



Billy Booksie's

Reading Week Diary

16-23 June 2018



www.mocs.org.au

Some Reading Week Numbers

- ◆ 12 events in 9 townships over 14 days
- ◆ approx. 130 children and 35 parents or carers attended events
- ◆ Billy Booksie Rhymes Booklet given to every child attending an event
- ◆ 14 agencies helped organise events
- ◆ 17 services and 4 businesses participated in events



Billie Booksie helped her big brother at several of this year's events.



Billy Booksie would like to say an Extra Special Thank You to Grace and Su, early childhood teaching students from Nirimba TAFE, for all their help during Reading Week.

Rescheduled Events

Bad weather, illness in services and problems with venues meant that events with the following groups had to be cancelled:

- Linden Village Park
- Kookaburra Playgroup
- Katoomba Koori Playgroup
- Cherry Blossom Child Care Centre



A poster for 'Reading Week 2018'. It features a blue koala character (Billy Bookie) on the left. The text says: 'Reading Week 2018', 'See Billy Bookie & his friends at the times and places below', and 'More events coming, so watch this space! For more information contact MICKS 4753 6811 or edw@pnc.org.au'. There are logos for 'Reading Week' and 'PNC' at the bottom.

A poster for Kookaburra Playgroup. It features a blue koala character (Billy Bookie) on the left. The text says: 'Kookaburra Playgroup will welcome Billy Bookie for story time during Reading Week 2018!', '10th June 9:30am start', 'and Story Time at 10:30am at Mt Pleasant Helixbeehive Centre'. There are logos for 'Reading Week' and 'Kookaburra Playgroup' at the bottom.

DATE	VILLAGE	TIME	LOCATION
Wed 13 June	LINDEN	11:30	BRIGGS at Mt Kookaburra Community Centre, 1 New Street
Wed 13 June	LINDEN	12:30	Linden Village Park
Mon 18 June	BLAKELAND	12:30	BRIGGS at Mt Arden Recreation Complex
	LINDEN	12:30	Kookaburra Playgroup at Mt Kookaburra Community Centre, 1 New Street
	KATOOMBA	11:30	Good Playgroup at GOOD, Station Street
Tue 19 June	KATOOMBA NORTH	12:30	Playgroup at Katoomba North Public School
Wed 20 June	LEIBS	9:45	Big Red Bus at 9:45 am School
	WINDALE	12:30	Wendee Playgroup Village
Thu 21 June	VALLEY DRAGON	12:30	Good Red Playgroup, 75 Market Street



Billy Bookie is planning a mini Spring Festival to make up for these events.

Groups with Babies

Parenting Young & First time Parents Group



Because these groups have mostly babies, Billy Booksie didn't visit.

Instead, Billy sent some special resources:

- 'Love, Talk, Sing, Read, Play' Bookmark
- Billy Booksie Rhyme Book.

Steps to build your baby's language and literacy skills

Everyday in your home language

-  **LOVE** your baby through everyday activities, by sharing a gaze, a cuddle, talking, smiling and singing.
-  **Talk** about everyday activities as you are doing them with your baby. Respond to and copy your baby's sounds, smiles and expressions.
-  **SING** the same rhyme with your baby. Repetition helps learning and calms them.
-  **Read** your baby simple books by pointing to the pictures and telling them what you see or feel.
-  **PLAY** helps your baby learn. Poke out your tongue and wait for your baby to copy. Help your baby hold a rattle, your finger or toy.



lovetalksingreadplay.com.au

Katoomba North Playgroup

The children at Katoomba North playgroup welcomed Billie. We read 'Possum Magic' and the children sang 'Baa baa black sheep' for Billie. Then Billie shared the rhyme 'This Little Possum', using possum finger puppets.



Then the children went on an adventure exploring the bush, led by Jenny and Gillian, environmental educators from Blue Mountains City Council. They talked about Aboriginal culture and way of life using natural materials. The children enjoyed listening to the sounds of nature, hugging the trees and collecting leaves and nuts.

Blue Mountains Occasional

Billie Booksie started Reading Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Lawson and ended the Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Blackheath. In between she visited them at Blaxland as well.



Reading Week at BMOCCS

We are celebrating Reading Week this week, and have been lucky enough to be visited by our reading mascot Billie Booksie.

Billie is quiet, and shy, but loves to share books with her friends.

Today she read 'Possum Magic' by Mem Fox.

After the story Billie loves to help the children sing some of their favourite songs like 'Open, shut them'. She does the actions and claps along.

When it's time to go, many of the children like to give warm goodbye hugs, before she leaves to visit other children who also love to read as much as we do.

PIC•COLLAGE

Leura Mall



On Wednesday Billie Booksie was in Leura on the Big Red Bus sharing stories and rhymes. There were also stories at Josophan's Chocolates and the Fire Station.



Winmalee Shopping Village



Meanwhile, Billie Booksie was sharing stories and rhymes with the children and parents at the Winmalee Shopping Village.



Scout Hall Playgroup Hazelbrook

Billie Booksie always enjoys visiting her friends at the Scout Hall Playgroup in Hazelbrook. As well as storytime, they made possum masks to take home.



Thank You

Billy Booksie would like to thank everyone who helped make Reading Week a success:

- ◆ Aboriginal Culture & Resource Centre
- ◆ Blue Mountains Explorer Bus
- ◆ Blue Mountains City Council, Environmental Communication and Engagement Officers
- ◆ BM Occasional Child Care
- ◆ Cherry Blossom Child Care Centre
- ◆ First Time Parents Group
- ◆ Heather Brae (Connect)
- ◆ Josophan's Chocolates Leura
- ◆ Katoomba North Community Hub (Connect)
- ◆ Kookaburra Preschool
- ◆ Leura Fire and Rescue
- ◆ Leura Public School
- ◆ Linden Citizens Association
- ◆ Megalong Books Leura
- ◆ Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre
- ◆ Mountains Outreach Community Service
- ◆ Nirimba TAFE College
- ◆ Parenting Young Group
- ◆ Springwood Neighbourhood and Community Centre
- ◆ Winmalee Hub Playgroup (Gateway Family Services)
- ◆ Winmalee Shopping Village

READ WITH YOUR CHILD FROM THE DAY THEY ARE BORN.
SPEND AT LEAST TEN WILDLY HAPPY MINUTES EVERY
SINGLE DAY READING ALOUD, SUGGESTS MEM FOX,
AUTHOR OF READING MAGIC.

The first three years of life are the most important for your child's brain development.

From birth, every time you talk, hug, sing and read with your baby, new brain connections are formed and strengthened.

These daily activities lay the foundation for language development, reading and good self-esteem.

Anywhere, any time:

- Have fun with nursery rhymes.
 - Play games together: peek-a-boo, for example
 - Talk to your baby and child about what you do and see
 - Join your local library - you & bub.
-

Read to your baby,
Don't ever stop,
When he's too
You can let it drop.



Paint the Blue Lead is a collaboration of Blue Mountains organisations and businesses whose aim is to encourage us all to read to children from birth. More info: www.moca.org.au