

Coming Up

Wed 4 Jun – That's So Retro!
Performing Arts Showcase
6pm Tickets on Sale [here](#)

Thu 12 Jun - ParentKIND
Webinar: Identifying and
Supporting your Child's
Potential 6:30-7:30pm Online

Mon 16 Jun - Subject Selection
Info Sessions Online for Years
7/8/10 Parents and Carers

Wed 18 Jun - Subject Selection
'Talk to the Teachers' Night at
School for current Years 7, 8 &
10 Families

Fri 20 Jun - UBUNTU Africa
Concert 7:00-8:30pm – Tickets
on sale [here](#)

Wed 23 Jul - Year 10 and Year 7
Vaccinations at School

We are very pleased to share our mid-newsletter for Term 2. We received some suggestions in our recent survey to make this newsletter shorter and more frequent. We will be working on this for future editions!

Upper Blue Mountains Student Leadership Day

On Thursday 29 May, our Katoomba High School Prefects had the pleasure of hosting our annual Upper Blue Mountains Student Leadership Day with Susan Templeman MP and a very impressive group of Year 6 school leaders from Katoomba Public School, Katoomba North Public School, Blackheath Public School, Wentworth Falls Public School, Leura Public School and Lawson Public School.

Our KHS Prefects did an outstanding job, and all students worked wonderfully well together in their school groups and in mixed groups to explore issues and solutions and planning how to implement leadership initiatives in their school communities.

The students were also joined by our very special guest, Susan Templeman MP who spoke with the students about leadership and her role as a Member of Parliament and Special Envoy for the Arts.

Thank you so much to Ms Templeman for being so generous with your time and sharing your knowledge and experiences.

Thank you also to KHS teachers Mrs Jeffrey and Mr Boothroyd for organising such an excellent day and for the Primary School teachers who joined us and made it possible for their students to be part of the day.

We look forward to doing more great work together with our Upper Blue Mountains learning community.



KHS Out and About

KHS Students join to Commemorate ANZAC Day

The community celebrations for ANZAC Day were well attended by members of the Katoomba High School community. The Prefect Team were involved in leading the 9 am service at Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital. The group marching down Katoomba Street to the RSL club consisted of Prefects, House Captains, Members of the SRC and Staff. Some students were proudly wearing their family members medals. Katoomba High School was also represented at the march in the band and the Devils Rugby League Club. After we were all guided into our positions in the RSL car park the community joined us for a respectful and emotional service. CAPT de Brauw, RAN, spoke at both the 9 am service at the hospital and the Returned and Service League (RSL) club. It is great to be able to stand together as a community and remember and acknowledge all the people in our defence services, past and present, and their families.

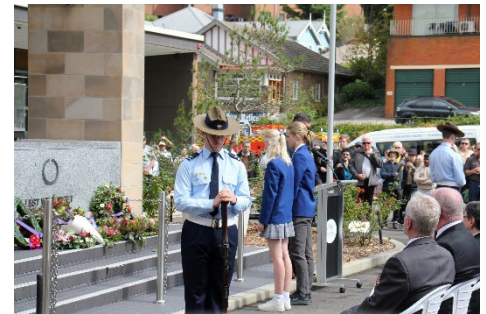
This is the last year one of our staff, Mr John Tognolini will be marching with the school. He has marched with the school every year since he joined our school many years ago.



When we returned to school for Term two, we held an ANZAC Day Commemorative Service for our students. It was lead and written by our Prefect Team, who were supported by Mrs Jeffery, Mr Murray, Dylan Kosh and Mr Mattessi. This service was live streamed into all the classrooms with classes timetabled outside joining together in the hall or common room to be part of the event.

We took a moment to commemorate the significance of ANZAC Day and honour the soldiers who have fought for us. We noted that this April marks 110 years since soldiers from the Australian and New Zealand Army corps landed on the Gallipoli peninsula in modern day Turkey. We acknowledged the mental toll of war and that the ANZAC spirit of resilience, camaraderie and unwavering courage is still revered today. Lest we forget.

Mrs Jeffery



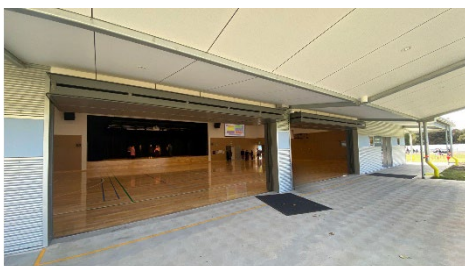
Around the Grounds

First Assembly in Yanguu!

We are very excited to share that we held our first whole school assembly in Yanguu, our new multipurpose centre recently! We haven't been able to fit the whole school in Burrundee, our original hall, for a very long time, so it was wonderful to see all of the students together in this shiny new facility.

Thank you and well done to the students who helped present this special gathering - Nicole from Year 12 who offered an Acknowledgment of Country, and Morgan from Year 12 and George from Year 7 who were our MCs - you all did a wonderful job and received much enthusiastic applause!

Thank you also to all of our students who attended the assembly with so much enthusiasm and respect! We look forward to many more fantastic whole school occasions in Yanguu!



Chat with the Hacker

Recently the hacker known as "Alex" came to talk to Year 12 Software Engineering and Year 8 Coding about software security. Alex is a friend of Sam Mangan who is a paraprofessional working with the Coding class.

Alex is employed by the software company Atlassian to check the security of their systems. Alex, with a small team, tries to hack into their employer's systems. Any security vulnerabilities are told to the company so that they can be fixed.

Alex told the class that the most common way to hack into a system is



via tricking people into giving away information like passwords using a phishing attack. They said the most secure systems have two-factor authentication to log in, which is more secure than just a password.

Year 12 Learn from Pasteur in our new Mini Lab

Year 12 Biology students are currently studying disease and had a go at replicating Pasteur's experiment in our newly opened mini lab. Pasteur's experiment was important in showing that germs do not appear spontaneously. Students wore PPE to avoid contamination. The students enjoyed the hands-on approach to their studies and look forward to observing the results, which may take several weeks.



Ceramic Creations

Here are some examples of the recent works from our Year 11 Ceramics class by Mikayla Bailey, Rose Haynes, Lataya Rosewarne, Aurora Barrow. These are the first vessels they have made exploring form and colour.

Mrs Grahovac



Art Gallery Experience

Our senior art students visited the Art Gallery of NSW recently to see ArtEXPRESS, CAO FEI, and Angelica Mesiti: The Rites of When - a video and sound installation that reimagines communal rituals in relation to seasonal cycles. These exhibitions provide a wonderful and immersive experience for our students. Thank you to all participating students. It was a fantastic day!



IDAHOBIT Inspiration

In our Farm It Forward Nature Craft Connection program on IDAHOBIT Day, students discussed and celebrated inclusivity and diversity. They made vibrant colourful pom poms to symbolise acceptance and inclusion. While the students crafted and made fresh ginger and lemon tea, new friendships blossomed as they yarned about shared interests, fostering connections and community. They also rolled up their sleeves and packed boxes full of seasonal, organic veggies to support our community.



HSC Students Conduct Major Research Projects

Two of our senior students are currently running online surveys as part of their major HSC research projects and would like to ask parents, carers and community members to help them reach their response targets and contribute to these important pieces of work. You can complete the surveys online as follows:

Lauren Howell's Society & Culture Survey: [Parents & Carers Survey on Gender Stereotyped Toys](#)



Annabel Dignam's Science Extension Survey: [Impact of Endometriosis on Body Perceptions](#)

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAVE ENDOMETRIOSIS?

My name is Annabel Dignam, and I am a Year 12 student at Katoomba High School. I am studying Science Extension and one of the requirements of the course is to complete an individual scientific research project.

My topic is: How does living with endometriosis affect an individual's perception of their body?

To collect my first-hand data, I have chosen to conduct a survey. The survey can be found via the QR code on this flyer. Please share this flyer and QR code with people who fit the criteria listed below.

QR CODE:



SO WHO CAN TAKE THE SURVEY?

- Individuals who have an **endometriosis diagnosis**.
- Individuals who are in the **process of being diagnosed**.
- Individuals who are **beginning their diagnosis process**.

CONTACT

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katoomba High School at katoomba-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au with attention to T. Wilson. Note: please be assured, that all answers are anonymous and honesty and authenticity is greatly valued.

Thank you for your help and support of our Year 12 students.

Year 7 Camp Fun!

Year 7 Camp was an exciting three days spent at the beautiful Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre. After arriving via Ferry, students participated in activities including initiatives, beach games, surf skis, raft building, archery tag, fishing and a final team challenge. The weather was mostly kind to us and despite some rain and coldness, everyone stayed positive and enthusiastic. There were definitely some tired faces and naps on the bus return on Friday.

I would like to thank all staff who came along to support the students - Ms Gibson, Ms Pacchini, Mr Hewett, Mr Tognolini, Ms Panell and SLSOs Bonnie, Olly, Marina and Matthew.

Camp can often be a challenging and intimidating experience. I would like to acknowledge the maturity, teamwork, cooperation, resilience and grit shown by Year 7 and their support and kindness shown to others. I am very proud and grateful to see the wonderful Year group that they are becoming.

Miss Kiah, Year 7 Adviser



KHS Wins Model United Nations Assembly Western Sydney Competition

A massive congratulations to our team of Year 12 students Malia Khoo, Emeisha Vilder and Miette Hoekstra who won this very tough competition against 31 other teams from schools across the Mountains and Western Sydney. They are now off to the National round in Canberra in August!

The Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is an annual, two-day weekend event that is part of an International Rotary project to educate senior high school students (years 10 - 12) on the United Nations organisation and its commitment to world peace, in addition to health, education and living standards around the world. The event provides an excellent forum for students to develop and practice their public speaking skills whilst debating on topical world issues.

This year Malia, Emiesha and Miette worked hard over two long days of very tough competition. They prepared diligently, spoke eloquently and respectfully on a range of issues. They consistently engaged themselves in the entire process, lobbying other nations to make adjustments behind the scenes, something also noticed by the judges. This fully committed approach is what made them the eventual winners. Katoomba High School will now take pride of place on the current perpetual trophy as the only Comprehensive Public High School, alongside the previous winners that are all selective and private schools!

Congratulations also to Lucy, Rosie and Nina from Year 11 who performed admirably, engaging fervently in multiple discussions.

They did a great job and are keen for another go at the title next year!

Thank you to Rotary for putting on this fantastic event and for your ongoing support of our young people.



Rotary Breakfast Guests

Congratulations to our four school leaders Robbie Corlett, Jude Bennett, Miette Hoekstra and Keira Atkinson who were special guests at the breakfast meeting for The Rotary Club of Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise. The students spoke about the opportunities available at our school and were warmly received by the members.

Mrs Tully, Careers Adviser

"Our members were very impressed with this inspiring group of young leaders." Sandra De Gruchy, Rotary

Teens for Trades

Earlier this term Year 11 Construction students participated in a 'Teens for Trades' day at Bunnings. During the day students built flat pack furniture and developed trade related skills and team working skills. As part of the day students constructed a dog kennel for a local animal shelter, a shelving unit for MYST, a tool cheat for the Rhododendron society and a bookshelf for the school. Students enjoyed the experience greatly and were rewarded with some tools. We are very thankful to Bunnings Katoomba for their organisation of the day and Mountains Youth Services Team for their support and for providing transport.

Jock McLaurin, Construction Teacher



Rotary Club of the Upper Blue Mountains Sunrise



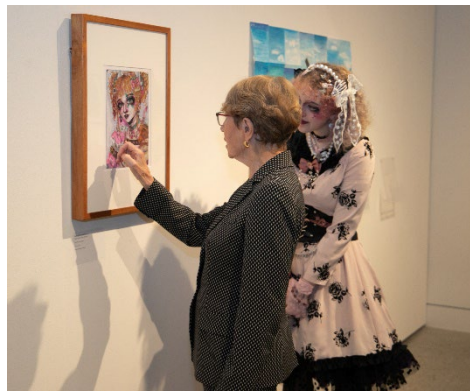
Breakfast meeting 6th May 2025 with
Katoomba High School Students



Meeting Her Excellency, the Governor of NSW

Year 11 student Imogen Maskell was invited to meet Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW, recently at the Blue Mountains Portraits Exhibition at the Cultural Centre.

Imogen's self-portrait displaying her creative personality and technical skill was selected for the exhibition amongst an outstanding collection of portraits by local artists celebrating the cultural fabric of our community. Congratulations Imogen!



Bangarra Dance Theatre "Illume" Excursion

On Wednesday 28th May, students from stage 4 and 5 Dance elective classes along with students from the Dance Ensemble travelled to Sydney to see the school matinee performance of Bangarra Dance Theatre's latest work "Illume" at Roslyn Packer Theatre. The school matinee performances give students the valuable experience of seeing professional performance at a reduced cost. There was a Q&A session held after the performance where students were able to hear about the choreographic process.

Students represented KHS well. We all had a lovely day out in Sydney!

Mrs Holz



KHS Dancers at the Cultural Centre

We were so proud to see our Aboriginal Burudyara Dancers Daisy, Jasmine and Chloe perform two beautiful dances at the ACRC Elders Book Launch at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre on Friday. Thank you to Jo Clancy for her ongoing support of our dancers and thank you students for helping make this a very special occasion.



Vocal Group hits the City

On Tuesday 6th May, the Vocal Group attended an excursion to the city for an exciting multi-school rehearsal at the Salvation Army Congress Hall. The students were able to learn new vocal warm-up techniques, practise their performance skills and enjoy the opportunity to sing in a large choir with numerous soprano, alto, tenor and bass singers. The students were incredible representatives of our school both musically and in terms of their maturity and respectful behaviour on the train and whilst exploring the city. They enjoyed lunch in Hyde Park and the overall experience of the hustle and bustle of the city. Each student sang beautifully and followed their music successfully in order to contribute their voices to the whole choir ensemble. Ms Heenan accompanied the group for the day and felt deeply proud of the students and the work they put into recess rehearsals, external practise time and the rehearsal on the day.



Outdoor Ed Adventures

Epic Duke of Ed Expedition

Week 1 this term a group of Year 11 and 12 students joined the 4-day Gold Duke of Edinburgh hike over Mt Solitary and into the Grose Valley.

The group met at KHS at 2pm on the Tuesday afternoon. After a quick gear check and a good dose of insect repellent on our boots to deter the many leeches that we knew were waiting for us on the way to Ruined Castle we started our hike. The rain that was forecast luckily stayed light enough for us to get to camp at 6.30pm, set up camp and cook dinner before it set in for the next few days.

Day 2 over Mt Solitary was wet and slippery on the trails, the rain did not let off and the students were challenged to try and keep their gear as dry as possible in the tough conditions. Robbie persevered and managed to start a campfire at Kedumba camp with soaked firewood which everyone enjoyed.

Day 3 started with more rain and a steep walk out on the fire trail to Tablelands Rd. The group had lunch in Wentworth Falls, managed to dry some gear under the long-awaited sunshine. The afternoon was spent enjoying huge views from Lockleys Pylon into the Grose Valley before descending to Acacia Flat to set up camp. Everyone spoke about lots of memories from the large number of expeditions they have all been on in the debrief that night.

We have a strong group that are well on their way to completing their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award which will

be a credit to all their hard work over the years.

This was one of the many expeditions I have attended that was a challenge to all the students due to the weather, long days on the trails and adjustments that had to be made in the planning and preparation phase. Despite the challenging conditions and difficult nature of the hike, all of the discussions around campfires remained entirely positive with many of the students not being able to name one thing from the day that they did not enjoy.

As this was the last hike for Year 12 as a group we all reflected on the changes that have been made and the growth of all the students throughout the KHS Outdoor Education program since they started in Year 9. All of the students have developed so much as leaders and learned many valuable lessons that they will take with them into their future lives.

Well done to everyone. You are all a credit to the Katoomba High School community.

Mr Huxley.



Year 10 Mt Solitary Hike

In Week 10 of Term 1 Year 10 Outdoor Education students completed a 3 day expedition over Mt Solitary.

Day 1 started after they had all participated in the Cross Country Carnival. The group walked on the road to Falls Reserve Oval and down the Furber Stairs. After a bit of light reading about the history of Scenic World and a couple of photos, we left the boardwalk and crossed The Landslide Walking Track towards Ruined Castle. The students enjoyed the rainforest section and the flat walking along the old railway line. The leaches along the way kept everyone regularly checking their walking boots. After setting up camp we walked up onto Ruined Castle to enjoy the amazing view of Mt Solitary and the Jamieson Valley.

Day 2 started with breakfast and a quick pack up of camp. The steep trail up Korowal Ridge made sure everyone was supporting each other through the rock steps and tricky terrain. We all had a break in the cave on top of Mt Solitary and enjoyed a great lunch stop with a view.

After filling in the Logbook at The Col the group descended steeply down the walking track and then onto the fire trail to Kedumba Camp. Everyone enjoyed the campfire and conversation that night after a big day on the trails.

Day 3 was a long fire trail walk all the way through the Jamieson Valley back towards Katoomba and steeply up the Giant Stairs and back to school.

All the students enjoyed the challenge and experience of the expedition. Well done to all.

Mr Huxley.



The Sports Pages

Girls Dominate the Field

On the 6th of May, Katoomba High Schools open girls' soccer team defeated last year's finalist team, Glenwood High School, in the 'Sydney West Combined High Schools' football tournament.

The girls conceded 2 goals within the first 10 minutes of the game but fought together scoring 5 goals during the second half that led towards their 6-2 victory.

National Premier League player Allyssa Ng-Saad, dominated the field scoring 5 goals and providing an assist for the last goal of the match, finished by Kaya Peacock-Hurst.

The team's midfield players Lu-Anne Angwin, Kaya, Annabel Dignam and Allyssa, held strong possession in the centre of the field and at half time the team implemented a successful man-marking strategy on Glenwood's star player, which ultimately eliminated her from the game, and prevented any accurate shots on goal.

'I was incredibly impressed with how the team played together, instead of being disheartened by the two early goals we conceded.' said their coach Ms Marsh.

'We kept our heads held high... and never believed the game wasn't ours. I hope we keep up the belief in ourselves and qualify for the state!'

*Written by Amber Bergmann
Year 11*



Girls warming up for their match. (Left to right); Annabel Dignam, Allyssa Ng-Saad, Evie Schembri, Amber Bergmann, Daisy Glass, Tani Hoffman, Nina Mimica, Saskia Krinks, Hazel Walters, Lu-Anne Angwin, Sarah Healy, Tilda Horne.

KHS Ultra Trail Runners!

Congratulations to everyone who ran the Blue Mountains Ultra Trail Australia 2025! Well done to all of the runners from KHS including Annabel Dignam, Finn Gulson, Pip Wegner, Jude Bennett, Keira Atkinson, Tani Hoffman, Joey Williams and Kobi Gulson! A highly impressive effort from everyone! Go Katoomba High!



Representing Sydney West in the State Champs

Congratulations to Isaac Roberts from Year 11 who represented Sydney West at the NSW Combined High Schools Open Boys Basketball State Championships in Shoalhaven 20-22 May.

Sydney West finished in 5th place at the championships - a fantastic

achievement at this highly competitive State-level comp.

Well done, Isaac!



National Athletics Champs

Huge congratulations to Year 8 student Owen Roberts who represented NSW in the Australian Junior Athletics Championships in Perth on April 7th and 8th. Owen competed in the U/14 Boys Shot Put and finished in 5th place! He also competed in the U/14 Boys Discus finishing in 8th place. This is an amazing achievement at a national level.



Well done, Owen!



KHS Cross Country

The KHS Cross Country was held in the last week of Term 1. Staff manned the route as students ran their set distances. We ran through the school and Birriban as well as outside the school block. The number of laps you ran was determined by your age. The carnival was on for the second half of the school day and when we weren't running we could participate in the Novelty events ran by the House Patrons, Mr Regan, Mr Simone and Mr Boothroyd, listen to the music being performed, eat the sausages or cookies being sold by Year 12 and the SRC, cheer on the runners as they went by or just sit and chat. It was a great day.

By KHS House Captains



Position	Competition Points	Tug-o-war	Novelty	Total	House
1st	215	20	63	298	Kanimbla
2nd	162	5	75	242	Jamison
3rd	166	15	59	240	Megalong
4th	155	10	72	237	Burraborang

KHS Cross Country (cont.)

On what seems to be an ever-changing course students ran almost 1.2 km per lap (much to the surprise of the Carnival organiser) on a warm afternoon in Katoomba. There were some outstanding performances on the day as students traversed the course through our amazing Birriban and around the course led by bike by Mr Tintner and Mr Everson riding like a mad dog. The epic battle between Amber and Tani continued with great competition and sportsmanship shown throughout. Our very own international student August set a cracking pace in the opens boys and showed his class throughout to take out his age group.

Meanwhile on the inside of the school, the house patrons had students competing in a vast array of novelty events including egg and spoon races and a house tug of war competition and games to earn precious house points and stay engaged throughout the afternoon. Students were fuelled by Mrs Van Capelle's BBQ expertise and the sugar rush of the SRC cake stall. All this action was set to the musical backdrop of our students rocking the live performances on the makeshift performance stage.

From an organisers perspective it was great to see students and staff, happy, engaged and having fun at the carnival. This concludes our school-based carnivals for the year, and I'm not sure if my tears are tears of joy or tears of sorrow. But I do know that I look forward to building on the efforts of staff and students to make next year's carnivals even better.

Mr George McDonell



Careers Corner

New Airport Experience

A group of Year 9, 10 and 11 students visited the Western Sydney International (Nancy Bird Walton) Airport this term. We learnt a lot of interesting information and took a perimeter tour of the site.



Careers Market Excursion

140 Year 10 & 12 students visited the Careers Market at Randwick on Friday and then had lunch at the Food Quarter at Moore Park.

Thank you to our teachers who helped out and our students who were fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Mrs Tully

Careers Adviser

Human Services Info Night

VET in Schools Information Night

Are you interested in gaining a nationally recognised qualification in health through the Human Services Curriculum Framework?

We offer qualifications in
• HLT3015 Certificate III in Health Services Assistance (Assisting in nursing work in acute care) or
• HLT3015 Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance

To find out more, we are holding an information night for students, parents and teachers.

When: Thursday 12th June, 2025 at 5:00 pm
Where: Napier Hospital South Block Lecture Theatre Level 2

To register, please scan the QR code below and complete the form, or email us at NEMLHD-ETS@health.nsw.gov.au. PLEASE NOTE: If you can't attend in person, please let us know when you register and we will send you a Teams link prior to the event.



What's On at School

That's So Retro! Performing Arts Showcase

TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST for our KHS Performing Arts Showcase 2025 - "That's So Retro!" - A Tribute to the Groovy 60s!!! Wednesday 4 June 6:00-8:00pm. The Showcase will be our first community event held in 'Yanguu' our brand-new multi-purpose facility. All students, families and community are invited to join us for what promises to be another fantastic showcase of KHS talent. You can purchase your tickets now for just \$6 online [here](#) We look forward to seeing everyone there and feeling groovy!!!



ParentKIND Webinar!

All KHS parents and carers are invited to our first KHS ParentKIND Webinar to be held online at 6:30-7:30pm on Thursday 12 June.

This informative online session will focus on 'Identifying and Supporting Your Child's Potential'. This is the first in a series of webinars we are planning in response to feedback from our recent parent and carer survey.

We are very excited to have Kate Ford, Director of Educational Leadership and member of the Regional North High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) team, as our special guest speaker. Kate will be joined by the KHS HPGE Team, led by KHS Head Teacher Amber Mah and KHS Deputy Principal Brad McLeod.

Kate will explore how to identify and support potential in your child across the four key domains - intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical - as well as how parents can work with the school to ensure their child is challenged, supported, and thriving. The KHS HPGE Team will present a special focus on supporting the social-emotional domain, including managing perfectionism, motivation, and peer relationships.

Join us online to gain insights, ask questions, and connect with other families and educators committed to nurturing every student's potential. An email with details on how to join the webinar via Microsoft Teams has been sent to all parents and carers. (You don't need the Teams app or an account to join.)

If you have any queries or difficulty joining the webinar, please contact the school. KHS ParentKIND is part of our ongoing BeKIND wellbeing initiative

We hope to see you there!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL
KHS PARENTKIND EVENT


**A WEBINAR ON:
IDENTIFYING &
SUPPORTING YOUR
CHILD'S POTENTIAL**

with guest speaker Kate Ford,
Director of Educational Leadership
+ KHS Head Teacher Amber Mah
+ KHS Deputy Principal Brad McLeod

6:30-7:30pm - Thursday 12 June
Online via Microsoft Teams

DETAILS WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL TO ALL PARENTS & CARERS
PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL WITH ANY QUERIES

This event is part of the KHS 'BeKIND' Wellbeing Initiative





**UNLOCK
YOUR
POTENTIAL**

What's On at School

2026 Subject Selections

The Subject Selection process for 2026 will be taking place over the next few weeks.

Year 7 students will study two electives in Year 8. Year 8 students will study two electives in Year 9/10. Year 10 will study 6 subjects for their HSC in Year 11.

There will be an online information session about the subject selection process on Monday 16 June for Parents and Carers, followed by a 'Meet the teachers' evening at school

on Wednesday 18 June that is an opportunity for parents, carers and students to speak with teachers about their subjects.

The information presented on the Monday evening online session will not be repeated on the Wednesday, but there will be opportunity to ask questions of course.

UBUNTU Africa Concert coming to KHS!

We are very excited to welcome the amazing UBUNTU Africa from Uganda to 'Yanguu' - our new multipurpose hall - on **Friday 20 June** at 7pm-8:30pm for a very special performance as part of their East Coast Australia Tour. UBUNTU is a celebration of resilience, culture and

young talent at its finest — with powerful harmonies, electrifying African dance, and stories that will stay with you long after the final bow.

Composed of inspiring young people who began their musical journeys with the African Children's Choir, these performers have graced the world's biggest stages. They're 90-minute concert experience blends music, movement, and storytelling to connect communities and raise critical funds for education initiatives across Uganda and Kenya.

KHS students will join Ubuntu as the opening act and in the finale! Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy this very special event. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for concession, and \$10 for children under 14 and can be purchased online [here](https://www.kwaya.org)



Katoomba High School
invites parents/caregivers and students
to the
**Subject Selection Seminars and
Information Evening**
for students currently in Years 7, 8 & 10
Choosing senior subjects and junior electives for 2025

Date: Monday 16th June 2025 – ONLINE
Program: Subject Selection Information Seminars
5.00pm - Current Year 7 & 8
5.30pm - Current Year 10

Subject Selection Seminars will be delivered online
The links will be emailed to parents/caregivers in Week 7 Term 2.

No internet access?
A limited number of parents/caregivers may come to the school to access the screening of the seminars. Please contact the school to advise your intention to attend.

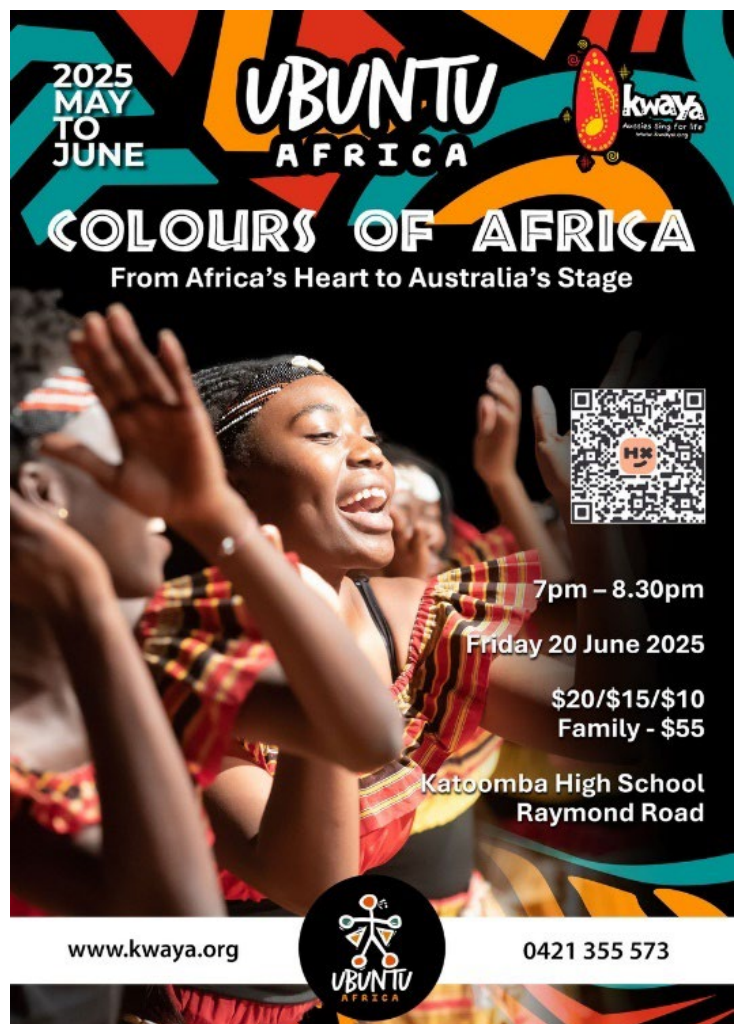
Date: Wednesday 18 June 2025 – AT THE SCHOOL
Location: Burundee (hall) @ front of school
Program: Subject Selection Information Evening
5.30pm to 7pm

Students and parents/caregivers will have an opportunity to discuss the various subjects with teachers and receive more in-depth information.

Subject Selection Books
Subject Selection books will be issued to students in Week 7 12/6 Term 2.

Submitting subject selections
Students will enter selected subject choices online.
• Online choices will open on Thursday 19th June at 9am and will close on Monday 23rd June at 9am.
• Students without internet access can use the computers in the library to enter their selections.
• Mrs Tully and Mrs Van Capelle can assist students to enter their selections online in the library.

For further information please contact Mrs Tully or Mr Hoekstra on 4782 2622 at Katoomba High School.



2025 MAY TO JUNE
UBUNTU AFRICA
COLOURS OF AFRICA
From Africa's Heart to Australia's Stage

7pm – 8.30pm
Friday 20 June 2025
\$20/\$15/\$10
Family - \$55
Katoomba High School
Raymond Road

www.kwaya.org 0421 355 573



Newsletter

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

2025
Term 2
Week 5

From the Principal

Dear Students, Families and Community,

As we reach the midway point of Term 2, I wanted to reflect on the fantastic achievements and experiences our students have been involved in so far this term. From engaging classroom activities to exciting extracurricular events, it has been a joy to witness our students thrive and grow. Thank you to all our dedicated staff, supportive families, and enthusiastic students for contributing to such a vibrant school community.

High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) is a particular focus for the Dept of Education, and it is something that we feel strongly about here at Katoomba High. We believe that high expectations combined with high support will assist student achieve their highest performance. Over the coming months, we will be talking to you about these initiatives, including at our Week 7 ParentKIND Webinar 'Identifying and Supporting Your Child's Potential' on Thursday 12th June.

Yanguu, our new multipurpose facility is now ours to use! We have held our first whole school assembly in over a decade and will now do this on a fortnightly basis! It is already in demand for sport and performing arts events!

Finally, I wanted to mention the important topic of student attendance. Regular attendance is vital for our students' learning and development. We understand that absences can happen, but we kindly ask that if your child is absent, you ensure that the reason is communicated to the school within 7 days, otherwise the leave will be marked unjustified. If you notice a partial absence that you are not sure of, please contact us as soon as possible to enable us to verify these instances.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

For students who are away for a significant number of days in a term or year due to illness, we kindly request that you provide a doctor's certificate to help us maintain accurate attendance records. Additionally, if you are planning to take your child out of school for travel leave exceeding five days, please submit a travel leave application prior to your departure.

You can find more information from the NSW Dept of Education on the legislative and policy requirements for school attendance on the [PDF here](#). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a culture of attendance and engagement at our school. Let's keep up the great work as we move forward into the rest of the term!

Regards,

Tess Devine

Principal

Position Vacant: HSC Presiding Officer.

Katoomba High School is looking for a new HSC Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer oversees the Higher School Certificate examinations each year in October/November. This role would suit a person who is retired or available at this time of year to administer the examinations. People with children or relatives who are completing the HSC this year are not eligible.

If you would like a copy of the role description, please contact Mrs Tully at the school via email katoomba-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or phone 4782 2622.

KATOOMBA HIGH SCHOOL

HSC
PRESIDING
OFFICER
NEEDED

Community Noticeboard



VINNIES IS HERE TO HELP

Join us for the Katoomba Vinnies Expo to learn about Vinnies Support Services in the Blue Mountains.

Katoomba Public School - 18 Merriwa St, Katoomba
Thursday 5 June 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Afternoon tea provided by Vinnies Vans.

For more information, contact Roydon Ng:
M: 0487 001 186 | E: roydon.ng@vinnies.org.au

*Parental or guardian supervision of students is required.



Food Pantry

TUESDAY
10AM - 12 NOON
KATOOMBA SDA CHURCH
4 COOMONDERRY ST
KATOOMBA

Gold coin donation

ALL WELCOME

OUTDOOR EXPLORE UPCOMING ADVENTURES

Try exciting
new things
& stretch
your
comfort
zone

Join us for
adventurous
activities

Connect with
nature &
other young
people

Transport
leaving
Katoomba or
Springwood

Ages 12 to 15:
Please still reach
out if you're not
in this age group.

Build skills &
explore your
potential

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday 17th May
10am to 4pm

Saturday 14th June
10am to 4pm

School holidays Tuesday 15th
& Wednesday 16th July.



0493 025 772 | outdoorexplore@myst.com.au | www.myst.com.au




For more information please email: headspacekatoomba@uniting.org or ring: 1800 478 626



Community Noticeboard


Author in Conversation
Tegan Bennett Daylight
Springwood Library • 11 June • 7pm



FREE event - bookings essential
online • bluemountainslibrary.eventbrite.com.au OR call or visit any library branch

BLUE MOUNTAINS LIBRARY | The Turning Page BOOKSHOP | blue mountains City Council

The GREAT ESCAPE
Free Day of Adventure Activities
for Years 7 & 8



The Great Escape is a free school holiday program for young people in Years 7 – 8 (aged 12 – 14) designed to enhance wellbeing and healthy choices.

Includes:
Creative workshops
Adventure activities
Lunch & snacks
Risks and healthy choices
information sessions

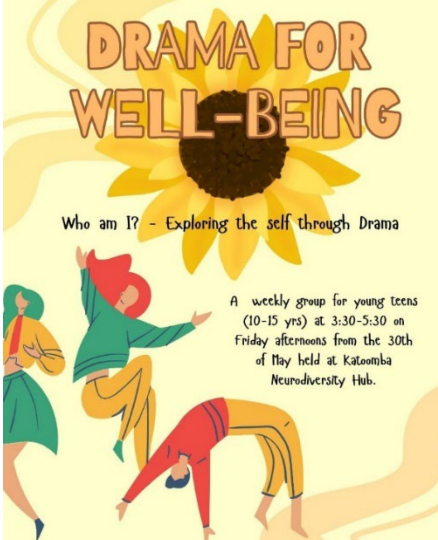
When & Where:
Friday 11 July 2025
9am - 5pm
The Y Camp,
Yarramundi
(transport available)

Register by:
9am, 30 June 2025
(Limited places)

For more information
or to register
[bmcc.nsw.gov.au/
whats-on/great-escape](https://bmcc.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/great-escape)



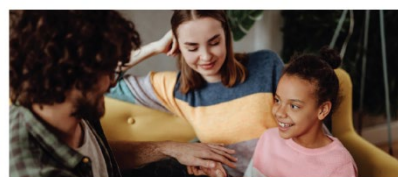
DRAMA FOR WELL-BEING
Who am I? - Exploring the self through Drama



A weekly group for young teens (10-15 yrs) at 3:30-5:30 on Friday afternoons from the 30th of May held at Katoomba Neurodiversity Hub.

For more information and bookings contact Pixie 0401613044

KATOOMBA NEURODIVERSITY HUB
Lower Ground Floor
33-35 Waratah St, Katoomba
(underneath Catalina)
4781 2131
hello@kathub.com



Become a foster carer today

Open your heart and home to a child in need

We urgently need more foster carers in NSW, and you could be who we're looking for!



Interested?
Snap the code to learn more

- **Make a difference**
Give stability and support to a child or young person.
- **Be rewarded**
Transform lives, including your own.
- **Be part of the community**
Join a network making an impact in young lives.

wesley mission

The Kidman Centre UTS

FREE WORKSHOP CALENDAR 2025

The Kidman Centre UTS is a youth mental health treatment and research centre based at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick.

These workshops are designed to equip parents and caregivers with practical, evidence-based psychological strategies to help them navigate a range of life's challenges.

To register for a workshop please make sure to sign up:
<https://tinyurl.com/KidmanParentWorkshops>



WORKSHOP 1
Raising Resilient Kids: Helping Children Manage Anxiety
WHO IS THIS FOR: Parents and caregivers of children aged 6-12
DESCRIPTION: Learn how to support your child's anxiety using practical tools drawn from Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). This workshop explores the science behind anxiety and introduces strengths-based strategies that help children challenge unhelpful thinking and build brave behaviours.
TUES 27 MAY 2025 (6-7PM)

WORKSHOP 2
Teen Anxiety (Part 1): Understanding Worry and Thinking Traps
WHO IS THIS FOR: Parents and caregivers of teens aged 12-18
DESCRIPTION: Does your teen get stuck in their worries? In this first session of our two-part series, we unpack the science of anxiety and explore how to support teens using CBT-based strategies to manage worry, rumination, and unhelpful thinking patterns.
TUES 10 JUNE 2025 (6-7PM)

WORKSHOP 3
Teen Anxiety (Part 2): Building Confidence with Exposure Strategies
WHO IS THIS FOR: Parents and caregivers of teens aged 12-18
DESCRIPTION: Building on Part 1, this session focuses on how to support teens in facing their fears—like public speaking or social situations—using step-by-step exposure therapy techniques. Learn how to create an exposure hierarchy to reduce avoidance and build confidence.
WED 9 JULY 2025 (4-5PM)

WORKSHOP 4
Making Space for Anxiety: Tools from Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
WHO IS THIS FOR: Parents and caregivers of anxious children or teens
DESCRIPTION: This workshop introduces practical tools from Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) to help young people make room for anxiety, rather than fight it. We'll explore mindfulness, defusion strategies, and values-based actions that support emotional flexibility.
MON 4 AUG 2025 (6-7PM)

WORKSHOP 5
Body Calm: Relaxation Skills to Support Emotional Distress
WHO IS THIS FOR: Parents and caregivers of children and teens
DESCRIPTION: Does your child experience nausea, muscle tension, a racing heart, or other physiological signs of distress? This workshop explores body-based coping tools including progressive muscle relaxation, calming breath techniques, grounding skills, and mindfulness to help regulate the body's response to stress.
TUES 26 AUG 2025 (6-7PM)

Call us 02 9514 4077
Email us rounna.dhang@uts.edu.au
The Kidman Centre UTS
Parkes 10 East
Prince of Wales Hospital
High Street
Randwick Sydney 2031
@thekidmancentres