

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

2024 Term 2 Week 10

Coming Up

Mon 21 Jul - Term 3 Staff Development Day

Tue 22 Jul - Term 3 First Day Back for All Students

Wed 23 Jul - Year 10 and Year 7 Vaccinations and Catch-Ups

We are very happy to share our endof-term newsletter. Wishing all our students, staff, families and friends a safe and restful winter break. We look forward to seeing everyone back together again for a fantastic Term 3!

Annual Elders Lunch

On Wednesday 4th June, Year 12 Hospitality students attended the Annual Community Elders Lunch event at Lawson Community Centre along with Year 7 student James Pollock who photographed the event.

The students proudly helped host around 80 Indigenous and non-Indigenous Elders at this special celebration held in the spirit of reconciliation.

Students had the pleasure of working alongside Blue Mountains Food Services and their dedicated volunteers to cater a delicious twocourse lunch. The Elders enjoyed a warm meal, live entertainment, and plenty of shared laughter. Students also had the opportunity to sit with the Elders, share stories, and engage in some lovely, meaningful conversations.

It was a wonderful day filled with community spirit, celebration,

conversation, connection, a lovely meal, fantastic music, and even a little dancing.

Thank you to the wonderful people at Belong Blue Mountains and Blue Mountains Food Services, and Mrs Hanrahan for giving our students the opportunity to be part of the event. Thank you to all the students for representing our school community so well, and special thanks to James for sharing such lovely images.















Photos by James Pollock, Year 7



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Around the Grounds

Year 10 Special Interest History Projects

On Friday 27 June, three Year 10 HSIE classes presented the final products of a project they have been working on for the past three weeks.

This was the final culminating project for Year 10 History. Students were asked to choose an independent study topic that interests them such as feminism, environmentalism, capitalism, fascism etc, and research how the idea has changed over time and influenced our society.

From this work students then created a product that was displayed in a project expo in the Common Room.

The students worked in pairs or groups. They all chose very different topics or different aspects of a topic. The students really took this opportunity and ran with it and the final products were outstanding.

All of the students engaged so well in the process as well as the final expo. Well done to everyone! Mr Regan is to be congratulated for his amazing efforts in organising this fantastic activity.













Ubuntu at School

The amazing Ubuntu choir from Africa made a surprise visit to school on the day of their Katoomba concert to give students a little taste of the show! They sang and danced and drummed to a rousing applause. They also spoke about their story and met students afterwards. Such a privilege to have these wonderful young people at our school.









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Subject Selection Night

Big thank you to our Careers Adviser, Mrs Tully, who coordinated the subject selection information events and interview processes that occurred this term, along with the excursions and speakers to help students identify their interests and passions. Thank you also to all the staff who helped with interviews, the online sessions and the Subject Selection Evening. And special thanks to all of the students and families who along came participated so enthusiastically in the exciting process of choosing from the extensive range of subjects available at our school.

































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TAS News

Celebrating Student Success in Year 12 Construction

Building Skills, Building Futures

Year 12 Construction students have once again demonstrated their outstanding craftsmanship, teamwork, and dedication through the successful completion of a largescale poultry coop project – and what a remarkable structure it is!

Set against the tranquil backdrop of our agricultural plot, this purposebuilt coop is a testament to the practical skills our senior students have developed throughout their Construction studies. From interpreting architectural drawings to mastering concreting, steel cladding installation, framing, hanging doors and secure mesh fitting, students engaged in a broad range of real-world tasks aligned with industry expectations. Under expert supervision, they tackled challenges with resilience - gaining confidence in everything from accurate measurement and tool use to problem-solving and site safety.

But the benefits don't stop at the toolbelt. This impressive coop plays a vital role in enhancing our Agricultural program. Designed with both function and safety in mind, it allows for the development of a heritage chicken breeding program which will complement our commitment to sustainable, hands-on agricultural learning. With dedicated zones for nesting,



roosting, and secure nighttime shelter, this facility supports increased egg production and paves the way for future opportunities to sell chickens and fresh, free-range eggs to the community.

By creating a high-quality, secure housing solution, our students have directly contributed to the safety and wellbeing of our school's chickens and by extension, to the learning of countless Agriculture students for years to come. It's a wonderful example of two subjects coming together in harmony: Construction students learning valuable trade skills while supporting a thriving, productive farm environment.

We congratulate our Year 12 Construction students on this outstanding achievement – a legacy that combines skill, sustainability, and the spirit of enterprise.

Hands-on learning. Real-world outcomes. That's education done right.

Mr McLaurin. Construction & Agriculture Teacher.

Announcing a new addition to our KHS family!

Ewes always seem to choose the worst weather to drop their lambs, but our newest flock member born on Monday is doing well.

This little bundle of cuteness has even attracted the attention of the Channel 7 news crew who visited the school on Friday to film the new lamb for a story about our ag program for their 'Bright Side' news segment! The little one was a star in front of the camera, but mum was very vocal about all of the attention!





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Outstanding Progress in Year 11 Construction Project

An impressive level of craftsmanship and teamwork has been on display this term as the Year 11 Construction students have been steadily working on their innovative flat pack chicken coops.

Throughout the term, careful attention to detail, strong collaboration, and problem-solving skills have been demonstrated across the board.

The coops, measuring 2.4 metres long, 1.5 metres wide, and 1.8 metres high at the lowest point, have been designed with both function and durability in mind. A large window, designed to open fully, has been incorporated for ventilation and ease of access.

The construction features full corrugated iron cladding and galvanised weld mesh, ensuring both protection and longevity for the chickens.

Each coop's frame has been built using H3-treated pine and fully housed joints, making it well-suited for outdoor conditions and built to last.

Upon completion, the coops will be sold by tender. A reserve starting price of \$1800 has been set, with community interest already building.

All funds raised will be reinvested into the Construction program, allowing new resources and tools to be purchased for future student projects.

This project has provided an invaluable opportunity for students to apply practical skills in a real-

world context. High standards of safety, workmanship, and collaboration have been consistently maintained, and the pride taken in the finished product is clearly seen.

The school community is encouraged to stay tuned for tender information in the coming weeks.

Mr McLaurin. VET Construction Teacher.



Year 11 Timber Students Craft Stunning Wine Tables

There's something truly special about the pride and craftsmanship that comes from creating something with your own two hands—and our Year 11 Timber students have certainly delivered on that with their latest project: beautifully hand-crafted timber wine tables.

Using a blend of traditional woodworking techniques and modern design thinking, students have produced elegant, highquality pieces that wouldn't look out of place in a boutique furniture showroom. Each table showcases individual flair while meeting the demanding technical specifications of the brief. demonstrating impressive an balance between creativity and precision.

One look at the sleek turned pedestal bases and gracefully curved legs, and it's clear these are ordinary school projects. no Students have worked with Australian hardwoods, carefully and finishing shaping each component to ensure durability and beauty. Their attention to detailfrom flawless joinery to smooth sanding and oil finishes—speaks volumes about the pride they take in their work.

Even more impressive is the way students have embraced challenges with resilience and determination. The timber workshop has been buzzing with focus and energy as students refined their designs and overcame the intricacies of complex turning and assembly techniques.



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These projects are more than just furniture—they're a celebration of craftsmanship, hands-on learning, and personal achievement. A huge congratulations to our Year 11 Timber class for their outstanding efforts. Their finished products are not only functional and stylish but also stand as a testament to what can be achieved through hard work, skill, and a commitment to excellence.

We can't wait to see what these talented young makers will create next.

Mr McLaurin. TAS Timber teacher.







Farm it Forward Fridays 🌱

Friday afternoon was filled with sunshine, connection and creativity at our Farm It Forward workshop.

To top it off, <u>Channel 7</u> News stopped by to chat with students about the FIF Program. Year 12 student, Jude Bennett proudly shared what we do: growing, harvesting, creating nature-based crafts, and building community.

We also began work on our next collaborative artwork — "Mapping Our Landscape" — using canvas and latch hook kits supplied by the wonderful Manu. Then it was time to pack boxes full of fresh, organic produce ready for collection by our community.

We sipped tea, snacked on kiwi and roasted cauliflower, packed veggie boxes for the community, and took in the peaceful afternoon together.

A perfect way to wrap up Term 2.

Thank you, Farm It Forward, for your open hearts and deep commitment to connection. We are so grateful to work alongside you.













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KHS Out and About

Titration Competition

On Friday 27th June, nine students from Year 11 and Year 12 Chemistry represented our school brilliantly participated in the as they prestigious Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) NSW Schools Titration Competition. A titration is an experiment used to determine the unknown concentration of an acid, and it immense skills requires in precision and accuracy. The students attended several training sessions with Miss Kiah in the lead up to the comp and although they didn't place in the top three on the day, they performed very well under pressure against the other public and independent schools from around Sydney.

Miss Kiah





Ubuntu Africa at KHS!

Thank you to everyone who came along to see Ubuntu at KHS on Friday 20 June. What an amazing group of performers and what a wonderful community event!

Thank you to our beautiful Burudyara Dancers who performed their Acknowledgment of Country dance and message to open the night. And thank you to the students who got involved in the final song of the night! Thank you also to Mr McLeod who helped make it all happen.

But thanks most of all to the army of volunteers who supported the Ubuntu Australian tour and made this very special event happen. You can find out more about Ubuntu and donate to support this wonderful initiative <u>here</u>









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Spotlight on CAPA

Performing Arts on Show!

Oh what a night! Congratulations and thank you to everyone who took part in the KHS Performing Arts Showcase "That's So Retro!" on Wednesday 4th June! Our student performers were fabulous, as were the KHS staff who performed! Thanks especially to the CAPA team who organised the whole thing and supported their performers so well. Thanks to the SRC for putting on a fantastic selection of refreshments. Also, to the other teachers, admin and tech staff who helped on the night and in the lead up. It was a huge team effort and I want everyone to know how much it is appreciated. And a heartfelt thank you to all of the families and community members who came along to support our students. We hope you enjoyed the show!

From a member on Facebook...

It was absolutely brilliant! The lovely, special welcome to country, singing, dancing, music, costumes all delivered beautifully showing off KHS talented students. Need to comment on the "Tupperware" skit. Funny, so well acted, timing and accents perfect, and also а reminder about women, our young women supporting each other without judgment. And of course, the backstage people, and the teachers / staff who gave up their time to make this such a successful cabaret. Really enjoyed the 60s theme, took me back... Thankyou























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'Tupperware' Tribute!

Congratulations to Year 11 Drama for their original playbuilt performance entitled "Tupperware" performed in the recent 1960s showcase at KHS on the 4th June in our wonderful new multipurpose The piece space. was conceptualised last year based off an old 30 second Tupperware commercial, however was fully devised this year during some of our Drama classes.

Thank you to all Year 11 Drama students and credit to Lucy Davies for being our resident script writer once it was all coming together. We spent many lessons researching, characterising, blocking and learning and refining hair, costume and make up ideas and generally having fun creating this original playbuilt work!

Well done to Year 11 Drama on your extremely impressive acting and theatre devising efforts!

Thanks also to our wonderful MC's and content creators Tess Rogan and Malaika Bickford! And to Ms Paulley and the Art Dept for the props!" – Ms Williams









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Sydney Theatre Company Incursion

On Wednesday, 2nd of July we were fortunate for Sydney Theatre Company to visit our school and hold a workshop with Australian actor and writer Dr Linden Wilkinson! Students from Yrs 8,10 and 11 Drama participated and learnt further skills in characterisation, play building and creative concepts. Thank you for your visit to our school Linden. It was such a treat!





Western NSW Dance Festival

On Monday 16th June, the KHS Dance Ensemble travelled to Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre to participate in the Western NSW Dance Festival. Students participated in a technical run before the show where they received some very positive feedback from event organisers. The Ensemble performed in both the 5pm and 7pm shows and were fantastic! We had a fun day together and the students represented the school proudly. The students have been rehearsing for several weeks in preparation for the performance, and have shown dedication to learning the choreography and working together as a team. The students involved in the Ensemble this year are, Frankie Leslie, Sylvia Moore, Alyssa Sommerville, Frankie Littleford, Maia Bateman, Ava Roberts, Taya Granger, Talara Blackburn , Alby Cook, Portia Wright, Arabella Forrest and Natalya Kelly.

Mrs Holz



















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The Sports Page

Sydney West Cross Country Carnival

Selected students who qualified through the Zone Cross Country Carnival competed at the Sydney Carnival on West Thursday 26.5.2025 at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre. In perfect running conditions our Katoomba High Students represented the school and zone with pride. There were some outstanding performers including Annabel dominating the 18s girls race along with Frank winning the 14s Boys race. The saga that is Amber vs Tani continued at Sydney West with Tani getting the upper hand in this battle. Congratulations to all of our competitors on the day.

Mr George McDonell

Undefeated Soccer Stars!

Our Open Girls soccer team has made school history with a remarkable and undefeated campaign in the Sydney West Region competition, securing their place in the prestigious NSW Combined High Schools Knockout Tournament.

Congratulations to team members Evie Schembri, Daisy Glass, Grace Hogan, Hazel Walters, Chloe Flugge, Tilda Horne, Nina Mimica, Eve Seldon, Allyssa Ng-Saad, Lu-Anne Angwin, Kaya Peacock, Sarah Healy, Tani Hoffman, Amber-Lee Bergmann, Annabel Dignam, and Saskia Krinks. The team has progressed further than any Katoomba High squad before them, advancing to the Round of 8 in the statewide comp.

Their road to the final 8 has been nothing short of

impressive. The team began their campaign with a hard-fought 2–1 victory over Blaxland High, followed by a dominant 6–2 win against Glenwood High. In a high-scoring thriller, they edged out The Ponds High 6–4, before closing the regional stage with a commanding 6–2 triumph over Glenmore Park.

The squad's strong performance this season has been marked by a blend of individual talent and gritty teamwork. Leading the charge has been prolific striker Allyssa Ng-Saad who has been unstoppable.

While goals win games, it's been the team's overall balance that has set them apart. Tilda Horne has embraced a new role at centre back solidifying the defence. Sarah Healy, stepping into the goalkeeper position has shown resilience and bravery under pressure. Amber-Lee Bergmann has been another key figure, showcasing her versatility and tireless effort across multiple positions.

"They've shown incredible spirit and drive," said coach Mrs Kirby Marsh. "This group of girls believe in each other, and that belief has taken them to a new level. Every single player has given their all and played an integral role in this team's success."



Exceptional Team Effort

The Open Girls Soccer team this week travelled to Albion Park for the next round of the CHS tournament. An outstanding team effort saw the girls take out the game 8-0. It was an exceptional display of teamwork, tenacity and strategic Their defence football. was impenetrable, the midfield calm and controlled, and the forwards were relentless. The team will now face Armidale Secondary College in a home game with the entire KHS community behind them. Coach Marsh has worked hard on developing a cohesive unit, with each and every player contributing to the team goal. Thank you to all the parents and carers who drive down and watched the game. It was fantastic to hear and feel your support, the girls, school and staff very much appreciate it.

Well done you legends!

Mr Boothroyd





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Outdoor Ed Adventures

Epic Year 9 Expedition

Year 9 Outdoor Ed 2 and 3 have been planning for their overnight expedition for most of term 2. We went through route planning and navigation skills in class where students marked their own maps which were then laminated to bring on the hike. Students have practiced cooking twice this year on camp cookers, first with noodles, then recently cooking pasta pesto in their double period on Tuesdays.

On the morning of the hike we packed all our gear, checked that we had all the fuel for cookers, maps and compasses and other gear needed before setting off. Mr Everson's class drove to Evans lookout car park to start the hike. They walked down the Horse Acacia Flat Track to to camp. Huxley's Class parked at Mt Hay Road and walked out to Lockleys Pilon then down past Dufaur Head into the valley. Students set up camp, collected water and cooked dinner before some camp games.

Day 2 started early with breakfast and packing up camp before the steep walk out of the valley to the other bus waiting. The weather on the way up reminding us all that it is important to have rain jackets packed as there was no rain on the forecast.

Well done to all the students. Everyone enjoyed the experience, and I'm sure slept well back in their own beds that night.



Big Thanks for Mr R Simone and Emilia Delion for coming along as guides on the hike. KHS has a great OE program that would not run without the support of teachers at school and guides that come along to support on expeditions.

Mr Huxley.









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Duke of Ed GOLD Award

Congratulations to 2024 Year 12 student Arlo Langley for receiving the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Arlo worked with enormous dedication from Year 9 to Year 12 to complete various levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

For his Recreation he played AFL. His Skill was acoustic guitar and his Service was various leadership opportunities at Katoomba High School. For his Adventurous Journeys he hiked through The Wild Dog Mountains, The Great North Walk, Kosciuszko National Park on various expeditions.

Arlo has developed his bushcraft, navigation and leadership skills to become an outstanding example of a student that has the drive and passion to work towards goals and achieve them.

The completion of a Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award is something that should be celebrated. Well done, Arlo!

Mr Huxley. Outdoor Education Teacher. Duke of Edinburgh's Award Leader.

2024 Term 2 Week 10



Duke of Ed Bronze Awards

Congratulations also to Georgina Touhill, Kobi Gulson and Dominic Newling who have joined the distinguished group of KHS students when they received their Duke of Ed Bronze Awards recently.

Well done to all of our dedicated Duke of Ed students who achieve so much every year as they progress through this amazing program.

Special thanks to My Morgan Huxley who does such an incredible job leading the Duke of Ed program at KHS. Thank you also to all of the teachers and staff who support this initiative in so many ways.





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From the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers, Students & Staff,

This week I attended the Dept of Education Secretary's Roadshow at Kingswood High School. It was a great opportunity to hear about Murat Dizdar's vision for the future of public education – he is a huge advocate.

There are some fantastic initiatives happening in Public Education now and over the next few years. And with the agreement recently signed with the Commonwealth Government to fully fund public schools, we hope that we will see even more improvements.

The NSW Plan for Public Education is an important document that sets out these goals. If you are interested in learning more about the 2024-2027 plan, you can access it <u>here</u> It feels to me that it is a great time to be part of public education!



There has been so much going on in Term 3 it is hard sometimes to keep track of it all!

I'd first like to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our students and staff and thank everyone for your hard work and dedication this term. Today, we recognised 33 outstanding students who have demonstrated exceptional commitment with 99 or 100% attendance. Your dedication to being present and engaged in your learning is commendable, and I hope you enjoy the small token of recognition we presented to you.

This term has also marked a significant milestone for our school, as we held our first whole school assembly in Yanguu in ten years! It was a fantastic to be able to bring everyone together!

I would also like to extend my gratitude to our incredible teachers and support staff, who consistently go above and beyond for our students. Whether it's organising overnight hikes and camps, coordinating interesting excursions, or producing our performing arts events, your passion and commitment do not go unnoticed.

I particularly have been struck this term with the attitude of curiosity that they approach their jobs her at Katoomba High – the desire to understand their students and continue to develop their own skills. The additional professional learning you engage in and the collaborative teams you join are instrumental in enhancing the educational experience for our students.

Finally, this term we say a fond farewell to Mr John Tognolini who is taking leave pending his retirement from teaching. John has had a long career with the Dept of Education in many schools. We would like to sincerely thank him for his service and commitment to teaching. We wish him all the very best for the future and a well-deserved retirement.



Wishing everyone a restful and enjoyable break. I look forward to seeing you in Term 3!

Kind Regards,

Tess Devine

Principal



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Community Noticeboard







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Community Noticeboard

July 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**

Awesome Portraits with Naomi Oliver

10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6 Monday 7th July, Katoomba Library.

Monday 14th July, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1.

Let's bring your favorite animal to life in 3DJ We'll use cardboard, egg cartons, and colorful POSCA pens to build a wild and wonderful animal face that pops right off the page! What creature



Pendant Cabochon with Naomi Oliver 12 to 1pm |Year 5 - Year 12 | \$6 Monday 7th July, Katoomba Library. Ionday 14th July, Springwood Hub, Mtg Rm 1. Use your collage, drawing and design skills to create a one-of-a-kind pendant.

Let's Draw an Adventure-Mobile! with Bill Hope. 10 to 11am | Kindy - Year 6 | \$6

Thursday 10th July, Katoomba Library. How will you go on your adventure? By car? By Boat? By Plane? By jet-powered, supersonic, banana-shaped



Draw a See-Through Self-Portrait, with Bill Hope. 12 to 1pm | Year 5 - Year 12 | \$6

Thursday 10th July, Katoomba Library. What's inside your head? A control centre filled with screens and buttons? Dreams of being a star? The same song over and over again?

Draw a portrait of the inside of your head, whatever you might find in there.

BLUE MOUNTAINS LIBRARY

spaceship?



Science Fair & Hub Picnic Day Springwood Hub, Meeting Room 1 & Hub Forecourt

Tuesday 15th July | 11am to 2pm | Free - Drop-in Blue Mountains Library is hosting our Science Fair during the ub Picnic Day. Pairing with the Hub's show, You are A Doughnut,

we will be focusing many of our science displays on the human body. Gross facts, cool models and fabulous books and resources. We will be joined by BMCC Waterways & Community Teams who will bring awesome displays and craft. Bring a picnic, hang out at the library's Science Fair and join in with fun, science based activities and craft.

Re-imagine Waste Workshop: Altered Books, Robots, Pet Portraits Friday 18th July 110 to 11.30am

Planetary Health Meeting Room 1 Acacia St Katoomba Families / Teens | Free - Bookings Essential

Join BMCC's Community, Library & Waste Teams for fun and creative reuse at our Re-imagine Waste Workshop. We will have discarded books, common plastics and metal recycling, collage and art materials to use and re-use!

Book a place for your family or small (max 4/ per booking) group of friends.





Winter Warmers - Collaborative Creations All Blue Mountains Library Branches Saturday 5th July - Sunday 20th July | Free - Drop-in

Cosy up in your library branch this winter school holidays and hang your design by the fireplace. olour your winter woollies design, crochet a heart, or leave a heart-warming message or yummy favourite

recipe to warm the hearts of others.





Helicity activities 820 per person. Most activities are onsite at Blackheath 10am-12pm. Spotlight in bid at Katoomba Som-zom. Grand Cliff Top Walk is held at Wanhowth Falls. Meet 15 mins before activity start time. T 02 4784 7301 E BlueMtns.Education@environment.nsw.gov.au particle.info/bluemountainskids





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Community Noticeboard





Free snacks will be provided after we visit the gallery and we'll talk about the art.

> ALL YOUNG PEOPLE NAIDOC WEEK GALLERY VISIT with headspace

> > Tuesday 8 July 2025 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Blue Mountains Cultural Centre 30 Parke Street, Katoomba

Meet in front of the library doors

REGISTRATION REQUIRED Email for form: headspacekatoomba@uniting.org







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2024 Term 2 Week 10

Community Noticeboard



NRMA A Help Company

FREE EmergencyRedi™ Workshop

Working together to prepare for disasters

You're invited to attend a FREE community workshop delivered by Australian Red Cross.

This workshop will help you to prepare for emergencies. It provides you with an introduction to emergency preparedness, helps you start your own emergency RediPlan and gives you the information and tools to continue preparing yourself, and those you care about, for emergencies. As part of Help Nation, an NRMA Insurance initiative, this workshop will also help you learn about vour local risks.

Date: Monday 7 July 2025 Time: 1.00pm - 2.30pm Contact: Milo Prado | 0417 979 378 86 Lurline St. Katoomba NSW 2780



You can double your savings. If you save up to \$50 a month for 10 months, you could get up to \$500 from ANZ when you finish the program.

- To be eligible you need to meet these requirements:
- Be 18 years or older
- ${f M}$ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ${f {f M}}$ Be studying yourself, have a child in school or starting school next ye
- Get regular income (can be you or your partner)*
- Agree to join free online financial education workshops

Income, eligibility and participation criteria apply.





Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services. Learn more at www.saverplus.org.au



