



Bouncing through Bumps

May 19-25, 2024

being playful and present



Welcome to the 16th KidsFest Shellharbour, the longest running FREE weeklong festival for children, families and carers in NSW.

The 2024 festival theme is Bouncing with Bumps- being playful and present, linking with 2023 being the United Nations International Year of Camelids.

Held during Families Week, KidsFest Shellharbour partners local businesses with community organisations across Shellharbour City to encourage social inclusion and an enhanced sense of belonging for children 0-12 years, their families and carers.

Our KidsFest 2024 program features events focused on providing accessible opportunities for creativity, diversity and delight for children, their families and carers.

KidsFest Fringe @ the Imaginarium with Early Years Care Mon 13th – Fri 17th May

10am 11:30am

The Imaginarium, Wentworth St, Shellharbour

Come along and see some wonderful artworks on display created by the children of Early Years Care

Get messy while being involved in art and play experiences! Suitable for ages 0-4.

Bookings essential:
[trybooking.com/CQDOI](https://www.trybooking.com/CQDOI)



**Wed 15th May
10-11:30**

**A Morning of Story,
Play and Literacy**

Dress up as your favourite book character and celebrate the value of storytelling with author Marie Armstrong.

Bookings essential:
[trybooking.com/CQJKC](https://www.trybooking.com/CQJKC)



**Fri 17 May
6-8pm**

**Early Years Care Art Gallery
and Interactive Family Disco**

Bookings essential:
[trybooking.com/CPUCG](https://www.trybooking.com/CPUCG)



Sunday 19 May

**Catch the KidsFest Express
at Illawarra Light Rail Museum
10am-2pm**

Ride the steam train and miniature trains, enjoy the circus play zone with Honora, music making with Mark the Sax and create art at the Early Years Care creativity station. This event is accessible for children with autism, their families and carers and the wider community. Note covered footwear must be worn. Book your free family pass at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CRAED>

Monday May 20

**Calderwood Valley Celebration of Country,
Children and Creativity
10am-5:30pm**

Calderwood Lower District Park,
Escarpment Dr & Bartlett Cres, Calderwood

10am-12noon under 5s
12:30-2:30pm 5- 12 years
3:30pm- 5:00pm All ages

- Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony with Gumaraa 10am
- Rock painting
- Loose parts play & seedling planting with Early Years Care (10-2:30)
- Cultural weaving with Gumaraa (10:30am)
- Cultural story sharing with Jodi Edwards and friends
- Boomerang throwing with Gumaraa (4:00pm)
- Aboriginal dancing with Gumaraa (4:30pm)

**Early Years Creativity @ the Imaginarium
10am-12pm**

Art, stories and play at the Imaginarium with Early Years Care. Celebrate creativity and get inspired by children's art on display Bookings essential:
[trybooking.com/CQDOI](https://www.trybooking.com/CQDOI)

**Park & Play
9.30-11.30am**

McDonald Park, Station Road, Albion Park Rail
Free outdoor play activity sessions

**Storytime at Albion Park Library
11-11.30pm**

Join us for stories, songs rhymes, bubbles and craft! Best suited to ages 2-5. No bookings required.





Toddler Tales at Oak Flats Library

10am-11am

The Waterfront, Shell Cove Storytime

10am-11am.

Join us for stories, songs rhymes, bubbles and craft! Best suited to ages 2-5. No bookings required.

Songs of diversity and delight from around the world

2-3pm (closed event)

Koninderie Community Based Preschool

Park & Play

9.30- 11.30am

Dawes Park, Junction Road, Barrack Point
Free outdoor play activity sessions

Storytime at Warilla Library

11-11.30am

Join us for stories, songs rhymes, bubbles and craft! Best suited to ages 2-5. No bookings required.

KidsFest Lantern Parade @ the Marina

3:30-6:30pm

Council Reserve next to Waterfront Tavern, The Waterfront Town Centre, Shell Cove

Come and make or decorate a Lantern, stroller or wheelchair for the Lantern Parade.

3:30- 5:30 Music making, stories, circus activities and lantern making

5:30pm Lantern Parade

Tuesday May 21

Emergency Services Expo

10am-2pm

(general public/special needs students)

11am- 2pm

School groups (kindy & special needs students)
NSW Rural Fire Service,
37 Airport Rd Albion Park.

The Emergency Services Expo is an opportunity for children to meet Emergency Service personnel, so they can feel comfortable around 'helper friends' if there is ever an emergency. Have a turn of the fire hose, climb through the smoke house and sit in the ambulance, a police car & fire truck. School bookings are essential. For school bookings contact Phillip.Rook@rfs.nsw.gov.au

Art, stories and play at the Imaginarium with Early Years Care

10am-12noon

The Imaginarium (next to Shellharbour Tourism)
Wentworth St, Shellharbour Village

Celebrate creativity and get inspired by children's art on display. Bookings essential:
trybooking.com/CQDOI

Park & Play

9.30-11.30am

Reddall Reserve, Reddall Parade, Lake Illawarra
Free outdoor play activity sessions

Wednesday May 22

Bring a Buddy

Bowling Day

10am-12noon

Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club,
Jason Ave,
Barrack Heights

An introduction to the game of bowls.

National Simultaneous Storytime

12noon-1pm

Children across the country will read the picture book Bowerbird Blues by Aura Parker for the National Simultaneous Storytime 2024.

Join us in the Shellharbour Civic Centre Auditorium for a very fun and vibrant literacy event. Experience a special reader's theatre based on Bowerbird Blues, enjoy songs, rhymes, games, crafts and a very special appearance from our reading mascot- Bangu!



Thursday May 23

The Shellharbour Communities for Children Day and Picnic Day

9:45am-12noon

Shellharbour Civic Centre
76 Cygnet Ave, Shellharbour
City Centre

Join us for a day of family fun with face painting, nature play, music and craft stations, cultural activities, interactive storytelling sessions with Paint Shellharbour REaD and much more.

Pack your picnic baskets and blankets and soak in the festive atmosphere and enjoy a free BBQ at the Shellharbour CIVIC Centre grounds.

Friday 24 May

Love your Earth @ the Marina

10am- 12noon

Council Reserve next to Waterfront Tavern, The Waterfront Town Centre, Shell Cove

Join Early Years Care for nature play, plant a seed with Flossie and enjoy book reading and ocean themed art and crafts. Make a Love Your Earth lantern with Honora for the evening lantern parade.

Saturday May 25

KidsFest Finale at Killalea

10am-2pm (by Killalea kiosk)

- Circus play with Honora – all ages, all abilities
- Loose parts play with Early Years Care
- Music making with Mark the Sax

Reconciliation events with Gumaraa

- **10:30am** Welcome to country and smoking ceremony with Gumaraa
- **11am** Aboriginal dance workshop
- **11.45am** Aboriginal weaving
- **12:30pm** Bush tucker tour
- **1.15pm** Boomerang throwing



**Enquiries 1300 656 169
(Shellharbour Visitors Centre)**

Thank you to our sponsors, event hosts and volunteers

PLATINUM SPONSORS



Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club supports KidsFest Shellharbour through the ClubGRANTS scheme which provides front-line services and much-needed support to local community groups.



Early Years Care



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