



KHS Newsletter

Martin St, Katoomba, 2780 | Ph: (02) 4782-2622
katoomba-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

2019
Term 4
Week 6

What's On December

- Tuesday 3rd Year 6 Orientation Day
- Thursday 5th Year 10 Graduation
- Friday 6th Year 10 Dinner Dance
- Tuesday 10th Presentation Day and Evening
- Wednesday 18th Last day of school

The full calendar of events including assessment are on the [Student/Parent Portal](#).

Blue Mountains Creative Leaders Awards

Congratulations to our students and artist - mentors Jacinta Tobin, Jo Clancy, Chris Tobin and Sean O'Keeffe on winning a Greater Blue Mountains Creative Arts Leader Award for their amazing film *Budyarimaba*. An extraordinary accomplishment. Thanks Rilka Oakley from the Cultural Centre for making it all happen.



Blue Fringe Arts Festival.

The Blue Fringe Art and Literature festival is open to anyone with a lived experience of mental health issues. We had a number of KHS students enter in the literature competition and they were successful in taking out the Winner

and Highly Commended awards in the youth category.



Blue Mountains Music Festival 2020

Each year Katoomba hosts the Blue Mountains Music Festival. The 2020 festival dates are March 13, 14 & 15. The event is held on the grounds of Katoomba Public School, the RSL and the Clarendon Hotel. The festival showcases local and international acts and 2020 will be its 25th year. The headlining act is John Butler. This is a major fundraiser for the public schools in Katoomba and parents/carers and staff of KHS are prioritised in the allocation of volunteering roles. A volunteer donates 10 hours of their time, during the weekend, and receives in return a 3-day ticket so they can enjoy the music as well. That is a ticket value of \$280 but is also a great way to meet other music fans and have a lot of fun helping the event be successful. For more information on how you can become involved please come to

the Katoomba RSL Wednesday 4th December at 6:30pm.

Volunteer applications open early January 2020. Go to www.bmff.org.au to apply.

Imelda Eames



P&C Fundraising

Thank you to the KHS Parents and Citizens (P&C) group for the fabulous novelty cheque that represented the handing over of \$7500 to the school. The money was raised from the Blue Mountains Music festival and from the P&C Tasting Tour.

In the past, the money raised by the P&C has been used to support the introduction of lockers, the installation of a water bottle filling tap and improvements to the hall sound system.



Katoomba students Speak out for equality

On Friday the 25th October a large group of Katoomba High School students along with Deputy Principal Emma Le Marquand, Head Teacher CAPA, Mel Grahovac, School Liaison Officer, Imelda



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Eames and Teacher, Ruby Ladd, took their music, art, voices and spirit to join with the community in Katoomba Street for the Blue Mountains first Reclaim the Night since 2015. The energy of our student group inspired many people at the gathering and their presence was warmly welcomed by organisers from the Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre.

The Coalition Against Violence and Abuse worked together with many committed community members to organise the annual women's protest, which was first held in Australia in 1978. The early Reclaim the Night marches fought for a woman's right to walk without fear at night and this fight continues today. Senior students shone during the performances with their messages for gender equality. Gabriel Hamlet delivered an incredible slam poem, Rory McKay shared her stunning music and Arliah Varnel spoke with strength about political change. The contributions from the student group were bright and powerful and a big thanks to the entire student group who united for the cause.

Photo credit to Nina Lipscombe
Website: ninalipscombeart.com





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November

The 2019 Katoomba High School Movember message is to talk to someone if you need support or if you are struggling with mental health issues. The PDHPE faculty and KHS students are busy growing their moustaches as a way of creating opportunities to talk about men's mental health. A BBQ was held with community organisations bringing information to support families and young people. Thank you to Belong Blue Mountains Neighbourhood Centre, Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre, Headspace, Flourish, Mountains Youth Service and Platform Youth Service. You can donate to the Katoomba High School Movember campaign by going to www.movember.com.au and searching for Katoomba High.



Wentworth Falls TAFE camp.

A group of year 8 and 9 students participated in a TAFE lead outdoor education experience. Our students were taught skills in canoeing and abseiling by former Katoomba High School students now studying the Outdoor Recreation course. Thank you to TAFE for giving our young people the opportunity to participate in many low cost camps and activities.



Year 7 English Class -Introduction to Poetry.

The Schoolbag

*The jagged teeth on my schoolbag,
Shreds its homework prey*

*Its endless pit devours belongings,
Never to be seen again.
The tiny net around the outside,
guards
a water battle, encasing it in its
embrace
A lost jumper, found in the deepest
depths of its cave, along with rubble
of an antique sandwich.*

-Lucius Mortensen-Gacon

The Oval

*The oval awaits for an occupant
A green desert, sprawls across the
schoolyard
In a watchtower, the overseer;
A magpie, perched on a branch, en
garde
And sturdy goalposts stand tall-
A student? Or maybe a ball?*

*Their green leaves dress the grassy
ground
The breeze in the trees: whoosh, swish
And so, to the soil that they're bound,
They protect, and shelter the oval,
until they perish
Like a wall, the trees stand hard, and
proud
The oval, patient, waits for the next
recess.*

-Lucius Mortensen-Gacon

Trees Heartache

*Standing still as nature's avenger
Exhaling so we can breathe,
Their tattered skin and rigid arms
As far as the eye can see.
Their flexible leaves that dance in the
trees
Turn orange in the Autumn scene
But when winter comes the trees go
cold
And stand still in an eternal freeze.*

-Ryder Palomo

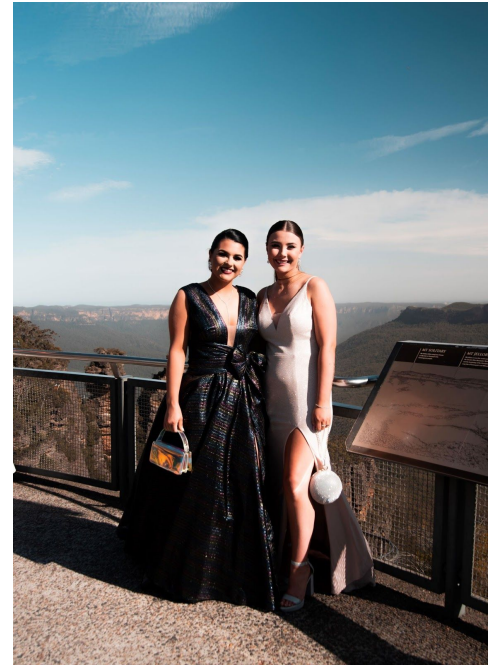


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Year 12 Formal





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Mayoral Breakfast in Support of a Blue Mountains Community Campaign Against Domestic Violence

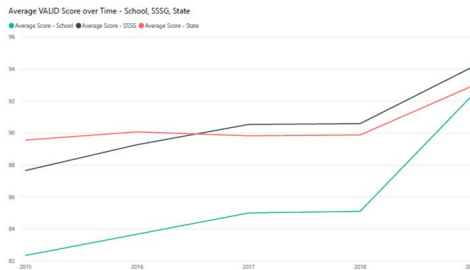
The annual mayors breakfast to highlight men's violence against women. The breakfast was previously known as the White Ribbon Breakfast, however White Ribbon Australia went into liquidation earlier in 2019. Mayor Mark Greenhill spoke about the importance of remembering the reason for the community getting together on this day and to continue to fight for respect and equality for women and girls in our community. The male school leaders and other Katoomba High students were a highlight at the breakfast and Vice Captain Dylan Walsh spoke on behalf of the male students (Including Winmalee High students present) in calling on young people to be part of the conversation and change.



Science News

Congratulations to our Year 10 Science Students and Science Teachers

This outcome has been a few years in the making – a more focused approach on the assessment of scientific skills (e.g. predicting, analysing and communicating) and developing student's conceptual understanding of Science has contributed to this movement in results.



Science News- KOALA

A reminder that in Science we have taken up an opportunity to take part in a pilot program jointly funded by the Office of Environment and Heritage and Queensland University. This KOALA I speak of, is a small solar powered air quality measuring instrument - the program is titled Knowing Our Ambient Local Air-quality, hence the name KOALA! It's out there on school grounds looking very inconspicuous!

This instrument provides us with real time air quality data and interestingly up until this point there was no air quality measurement taking place west of Penrith!

Please find below the links to the real time data. There are many of us that could potentially incorporate

this into our teaching and learning at some point, whether it be in data analysis or in examining environmental factors

<http://bluemountainsensors.net.au>

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/air/current-air-quality/special-projects-monitoring>

This data is best accessed using Google Chrome, there are 12 KOALA's installed between Springwood and Lithgow - we are KOALA 67.

Lockers for 2020.

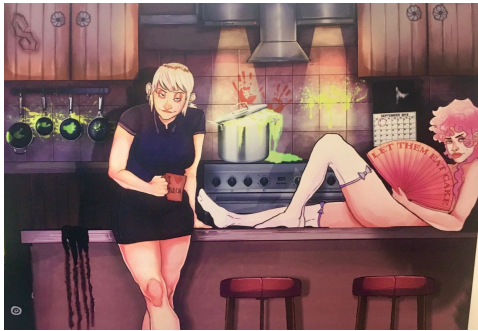
If students who already have lockers are going to continue with their locker rental for next year, payment is due no later than 6th December 2019. Payment can be done via the office or online <https://katoomba-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/> select "Make a Payment". Please indicate if it is either Locker Renewal or New Locker Hire. Students in 7-9 will stay with their existing locker. Year 10 students will need to move to a new locker in the senior locker area (near the library). Paperwork and payment need to be completed at the office no later than Friday 6 December 2019.

Thanks - KHS Office Staff



CAPA HIGHLIGHTS

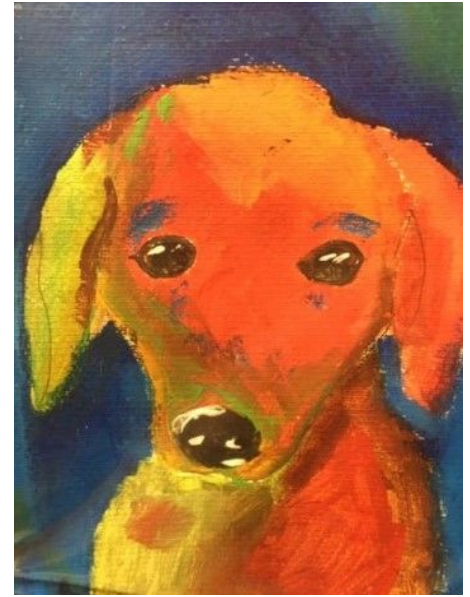
Congratulations to Sama Cooper and Chloe Melo for their ARTEXPRESS nominations. This a testament to their talent and creativity. It was an honour to teach such talented art students. Melissa Grahovac- Head Teacher CAPA



Art by Chloe Melo



Evie McKenna-Schulke



art by Lucien Aaroli



Art by Sama Cooper "Sonder"

Operation Art

Congratulations to Lucien Aaroli, whose Operation Art work was chosen as one of the ArtBank Awards. Lucien's painting will be exhibited at Bear Cottage, which is a hospice in Manly for sick children and their families, and as you can imagine can be quite a challenging place for all who spend a considerable amount of time there. The painting will bring some colour and joy to help encourage a positive outlook on the future for the children at Bear Cottage.

Music news

Congratulations Jim Schoeler who has been successful in his audition and is now part of The NSW Public Schools Jazz Orchestra - Advanced ensemble. This band will perform regularly in a range of jazz festivals and events and will provide Jim with multiple performance opportunities at Sydney's finest venues throughout the year.



HSC Intensive-National Art School

Evie McKenna-Schulke was selected for the National Art School's HSC Intensive. This course is designed for talented art students seeking to further their studies in Visual Arts.



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Schools Spectacular

Congratulations to all of our School Spectacular performers who have worked so hard. Katoomba High School is represented in the Combined Choir, Combined Dance Ensemble, D'Arts, Aboriginal Dance Ensemble and Combined Drama. Go talented Katoomba High School students! Also a big thank you to the amazing teachers involved.

