



26th March 2019, Term 1 Week 9

Katoomba North Public School Community News

COMING EVENTS

April

- 2nd 5/6 Excursion to Circular Quay
- 9th Possum Magic Excursion
- 12th Easter Hat Parade
- 30th ANZAC Service

May

- 10th Cross Country
- 14th NAPLAN
- 15th NAPLAN
- 16th NAPLAN
- 28th Stage 2 Tree Planting – Melrose Park
- 30th Stage 1 Aquarium Excursion

June

- 7th Teddy Bears' Picnic
- 21st Grandparents' Day
- 25th Choir – Katoomba Public School
- 27th KNPS Play Day

July

- 1st-5th NAIDOC Week
- 4th Talent Quest
- 5th Talent Quest
- AFL – Friday Sport

Seniors' Morning Tea



Barton Street, Katoomba 2780
Office Hours: 8.30am – 3.00pm
Principal: Cathy Clark



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Phone: 4782 2743 Fax: 4782 3871
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly a huge thank you to parents and carers who helped make our BBQ and cake stall such a success. At the next election (Federal Govt in May) we are thinking of having pumpkin soup and a BBQ. Hope you can either make soup or help on the day. Trudie Corney, Caroline Gilligan-Payne, Elke Rossa, Kazzia Kelly, Abbie Payne, Ruth Cayzer, and Eduardo Escobar joined with staff, (Mrs Fowler, Mrs Corney, Ms McNab, Ms Cosgrove and Mrs Fendall,) and we were able to raise over \$1300. All the parents who baked, WOW what a wonderful assortment of cakes, slices and sweets you provided us.

My thanks go also to Leura Butchery for supplying gluten free sausages, bacon and free range eggs and the Buttery at Katoomba who provided bread rolls. I have heard we had the best sausages and bread rolls compared to other schools.

Calendar Events

The last two weeks at school are very busy. Here is a reminder of what is happening:

Week 10

Tuesday 2nd April - Years 5/6 are off to Circular Quay as part of their Geography topic. On the same day our junior choir have their first rehearsal for the Narragunnawali Festival.

Thursday 4th April is the SRC term 1 disco. The cost of the disco includes a sausage sizzle, lolly bag and entry. K-2 disco starts at 5.30-6.30 pm and years 3-6 time is from 6.45-7.45pm. Children will need to be picked up by an adult.

Week 11

All students K-4 on the 9th April travel to the Joan Sutherland Centre to see Possum Magic. The cost for this excursion is \$16 plus the train fare. All students require an Opal card with enough money to cover the train cost.

The last day of term, **12th April**, will be the annual **Easter Hat Parade**. We are planning a pre-order lunch for the day. Please check your child's bag for details on how to order lunch.

Senior's Morning Tea

This was held with Katoomba Neighbourhood Centre last Thursday (14th March). We had over 25 seniors visit our school. Our school leaders did a fantastic job welcoming our community and even helped serve them lemonade scones for morning tea. Our students provided singing and musical entertainment. We were also treated to some opera singing by one of our visitors. We look forward to combining again with the Neighbourhood Centre during the year for other activities.

Students have enjoyed participating in AFL for sport this term. Mrs Fendall organized our school to receive a grant from Sporting Schools. Next term she has secured a grant for basketball.

OT students

Last year we applied to Western Sydney University to be considered as one of the schools that would participate in an occupational therapy program. We were successful in that submission resulting in the school having four 2nd year OT students write and start an OT program with some students.

The university students will visit our school next week and spend time observing some students in the classroom and playground with an emphasis on students' fine and gross motor skills. Then in term 2 they will come to our school and provide OT support to selected students across the school. As the OT students will be taking 4-6 KNPS students in a group your child may be included in the program. If you do not want your child included please let me know.

NAPLAN

This year in May our school is completing NAPLAN online. This essentially means that tests excluding writing will be online. Writing is still a pen/paper test. NAPLAN is for years 3 and 5 students. They sit reading, language conventions, writing and numeracy tests. This week students will sit practice tests so they are familiar with how to manipulate rulers, log in etc. If your child is in year 3 or 5 and you do not want your child to complete NAPLAN please let me know so we can withdraw them from the tests.

Apology to Yanna

And finally I owe Yanna A-H not one but two apologies. Last newsletter had a picture of House Captains and Yanna's name was missing from the photo. Then the next exclusion was for the list of students who represented our school at the swimming carnival. Again Yanna was left from the list. Sorry Yanna, you are a very valuable member who has represented our school at many activities.

Everyone enjoy the Autumn holidays and keep safe.

Cathy Clark, Principal of The Best School in the Blue Mountains.

Young Archie 2019

I would like to thank all the students who participated in this year's Young Archie competition. Each Monday afternoon after school these dedicated students worked on developing their skills to complete their portraits for the Young Archie. I would like to wish them all the very best for their entries.

Ms Abela



I have chosen my mum because she is an inspiration to my life. She has been through so much and still has the strength to do so many things and has helped so many people. The thing I love most about her is she is compassionate and has the ability to never give up. I would never have the time and patience like she does. My mum tells the best stories. It's like you are there in her imagination. Mum makes me realise that mums do so much for their children, but we barely ever thank them for their love.

Isabella

I have chosen to depict my little brother Damien in my portrait because he is very special to me. He is like my other half and he is my only sibling. We always do things together. We play with our scooters and bicycles outside after school. We run around, kick and hit balls on warm school holidays. We spend the weekends chasing the sunrise at the beach and laugh our hearts out while being chased by waves. Most of all Damien is always by my side when I feel sad, giving me hugs and kisses. I couldn't ask for a better brother.

Miahnie



I have a lot of role models in my life but of all the people that I look up to I think that I look up to my mum the most. There are many reasons why I look up to my mum. Some of the reasons are, she is kind, compassionate and always looks out for everyone. She also stays up late looking after my levels at night. My mum has a beautiful heart and soul. I really look up to my mum and I love her a lot.

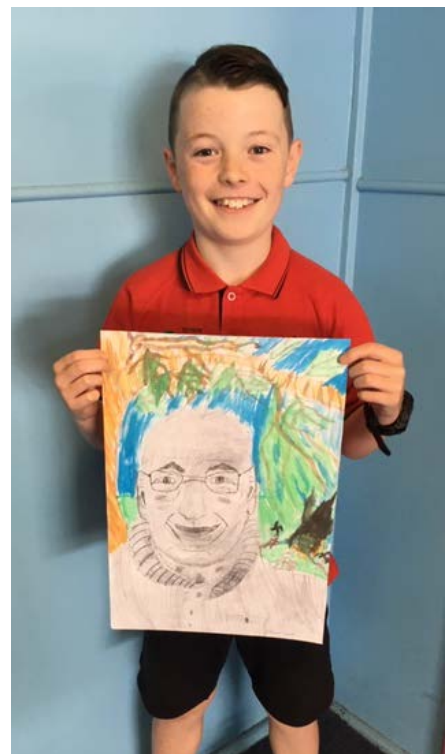
Ayla



I chose my little sister Keira. She is my only sibling. I chose her because she is always trying to cheer me up when I am feeling down. Keira is always trying to me laugh. I am very lucky to have a sister like her because she is always helping me. Keira is always there for me when I need her. She means a lot to me and I love her very much. Yanna

I chose to draw my grandpa because he is funny, kind and caring. When he was four years old his dad died and a few years later while he was living in Leongatha his whole house burnt down and he lost everything. Even though my grandpa has had adversity in his life he is always smiling. Grandpa teaches me to never to give up. Life is hard sometimes. Family and faith is what is important. When I think of grandpa I think of his eyes which seem to smile. This is a memory I always want to have of him.

James



My portrait is of my grandpa, Peter Montgomery Brown, who is my mother's father. He was born in England 1937, which makes him 82 years old this year. He grew up in Canada and retired to Australia with my grandma. I chose to sketch grandpa because he is a very kind and caring man. He always has a new story to tell. He lives in Queensland so I don't get to see him very often but he writes me great letters. We try to visit at least twice a year. He is always busy doing things to help the environment. I can't wait to see him again.

Archie

School Representative Council Members for 2019

1C – Roy and Vera

2G – Jaiden and Hayley

3A – Jasmine and Marco

4T – Phoebe and Kai

5C – Yanna and Oliver

Aboriginal Rep. – Madison



Possum Magic Workshop

We wish to kindly thank the Monkey Baa Theatre Company for running the Possum Magic Workshop at our school for some of our Stage one and two students. The workshop was fantastic and students were able to experience theatre games through a professional teaching artist. Ms Abela

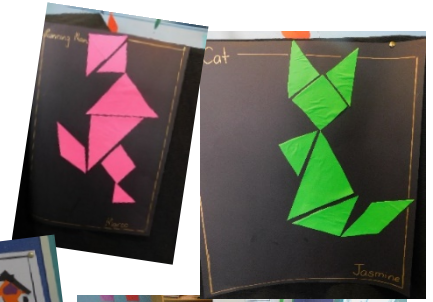


Maths in Action...

Year 3 Dragonflies

I made a running man using the paper shapes from a tangram puzzle. Marco

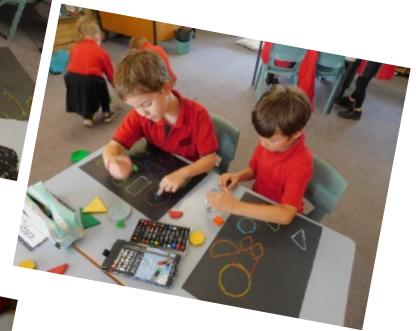
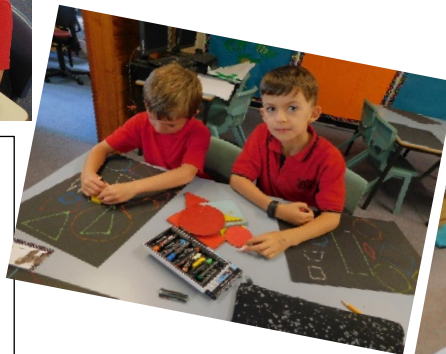
We made two monsters exactly the same and then we had to turn, twist, slide, or flip our monster. We used different coloured paper too. Holly



Year 4 Tigers

We are using dominoes to help us learn our times tables. Elvie

We made pizzas using paper and then had to cut them into halves, quarters and eighths. Lillian



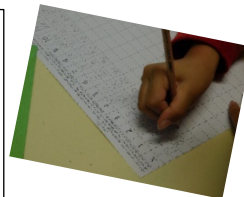
Year Two Gorillas

We have been learning about 2D shapes. We got to choose which shapes to use on the black paper. We used pastels and there were big shapes and mini shapes. Cooper



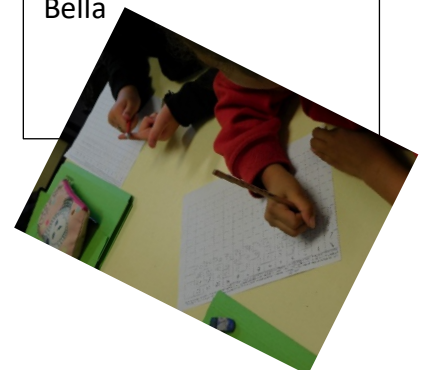
Kinder Bees

We are tracing around a circle. Karina



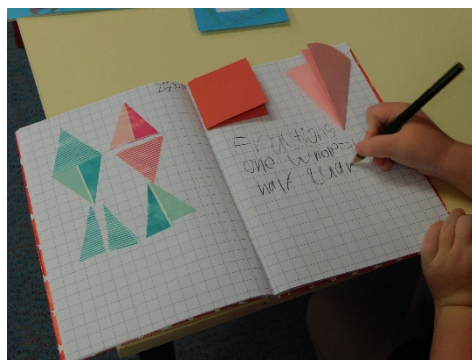
5/6 Coral

I'm doing my 11 times tables and it is timed – we only get 30 seconds. Bella



Year One Whales

We have been learning fractions. We had to fold the paper in half and then into quarters. Madelyn



District Swimming

On the 22nd February 2019 the District Swimmers had to get up early to get to Glenbrook pool. Mrs Fendall escorted a team of 10 students to compete in the Blue Mountains District Carnival. There were many competitors and spectators at the District Swimming Carnival, with 19 schools competing in the carnival.

Swimming warm ups began at 8:30am, with events beginning at 9:00. Many of our students competed in multiple events. It was a bit cool in the morning but it warmed up to be quite a sunny day. The pool felt quite cold when you first dived in, but then we got used to it, however, when we got out of the pool after swimming, it was freezing.

We would like to thank Mrs Brown for being such a wonderful team manager for the day. We would like to thank all of our families who came to support us. We all had lots of fun and we hope we make it to district again next year.

Yanna & Tessa, 5/6 Coral

Music News

Wow! It's been so busy in music lately.

The Oz Opera performance was a sensation; students are still singing and humming arias. Thank you to The Deliga Foundation once again for this wonderful opportunity.

All our music groups have been practising madly for performances coming up late in the year. Some of our musicians even performed recently for the Seniors in our community at a special morning tea. The audience was amazed and delighted and even joined in with some of the songs and poems.

Well done again to all our wonderful musical students for their hard work in music groups and lessons!!

P & C News

BREAKFAST PROGRAM



Volunteers run this wonderful program Monday to Friday between 8.40 – 9.00 a.m. with the appreciated ongoing support from Bendigo Bank Katoomba, Rotary Club of Katoomba, Earth Recovery, Blue Mountains Food Co-op, parents and students.

Donations of jam, vegemite, honey, marmalade, long-life milk, fruit and milo are always welcome. Contact Caroline (mobile: 0426 399 355) if you are interested in helping to run our breakfast program or drop off donations to the school office or the community room.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

The canteen is a special part of the children's school week and to keep it going we really need your help. Even if you can only help one Friday a term it would be very much appreciated. Please put your name down in the office if you would like to help.

SCHOOL UNIFORM NEWS

Please see Caroline Monday-Thursday down in the hall at uniform shop 3.00pm – 3.15pm and Fridays 2.45-3.15pm.

Caroline can also be contacted on 0426 399 335 for more information.

Community News

PLAY AND CHAT PLAYGROUP

Is on for 0-5 year olds and their parents/carers, Monday and Tuesday mornings, 9.15 – 12.15 during the school term. Sandpit, cooking, music, outdoor play, painting and more. All welcome!

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking co-ordinator has been appointed. We will advise when school banking will commence.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION

The **school contribution** is a small yearly contribution that is used towards the cost of classroom resources, arts and crafts, materials, books and sporting equipment. If you can pay your contribution, could you please do so through the school office?

Fees are as follows:

\$42.00 per year for 1 child

\$75.00 per year for 2 children or

\$90.00 per year for 3 children or more.

TERM 1 & 2 CALENDAR

2019 Term 1 9	25	26	27	28	29
10	April 1	2 5/6 Excursion Circular Quay Narragunnawali Rehearsal	3 Assembly	4 SRC Disco 	5
11	8	9 Possum Magic Excursion	10	11	12 Easter Hat Parade 
Term 2 1	April 29	30 ANZAC Service	May 1 Assembly	22	3
2	6	7	8	9	10 Cross Country 
3	13	14 NAPLAN	15 NAPLAN Assembly	16 NAPLAN	17
4	20	21	22	23	24
5	27	28 Stage 2 Tree Planting  Melrose Park	29 Assembly	30 Stage 1 Aquarium Excursion 	31
6	June 3	4	5	6	7 Teddy Bears Picnic 
7	10 Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	11	12 Assembly	13	14
8	17	18	19	20	21 Grandparents Day 
9	24	25 Narragunnawali Rehearsal	26 Assembly	27	28
NAIDOC WEEK 10	July 1	2	3	4 Talent Quest 	5 Talent Quest 

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy