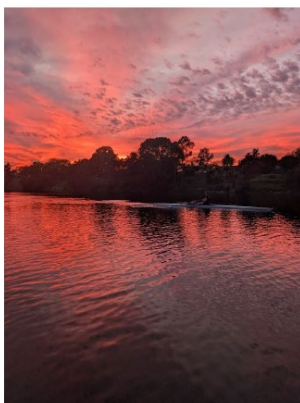
Grand Parade, Olympic Park

Cost: \$15 per session or 3 sessions
for \$30. Pay when you register

Or Register then pay later

Pay ID: 0408 580 106 Melinda
Or Cash on the day

Must be registered.
Use the link below
www.vostok.com.au/events/register/316947



NEPEAN ROWING CLUB COME TRY DAYS

Details

Nepean Rowing Club is offering free two-hour sessions this school holidays. Please register on our website or email us to book your spot.

<https://www.nepeanrowingclub.com.au/come-try-days.html>

COME TRY ROWING ON
THE NEPEAN RIVER

FREE TWO-HOUR
INTRODUCTORY
ROWING SESSIONS

EXPERIENCE ROWING
THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

September 29th, 1st and
3rd October 1-3pm

NEPEAN ROWING CLUB

32 Bruce Neale Drive
Penrith, NSW, 2750

Website:
www.nepeanrowingclub.com.au

Email:
rowing@nepeanrowingclub.com.au



Calling All Girls Interested in Learning
this Lifelong Sport for Free

Golf NSW is joining with Blackheath Golf & Community Club to provide free BG&CC Club membership and 24 free lessons in 2026 for girls (9-16yo) interested in participating in a Learn to Golf Program.

This is a wonderful opportunity to try a new sport and make new friends.

BG&CC already has a group of enthusiastic junior male players and we would like to increase our junior female players.

The lessons will be with qualified PGA professional and you will all be learning together in a supportive environment.

If you have any questions, please ask Darrin or Jack in the pro-shop on 4787 8406.... but most of all JOIN IN

Community Noticeboard



ROYAL AERO CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES



Royal Aero Club's

TRY & FLY WEEKEND

When: Sat 4th – Mon 6th October
(Labour Day Long Weekend)

Where: Camden Airport
(located off Macquarie Grove Road)

Trial Introductory Flights | Static Displays | Airside Tour
Career Talks | Sausage Sizzle | Tea/Coffee

[LEARN MORE](#)

royalaero.com.au/try-and-fly-weekend

The Royal Aero Club of New South Wales is located at Camden Airport in Sydney's south-west. They are the Southern Hemisphere's largest not-for-profit volunteer-run flight training organisation and have a unique focus on upskilling young people for future careers in aviation.

Twice a year, they host a 'Try and Fly Weekend,' inviting individuals of all ages and backgrounds to experience the thrill of aviation firsthand. This event includes a one-on-one Trial Introductory Flight with a Flight Instructor, an airside tour of Camden Airport, career talks about the various pathways in aviation and a BBQ lunch.

This program is an excellent opportunity for students to kickstart their aviation careers, providing them with a glimpse into the life of a pilot. Many do not realise how accessible aviation can be, whether as a career or hobby. We aim to promote this opportunity widely, helping young people start their journey toward obtaining a pilot's license—a highly in-demand skill that can open doors to global travel and adventure. More information about the 'Try and Fly Weekend' is available here - <https://royalaero.com.au/try-and-fly-weekend/>



SYDNEY REGION ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
TERM 4
WEEKLY CALENDAR

"Growing Strong, Leading Proud"

PENRITH COMMUNITY HUB

FOR OUR SCHOOL AGED YOUTH

Monday
Didge & Dance
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Tuesday
High School Group
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday
Sport Clinic
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Thursday
Primary School Group
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Friday:
Playgroup
10:00am - 2:00pm

02 4721 1536 | www.srac.ngo
51-57 Henry St, Penrith NSW 2750



JANUARY 26TH **SURVIVAL DAY** **2026**

KATOOMBA NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL
66 BARTON STREET, KATOOMBA

HOLD A STALL
ARE YOU AN ARTIST WHO WOULD LIKE TO SELL THEIR WORK?
PROMOTE YOUR SERVICE AND HOLD AN INFORMATION OR INTERACTIVE STALL.

VOLUNTEER ON THE DAY
VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME ON THE DAY AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMUNITY EVENT RUNNING SMOOTHLY

HELP OUT ON THE DAY

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS
DONATIONS
DONATE GIFT VOUCHERS, PRIZES OR MONEY TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENT

RUN A WORKSHOP
IF YOU HAVE A CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE SKILLSET THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE BOOK A SPACE AND COME SHARE WITH COMMUNITY

HELP US CELEBRATE SURVIVAL DAY

MORE INFO EMAIL: FAMILYSUPPORT@ACRC.ORG.AU

Community Noticeboard



BLUE MOUNTAINS WRITERS FESTIVAL

31 Oct — 02 Nov

94
Authors

56
Events

14
Workshops

CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS • HANNAH KENT • STAN GRANT • KATE GRENVILLE
MAXINE BENEDA CLARKE • ALI COBBY ECKERMANN • CRAIG SILVEY • BRYAN BROWN
DRUSILLA MODJESKA • DANIEL BROWNING • CHARLOTTE MCCONAGHY
CRAIG REUCASSEL • SOFIE LAGUNA • OSHER GÜNSBERG • DEBRA OSWALD
INGA SIMPSON • JENNIFER WONG • JUMAANA ABDU • GARRY DISHER • PLUS MORE

bluemountainwritersfestival.com.au



BLUE MOUNTAINS WRITERS FESTIVAL

31 OCT - 02 NOV

BLUE MOUNTAINS WRITERS FESTIVAL SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Presented by Varuna, the National Writers' House, with support from the Blue Mountains City Council Safe to Be campaign.

In the lead up to the 2025 Blue Mountains Writers' Festival, 8 exciting writers will be visiting Blue Mountains public high schools to talk expression, respect, identity, the power of story, and building careers and community through writing.

The Blue Mountains Writers' Festival team has curated three 45-minute sessions which schools can offer to any cohort of students.

SESSION 1 | EXPRESS YOURSELF



Experience the power of poetry and performance with **Emilie Zoey Baker** (slam poet), **Nick Solo** (Hip Hop artist with background teaching poetry to young people) and **Vivian Pham** (a writer and poet who published her first novel at 19). In this session, students will hear about how our panel use carefully chosen words to express their experiences and emotions, and how they tell stories about the world through their chosen artform. Includes readings/performance.

Emilie Zoey Baker is an award-winning poet and performer who has toured nationally and internationally. She was a Fellow at the State Library of Victoria, poet-in-residence at Museums Victoria, and the winner of the Berlin International Poetry Slam. She teaches slam poetry in schools around the world and is the founder and creative director of OutLoud, Australian Poetry's Victorian youth slam competition.

Nick Solo is an artist, poet and songwriter best known for his work as the frontman of Hip Hop outfit Horrorshow. Over the course of a 15-year career, he has released seven studio albums via legendary Sydney-based label Elephant Traks, sold out countless tours and collaborated with some of the biggest names in Australian music.

Vivian Pham is a Vietnamese novelist, essayist, and poet from southwestern Sydney. Her novel *The Coconut Children* was published in 2020 by Penguin Random House, which won the Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year and the SMH Best Young Australian Novelist Award. She is a course director and key tutor for Faber Writing Academy's Writing a Novel course, and is currently adapting *The Coconut Children* for stage with Belvoir Theatre.

SESSION 2 | POWER OF STORY



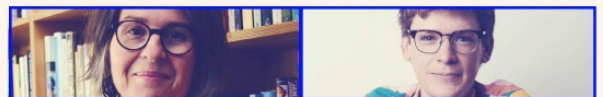
What does it mean to write – and read – about people like you? Join **Nevo Zisin** (storyteller, writer, poet and educator), **Jasmin McGaughey** (author Young Adult fiction, and Ash Barty's *Little Ash Series*); and **Jumaana Abdu** (winner of the 2017 What Matters? Competition, now a published author, who was shortlisted for the prestigious Stella Prize in 2025) for this session about the incredible power of storytelling to build empathy and develop our understanding of the world around us.

Nevo Zisin is a storyteller, poet, TEDx speaker, educator on transgender topics, workshop facilitator and award-winning author of *Finding Nevo* and *The Pronoun Lowdown*, a useful guidebook on all things related to pronouns. They have been in-conversation with *Queer Eye*'s Jonathan Van Ness, *Transparent* producer Zackary Drucker and world-famous spoken-word poet and activist Alok Vaid-Menon.

Jasmin McGaughey is a Torres Strait Islander and African American writer and editor. She is the author of the *Little Ash* series presented by Ash Barty and illustrated by Jade Goodwin. In 2023, Jasmin won a Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Award. She has written for *Overland*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *SBS Voices* and *Griffith Review* and recently co-edited *Words to Sing the World Alive*. Her debut YA, *Moonlight and Dust*, was published in July 2025.

Jumaana Abdu is the author of *Translations*, which was shortlisted for the Stella Prize, the MUD Literary Prize, and a NSW Premier's Literary Award. She was named *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Novelist in 2025 and her widely published fiction and essays have won the Dal Stevens Award, the Patricia Hackett Prize and the Phoebe Journal fiction prize. During the day, she is a medical doctor.

SESSION 3 | FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE WORLD: COMMUNITY AND CAREERS



Get inspired! You CAN make a living drawing illustrations and writing stories! The creative industries is in the top 5 employing sectors in the Blue Mountains, and we have more creatives living here than in many regions in Australia. Join Blue Mountains locals **Tegan Bennett Daylight** (author and teacher) and **Bill Hope** (artist and illustrator) for a session about creative community and creative careers.

Tegan Bennett Daylight is a writer, teacher and critic whose books include novels, short stories, essays on writing and reading, as well as fiction for children and young adults. Tegan's YA novel *Royals* was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Award for Young People's Literature. *How to Survive 1985*, a stand-alone YA novel and sequel to *Royals* was published this year with a third and final book in the *Royals* series in the works.

Bill Hope accidentally drew himself into existence with a crayon at an early age and has been drawing ever since. Today he is an artist and illustrator living in the Blue Mountains. Bill has published a number of books for children and held a series of solo exhibitions, and is also the illustrator for the *YOU & ME* series with Andy Griffiths.

THESE WORKSHOPS ARE PART OF COUNCIL'S GRANT-FUNDED 'SAFE TO BE IN OUR COMMUNITY' PROGRAM OF FREE ACTIVITIES HELPING OUR COMMUNITY KEEP EACH OTHER SAFE.

