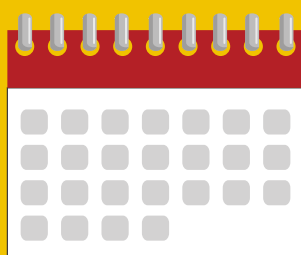




# MKPS NEWSLETTER

VOL. 9, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2020



## CALENDAR EVENTS

### TERM 4:

#### October:

- 12th - First day back for students
- 13th - School photos
- 16th - Extra school curricular photos
- 19th - 23rd - Book Week
- 29th - Grandparents Day (TBA)

#### November:

- 9th - 13th - NAIDOC Week
- 11th - Remembrance Day
- 19th - Year 6 sleepover at Gibberagong
- 24th - League Tag Day

#### December:

- 3rd - Kindy Incursion
- 15th - Talent Quest (TBA)
- 16th - Last of Term

**respect,  
responsibility,  
resilience and  
personal best.**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Mrs Hughes!*



### Almost at the end of Term 3!

We are almost at break time and I am sure that everyone is very much looking forward to taking a breather after such a busy 6 months!

We've still managed to fit in a number of activities and experiences for our school community and I thank everyone who has been involved in the organisation. Mrs Todd is one of those wonderful people who managed to still allow our students from Years 3-6 to experience an athletics carnival. Without parent helpers and spectators it was quite a different experience and modifications were necessary, but thanks to Mrs Todd's amazing organisation, the day was a success - made more delicious with the option of Snack Packs arranged by the canteen (thanks Tamara and Belinda!). Mrs Todd has also made arrangements for a K-2 athletic event this week, which I'm sure will be just as successful! Many families attended the Interrelate online sessions last week, again arranged by Mrs Todd!

We managed to go ahead with our Kindy excursion to the farm as we met the criteria of an outdoor field trip - sadly no parents were allowed to attend, but the children and teachers had a great day!

Speaking of Kindy... we have been slowly but surely receiving our applications for Kindy 2021 enrollments. With the Covid restrictions, we are unable to run our Kindy Kickstart orientation program this year, but I thank Miss Wargren and Mrs Els for the preparation they put into an informative Parent Information session we ran over Zoom. The video showing Kindy life was truly heartwarming- this year's students have developed into an amazing bunch!

Thank you to those of you who continually follow the law in regards to traffic rules and in particular safety in schools zones. I apologise for yet another mention in yet another newsletter, but I received another email from a concerned parent requesting I address the issue again. So I ask again,

# PLEASE

**take care when driving and parking in our school zones.** I am a bit perplexed that some people (thankfully a very small minority) seem to think that their needs are more important than the safety of our precious children. I plead with you to think, just for 10 seconds, how you would feel if you were responsible for the injury or death of a young child. I'm guessing (and hoping) that you would feel awful. Use that thought as your motivation to do the right thing and park in the correct places. **If you cannot leave your car for some reason, please feel free to call the office on 9457 9088 and someone will happily help by meeting you at your car.**

# ALSO...

Please note: **Students should only cross between the crossing flags when not accompanied by an adult.** Please do not call to your children to cross the road out of the crossing area to come to you. You will need to come across and accompany them across the road or direct them to the crossing. This is for their safety and to teach and model road safety. Also, to encourage them to ignore rules or teacher instructions does not set them up well for life ahead when they will have to follow the law as responsible citizens.

# Hold my Hand



ALWAYS HOLD HANDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 10 AROUND ROADS, DRIVEWAYS AND CARPARKS



more info can be found at:  
<https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/road-rules/parking.html>

## OUR NED SHOW YOYOS FINALLY ARRIVED!

This week is your last chance to purchase yoyos, as they will need to be sent back at the end of the term - contact the office.





## School Excellence

This week we had our External Validation (EV) panel meeting, which we have been working towards for the last six months. The school is assessed against an extensive set of criteria covering just about all areas of school - from administration, management and leadership processes, to collecting, analysing and monitoring data, and community engagement, as well as the more obvious and important - student wellbeing and learning.

The EV Team at our school, collected and collated evidence sets to present to an external panel of assessors, along with our self-assessment of the level we believe we have achieved. This document was just short of 100 pages!

I was very proud to receive excellent feedback and compliments from the panel, praising our school. Also, we were very happy to have them agree with our self-assessment AND upgrade us on a number of elements - including the top level of assessment for wellbeing!

The insights we have gained from this valuable evaluation process will feed directly into our new "Strategic Improvement Plan" that all schools will be implementing as of next year!

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank the teachers and staff who contributed to the process of our External Validation - not just for this validation process, but for meaningfully participating in the evaluation and analysis and for working hard to improve our practice. Our collective effectiveness directly impacts student progress!

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Miss Wargren and Mrs Connolly for the huge amount of work they put in to get the submission of our evidence sets ready for presentation and to drive the process to have us ready and prepared for our EV Panel meeting. The assessors commented on the quality of our submission saying that it was one of the better ones they'd seen. I was very proud to showcase our wonderful school!

*Mrs Hughes!*

## TERM 4

We still have a number of restrictions we need to follow to keep our school Covid-safe. We have tried our best to work around directives from the Department of Education, while still trying to provide as normal a program as possible to our students. I continue to be in awe of our teachers and students as we navigate our 'temporary normal'.

Term 4 is normally full of activities and MKPS is a hive of activity. But we find ourselves in uncharted territory yet again as we consider how to deliver our regular activities, such as end of year presentation assemblies and the plethora of Year 6 activities.

We have been told that we should hear more about what we can and cannot do in the first weeks of Term 4, so we have decided to wait in hope. We will communicate any plans as we arrange them.



**School  
Photos  
13th Oct**



# SCHOOL LEADERS 2021

Year 5 Students will be invited to apply for **2021 Leadership positions** this week. This will be the second year of our new procedure where interested students need to apply for the opportunity to run for **Prime Minister or Deputy positions**. Students submit an application which is supported by their parents and endorsed by their teacher, and outlines their suitability against our school's core values of **Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Personal Best**. Candidates meet with the 'Governor General' (Principal, Mrs Hughes) and once approved, they prepare to campaign for Prime Minister and Deputy positions. Speeches will be presented next term and all students and staff will vote. Leaders will be announced at our end of year presentation assembly.

There are other opportunities to lead within our School Parliament each year. All Year 6 students will participate in parliament sessions, and students can self-nominate to become a Cabinet Minister. **Students will need to consistently demonstrate exemplary behaviour within our core values to be considered for a position.**



NSW Department of Education

## Bushfire Season Information for Families

It's Bushfire Season (September to March) and after last year's tragic season, the Department has updated its systems and processes to make sure we are as prepared as we can be. We have been classified as '**Category 1**' meaning we are considered to be at high risk **IF** a bushfire is in the surrounding area.

I have included a 3 page fact sheet towards the end of this newsletter for your information and I will send home a letter this week with our specific information.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Please make sure we have your **up-to-date contact details**, including emergency contacts of who can pick up your children if we cannot get in touch with you



NSW Department of Education

## Parents and Carers Website

The Department of Education has developed a great new resource for families. I encourage you to check it out. You'll find information on a number of areas, including learning, wellbeing and student engagement. Go to: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers>

### Information for parents and carers

Find resources to support your child's school journey from enrolment advice and study skills to wellbeing tips and future pathways.

A to Z guide for parents







# ES1 Farm Excursion



As a part of the Kindergarten integrated unit 'On the Farm', KD and K/1E got to go on a day trip to Golden Ridge Farm. We got to go on a farm walk, hold and feed baby animals and we even got to milk a cow named Sunshine. It was so great to meet some real life farmers and learn so much about the animals at the farm.

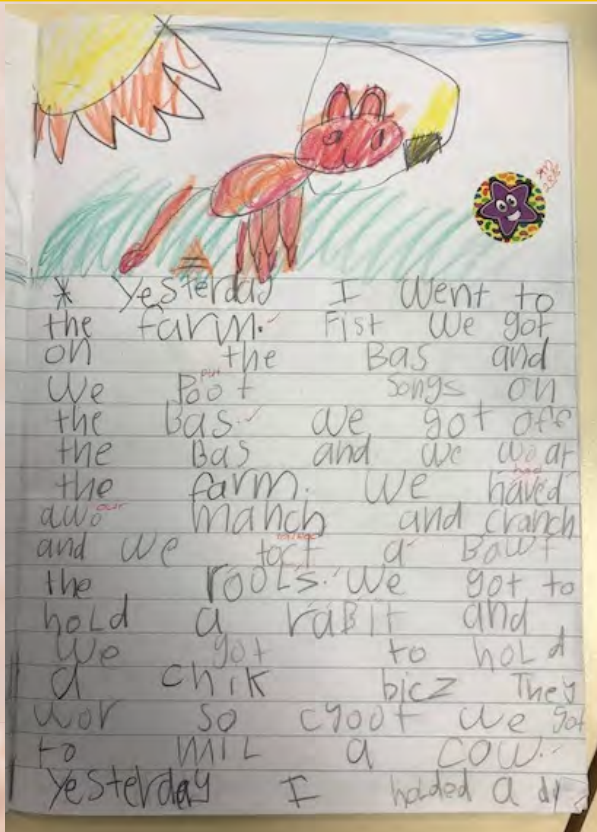
We loved our trip to Golden Ridge Farm and cannot wait to learn more about farms.

Did you know baby rabbits are called kittens?

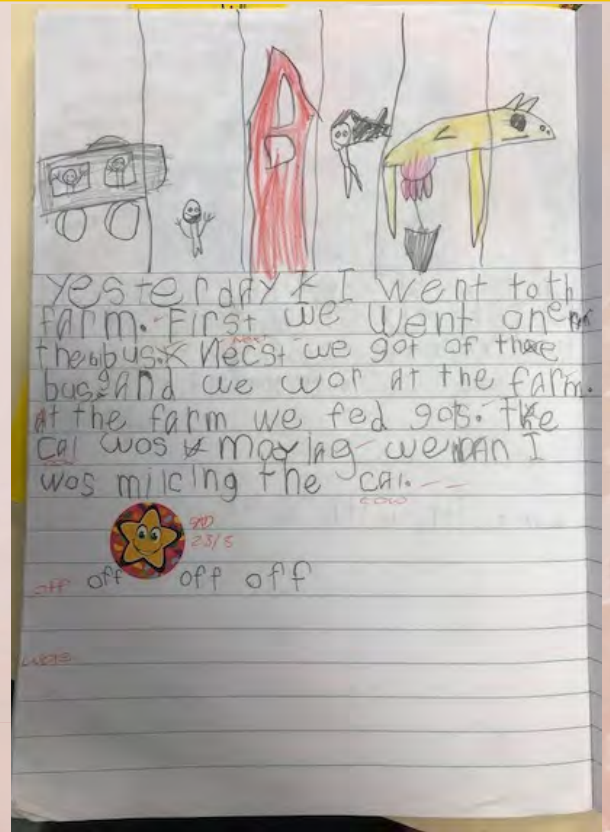
Or that roosters have a sharp spur on their leg to protect the hens in the coop?







Check out the recount writing by Kindy students. You will see that they are gaining excellent knowledge of sounds, as they attempt to spell words when writing. They can definitely convey their message, which is the whole purpose of writing! **We are so proud of them!**



# KINDY HATCHING PROGRAM



KD and K/1E were extremely fortunate to have the Hatching Program running in the K/1E class in weeks 6 and 7. Students were able to experience the life cycle of a chicken first-hand and up close. There was huge excitement every morning to discover how many chicks had hatched and we even got to witness the hatching of some chicks. Each day, the students got to hold the chicks and watch them run around the classroom, while observing their cute features. Unfortunately, they also experienced one of the chicks not making it and some eggs not hatching. These were great moments to teach valuable concepts of life on a farm. Thank you to the P&C for giving us the opportunity to gain so much knowledge from this experience.





# K/1E

This term K/1E have been very busy exploring farming and the amazing animals found on farms during our integrate unit. We have discovered many interesting facts about animals we thought we knew a lot about. From cows, pigs and sheep to chickens and bees. All the students eagerly participated in researching these animals, building incredible dioramas and creating beautiful artworks. Students have also planted a variety of vegetable seeds and are eagerly waiting to harvest their crops. We look forward to learning so much more about farms in Australia and around the world.





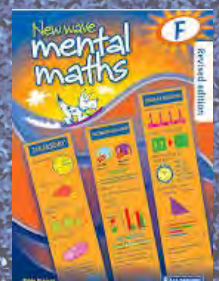


This Term in 4/5s, we have been busy working on our integrated unit, which focuses around the Olympic Games. This unit will incorporate all aspects of Key Learning Area's, into one large unit, which will progress until the end of the school year. This Term, our main focus was on the modern Olympics of our time, and the sports and structures that encompassed this. For the main body of assessment, students were tasked to use their skills to plan and research a suitable area to host a new Olympic Games, in either Australia or a neighbouring country. With this plan in motion, students were to present a bid to the committee (the rest of the 4/5S class) for the proposal to build a brand new stadium in their designated zone. Once approved, students created a complete scale model design of their Olympic Stadium on Minecraft. The results where amazing, and as each group gave a guided virtual tour to the class of their whole structure, you could see how much skill and effort they have all put into this project which they were so passionate about.

## 4/5S HAPPENINGS



We have also been trailing our new unit of Maths Mentals which has seen improvements in enthusiasm within the classroom towards mathematical based lessons. Such a busy and productive term we have had so far and we look forward to a well-earned break over the school holidays in a week's in time.





# R U OK?™



On Thursday 10th September, students at MKPS learnt about R U OK Day and what they can do after asking the question. We learnt about ALEC (Ask, Listen, Encourage action, Check-in) as a way of remembering how to support those around us who may not be okay.

Students K-6 engaged in discussions around how they can support their friends and who they can turn to for support if they need it. We all drew an emoji that described our personality or how we were feeling. This was then stuck onto large R U OK letters and has been hung in the office window to remind us that every day is the day to ask... **R U OK?**





# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

We were blessed with a beautiful, sunny, August day to hold our Yr 3-6 Athletics Carnival. It certainly was a different atmosphere this year without parents and our younger students, who were very much missed!

Although we had to modify the program this year, we still managed to have an action packed day with all of our usual events, plus a few extras while the discus finals were taking place. There were some fantastic performances on the day, but more than that, seeing the wonderful effort and sportsmanship displayed by our students was heart warming.

A very big thanks goes to Tamara Williams and Belinda Robson who baked some delicious treats to provide our students with scrumptious snack bags to enjoy on the day. Also, thanks goes to Stuart Guthrie who year after year turns up early in the morning, well before the students arrive to assist in the set up for the day, as well as running the sprint track and a host of other tasks. Finally, to the year 6 class of 2019; thank you all so much for the wonderful departing gift of the marquees. These were purchased in all of our house colours and they looked fantastic! It was wonderful to finally have the opportunity to use them this year, and I know they will be enjoyed by our students for many years to come.

*Mrs Todd*

SHELTERS DONATED BY 2019 YEAR 6 STUDENTS!







# CRICKET GALA DAY



**“Howzat” a great day for students, Years 3-6 who spent a day at the oval enjoying their Cricket Gala Day with NSW Cricket for our Intra School Cup! A huge thank you to Mrs Todd for organising the day and our primary staff for their umpiring efforts**



**PSSA for term 3 has seen MKPS senior boys and senior girls play 3 games so far with a total of five games for the season. The senior boys struggled in the first couple of games and were unfortunate to start the season off with two losses. However, in our third game the boys came together as a team and got the win, in what was the toughest match so far. Special mention goes to Chris, Cooper J, Hunter and Eddie for players of the match.**

**The senior girls started off the season with two convincing wins. In our third match, during what can only be described as hurricane like weather conditions, the girls were unlucky to let 1 goal in and lose their first match of the season. Special mention goes to Taylor who has proved to be an invaluable member of the team saving many a goal. Other players of the match were Marlie, Ellie and Pippa.**

**It has been a privilege to take both teams each week, win or lose. Our students demonstrate the respect and sportsmanship expected of school representatives.**







# Leader's Loop



- Daniel, Maisie, Jess and Chris -

## PARLIAMENT SESSION UPDATES

It has been great to see some of the ideas that have come directly from MKPS students, raised in Parliament that have been implemented in our school.

Over the last month, we have started collecting bread clips to raise funds for wheelchairs, and we have run our dress up day. There has been some improvements in the amount of rubbish and lost properly left around the school and classes have been using tubs to help keep track of items and make sure they make them back to class after break times! Students really can make a difference!

*Thanks, from Maisie, Daniel, Jess and Chris!*

## YEAR 6 UPDATES



### COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER



Yr 6 were very excited to see such a great response to their Cookie Fundraiser and would like to thank everyone for their support - we are sure you will be rewarded via your taste buds when the cookie arrives next term!

### DISNEY-PIXAR DRESS-UP DAY

On Thursday, the 17th of September, Year 6 held a mufti day with the theme "Disney Day" to celebrate the conclusion of our cookie dough fundraising. We raised \$198! Thank to everyone who dressed up as their favourite Disney, Pixar, Marvel and Star Wars characters. We look forward to eating some delicious cookies while continuing to raise funds for the end of year gift from Year 6.

### MINI-FETE UPDATE

Over the last few weeks, Year 6 has been brainstorming and working on Covid-friendly activities for a Mini Fete in Term 4. We have also been researching possible ideas to gift the school, from all of our fundraising efforts this year. Our next fundraiser will be mango trays and more details and information will be sent out this week.

### FAREWELL MR TAYLOR!

This term, 5/6W have had the pleasure of having Mr. Taylor in our classroom while he has been undertaking his internship. He has taught us many wonderful things in his lessons of writing, the Olympics and Maths Mentals. We especially enjoy playing extra games of catch and running games at lunch with him!

We wish him all the best in his teaching career and look forward to welcoming him back as a casual teacher.







# DISNEY *dress ups*





# STAR WARS











**NSW Department of Education**

# Bushfire Season Information for parents

**This brochure provides information for parents and carers about arrangements for the bushfire season. This information is only relevant for schools identified as Category 1 in a bushfire prone area. These schools are required to temporarily cease operations when a catastrophic fire danger rating is issued in their area.**

## Introduction

The NSW Department of Education has conducted bushfire assessments for NSW government schools in bushfire prone areas. These results have been validated by an independent external expert and reviewed in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service.

A small number of schools have been identified as being at risk if a fire were to break out on a day when a catastrophic fire danger rating is issued for the local area. This includes the school your child attends.

To ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of students and staff, the NSW Department of Education has determined that on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for the area the school is in, the school will temporarily cease operations for the day(s) the rating is current. Alternative learning arrangements will be put in place on these day(s).







## What is a Fire Danger Rating?

A Fire Danger Rating is the expected fire danger on a particular day and is determined by considering a combination of factors including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought. The ratings range from Low – Moderate to High, Very High, Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic.



## What is a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating?

A Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating means that if fires broke out they would be uncontrollable, unpredictable and very fast moving. For more information on Fire Danger Ratings, visit the [NSW RFS Website](#).



## When will I know if my child's school won't be operating the next day?

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) notifies the Department at approximately 4:00pm each day when there are catastrophic fire danger ratings predicted for the following day. This means that the school will only receive notification of a catastrophic fire danger rating after school hours the day before the forecast is issued.

Your school will notify you as soon as possible. You will be notified by telephone or other communication, depending on when the school is advised that the catastrophic fire danger rating has been issued. The school will contact all parents and carers and, where appropriate, issue advice through local media.

Please provide your current home or after hours contact details to your school. Parents and carers should also watch or listen to local media as information may be provided through these outlets.



## What education arrangements will be in place if the school isn't operating?

Talk to your school about the arrangements that will be put in place in the event of the school temporarily ceasing operations due to a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating being issued. Schools will be undertaking advanced planning to ensure that if they do need to cease operations on some days, they will have alternative educational arrangements in place. This may include re-locating to another school, where practicable, or students learning from home.





## Will my child's school be affected by Severe or Extreme Fire Danger Ratings?

During the bushfire season, including days of severe or extreme fire danger rating, schools will continue to operate as normal unless advised otherwise by emergency services. During the bushfire season schools will be vigilant and monitor local conditions, particularly on days when severe or extreme fire danger ratings are issued.



### Plan and Prepare

The NSW Rural Fire Service has resources for all residents to plan and prepare for the bushfire season. It is important that you consider the safety of your own home from bushfire.

Please find more information and resources on the [RFS website](#).



### Learn more

We appreciate your cooperation during the bushfire season. For further information about Fire Danger Ratings and the bushfire season, please refer to the [NSW Rural Fire Service website](#).

The Department's [School Safety website](#) has also been established to provide up to date information during bushfires and other situations such as floods or storms.

Get in contact with your school if you have any questions.



Education



# HORNSBY RSL GYMNASTICS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Join us for a fun filled day of gymnastics activities that is sure to keep the kids entertained all day long.



WE'RE COVID SAFE

## What does the day involve?

- A full day program for children aged 5-12 years, members and non members, no experience necessary, all welcome!
- Children get to participate in a wide variety of gymnastics activities, where we fit all of the best things into one action packed day:
- GymSKILLS: Activities which focus on developing core gymnastics skills on each of the gymnastics apparatus (vault, bars, beam, floor, rings, parallel bars and trampoline)
- FreeG + Tumble Tricks and Flips: Combining tumbling, aerial and acrobatic skills with Free G - parkour style gymnastics activities!
- Morning tea and lunch break (bring your own food)
- Free time - to play and explore our fun filled colourful space

Book Online

HORNSBY RSL GYMNASTICS  
1 ASHLEY LANE HORNSBY NSW 2077  
9476 6689 INFO@HORNSBYRSLGYMNASTICS.COM.AU

WWW.HORNSBYRSLGYMNASTICS.COM.AU



CUBS  
REGISTRATIONS  
NOW OPEN

BOYS + GIRLS  
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON  
STARTS 14TH OCT

\$45 including shirt  
At Foxglove Oval, Mt Colah  
4:10pm - 4:50pm

AGES 4 - 7

FOXGLOVE OVAL, MT COLAH



## PROGRAM DETAILS

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER  
FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER  
WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER  
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER

9AM - 3PM

\$50 PER CHILD PER DAY

AGES 5-12 YEARS

BRING MORNING TEA, LUNCH,  
DRINK BOTTLE

REGISTER @ HORNSBYTOUCH.COM.AU





# FREE



## Parenting for Resilience, Confidence & Independence

Online Summit  
9 - 11 October 2020

# Designed **for** Parents **by** Parents

BOOK YOUR FREE SPOT NOW

Scan the QR or visit the link 

[www.spectrumeducation.com/parenting-summit](http://www.spectrumeducation.com/parenting-summit)



### INFORMATION ON MINDFULNESS

Do you find your mind over thinking and you are unable to calm yourself down??

Have you ever thought of trying mindfulness a skill that allows you to learn how to control your feelings and thoughts to stay calm and in the moment.

A free information session on mindfulness at Berowra Community and Facility Centre

Balcony Room

22nd September 2020

6.00pm to 7.30pm

For booking and more information contact

Sharon Addison

0432 809 422



**HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPHY ENTRY FORM**

Name .....  
 Contact Number .....  
 Email .....  
 Post code .....

Title and short description of photographs:

**Age Brackets**

- Under 18
- 18 -24
- 25 -60
- 60+

This section must be completed if your photograph contains an image of a person under 18 or the photographer is under 18.

Child's name:.....  
 Parent guardian name and relation to the child:.....  
 Parent guardian email:.....  
 Parent guardian contact:.....

I certify that I have given permission for my child to enter/child's image to be used in this photography Exhibition.

Signed: .....  
 Date: .....

**Social Inclusion Week Photo Exhibition Conditions of Entry 2020**

*I state that the information provided is correct and the image is my original work. Entrants retain copyright of their work. The participant and title of the work will be acknowledged. All recognisable people in image have given their permission to be included in the work. Multiple entries are accepted. The exhibited images will be selected by the Hornsby Shire Council Community Development team with a panel from the local Community. For full terms and conditions please visit the website: [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/connect](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/connect)*



**Connect. Collaborate. Celebrate.**



**SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION**

You are invited to participate in Hornsby Shire Council's Social Inclusion Week photography exhibition. The exhibition will showcase your photos and your stories highlighting what it means to be part of the community.

Be inspired by the theme - Connect. Collaborate. Celebrate.

Send us your images (2MB max per image) with a short 30 word description by 15 October to have the opportunity to be part of the exhibition and win one of five \$100 gift vouchers.

The photography exhibition will be held online during Social Inclusion Week: **19-30 November 2020**

For more information please visit the website: [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/connect](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/connect)

Contact Jian Zhao on **9847 6994** or [izhao@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:izhao@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)

For more information visit [hornsby.nsw.gov.au](http://hornsby.nsw.gov.au)

