



A visit from Rhymey

We were delighted to have Amelia from Rhymey back for another fantastic music workshop with Katoomba Leura educators during the school holidays. With our expanding repertoire, you might start to notice your child coming home singing some new songs.

Rhymey gives early childhood educators the confidence to implement authentic, child-centred musical experiences to help regulate children, all backed by science. The Rhymey Repertoire uses classroom-proven, OT-tested, science-backed musical experiences to promote emotional regulation in preschool children.

Here's a song which encourages movement
and regulates breathing

Happenings in the Lilli Pilli Nest

In the Lilli Pilli nest we have been exploring space! Continuing our interest from last term, so far in Term 3 we have created our solar system using all kinds of materials, including cardboard and wire; clay and beads; paint and paper. (fig. 1)

With the aid of books, video and online research, we have also begun to introduce First Nations perspectives on space, learning about the Dark Emu in the night sky. (fig. 2) All this spatial exploration has led to some thoroughly interesting questions and existential revelations from the children:

“The sun is the biggest.” – Art

“The sun is not the biggest – the darkness is the biggest.” – Frankie

And so the quest continues! One corner of the Lilli Pilli room has now evolved into the Space space! There you can find our space creations, lots of books on space, and an original space story written by the Lilli Pilli children – come have a look!



[Watch our space film](#)



Growing and Caring for Our Gardens

A big thank you to Lily's family for generously donating trays of flowers and lettuce seedlings. The children have been busy planting them throughout our learning spaces.

Gardening provides children with wonderful opportunities to connect with nature, develop a sense of responsibility and care and learn about where food comes from. Through planting, watering and nurturing our gardens, children are developing patience, curiosity and an understanding of the natural world.

Our new flowers and vegetables are also helping to beautify our play spaces and create welcoming, vibrant environments for learning. By planting flowers that attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators, we are supporting these important visitors while helping children develop an appreciation for the role they play in our gardens and ecosystems.

We look forward to watching our seedlings grow and enjoying the many discoveries that come with caring for our garden together.

Happenings in the Bilby Nest

In the Bilby Room, we have been focusing on fostering kindness as part of our everyday learning experiences. Through daily interactions, we encourage children to demonstrate kindness by taking turns, helping their peers, showing empathy and including others in their play. These experiences support the development of positive relationships, social competence and a strong sense of belonging within our Preschool.

You may have noticed the colourful leaves displayed on the tree in our room. This is our Kindness Tree, a meaningful way of recognising and celebrating acts of kindness demonstrated by the children. Each time a child is observed showing kindness, their thoughtful action is recorded on a leaf and added to the tree. During group time, we share these examples, acknowledging each child's positive contribution and reinforcing the value of caring for others.

The Kindness Tree provides children with opportunities to reflect on their actions, recognise the impact of kindness and celebrate the positive ways they contribute to our Preschool. It has become a valued part of our daily routine, promoting empathy, inclusion and respect while encouraging children to make kind choices each day.



Welcome Sally

Hi, I'm Sally! 🍌

I'm excited to be joining the team at Katoomba Leura Preschool as an Early Childhood Educator. I'm a Leura local in the beautiful Blue Mountains. I've completed my Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and am currently working towards my Diploma.

I also have a growing appreciation and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and I value incorporating Indigenous perspectives into everyday learning in respectful and meaningful ways. I believe children learn best through play, exploration and hands-on experiences. I love following their curiosity, whether that's building something imaginative or discovering treasures in the garden. I focus on warm, trusting relationships so every child feels safe, supported and confident.

I enjoy weaving children's interests into learning and helping them build important skills like independence, confidence and social development. I'm passionate about creating cosy, joyful spaces where children feel at home. I can't wait to get to know the children, their families at Katoomba Leura Preschool and be part of their learning journey.



You may have already seen me around the local area and I may have seen you too! Please feel free to say hello 🍌

I will be joining the Bilby Nest on Monday and Friday.

Happenings in the Bower Bird Nest

This term the Bowerbirds have been exploring the joy that comes from music and movement!

Together we have enjoyed using various resources such as the lycra, colourful ribbons and clava tapping sticks to combine sound with touch and sight for our whole body to be involved in the music making!

We have also started diving into creating our very own music! With a newly introduced guitar to the bowerbird learning environment some of the children decided to write their own song about a 'bowerbird on the river'.

It has been so much fun to explore the creativity and imagination that comes with sound and movement and how it can bring us together as a group. We are excited to continue learning together and from one another as we keep making music!

Please feel welcome to see what some of our recent favourite songs are as well as the 'Bowerbird on the river' song, both documented in our floor book.



This is an artwork
based on the
'Bowerbird on a river'
song!

Katoomba Leura Preschool



Gardening Busy Bee



Sunday
20th Sept
9am - 12pm

We Need Your Help!

Our garden requires some much-needed love and attention – weeding, planting and general maintenance.

Whether you can spare half an hour or the whole morning, and whatever your gardening experience, we'd love you to join us.



If you're unable to attend, you can still be part of the day by donating a morning tea treat. Biscuits, cakes, slices, muffins or fresh fruit would all be gratefully received.

Donations can be dropped off at the preschool on Friday or brought along on the day.

Please help us keep our beautiful, natural playground safe and healthy for our children to use.

Be a part of our local community, meet new people and enjoy a free BBQ sausage sizzle.



Scan to
RSVP

The Great Book Swap

This year we are participating in The Great Book Swap!

Hosted by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, the Great Book Swap is a great way to support literacy learning and access to books in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities across Australia.

How does it work?

Bring a pre-loved book. Swap it for another. Make a donation to help gift culturally relevant books, including books in First Languages, to children in remote Communities across Australia.

Every \$10 raised helps put one book into a child's hands.

Between Monday 31st August and Friday 4th September, in exchange for a donation, children will have a chance to choose a book/s from our special book stall at preschool.

It's a great way to get rid of some books your child no longer reads, pick up some new ones, and support a great cause at the same time.

If you have second-hand books that you would like to donate ahead of time, please see Cat or Dianne in the office.



A visit from Aunty Corina

During the school holidays, we were grateful to have Aunty Corina Norman visit our preschool as part of ongoing Bayala Dharug Dhalang professional learning to help reclaim, reconstruct and revitalise language.

As Aunty Corina reminds us, it's the language of place for all of us who live, work and play on Dharug Ngurra (Country).

We were joined by our colleagues from Lawson Community Preschool, Blaxland Preschool Kindergarten and Hazelwood Early Childhood Centre for a day rich in learning, culture and connection.

SEEDS, SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

National Science Week is a great reminder that children are natural scientists. They learn by wondering, watching, testing and asking questions. One simple way to explore both science and sustainability at home is by planting seeds.

Planting seeds helps children see how living things grow and what they need to survive. As they water, observe and care for plants, children begin to understand the importance of soil, sunlight, water, insects and time.

Try these simple ideas at home:

- Plant easy-growing seeds such as beans, peas, sunflowers or herbs.
- Reuse yoghurt tubs, egg cartons or small containers as seedling pots.
- Talk about what plants need to grow: water, sunlight, soil and [care](#).
- Encourage children to draw or



photograph changes as the seed grows.

- Use food scraps such as fruit peels or vegetable ends to start a small compost conversation.

These small experiences help children build early science skills while learning that caring for the environment begins with everyday actions. A tiny seed can lead to big conversations about nature, responsibility and sustainability.

Childhood Anxiety and School Transitions



FREE webinars for parents and carers

What you'll learn:

- ✓ Understanding anxiety in children and young people
- ✓ Practical ways to support your child during school transitions
- ✓ How to help your child build confidence and manage worries

Transition to school

Date: Thurs 17 Sept 2026
Time: 6pm–7.15pm
Where: Online

For parents and carers of children starting Kindergarten.



Click or scan the QR code to register

Transition to high school

Date: Tues 22 Sept 2026
Time: 6pm–7.15pm
Where: Online

For parents and carers of children starting Year 7.



Click or scan the QR code to register

For further information, please contact
School Years Team | Centre for Population Health
Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District
Email: NBMLHD-HealthyChildrensNetwork@health.nsw.gov.au



In partnership with:

Wayahead
Small Steps

