



Umina Beach Public School Newsletter

Term 4, Week 8, 2023

DIARY DATES – TERM 4

Fri 1 Dec	Year 6 Mini Fete
Wed 6 Dec	School choir performance at Club Umina 11:00am
Thu 7 Dec	Volunteers Morning Tea
Fri 8 Dec	Presentation Day Yr 3-6 9:30am and K-2 12:30pm Kindergarten Graduation Assembly
Mon 11 Dec	All school PARTY DAY
Thu 14 Dec	Year 6 Farewell
Fri 15 Dec	Year 6 arch farewell LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS 2023
Tue 30 Jan 2024	Staff return – pupil free
Thu 1 Feb 2024	Yrs 1 – 6 students return
Wed 7 Feb 2024	Kindergarten start

From the Deputy Principal

What an exciting term we have had so far! With the term quickly coming to an end, we still have so much to look forward to. Our famous Year 6 Mini Fete is this Friday! This is a very popular fundraising tradition which is loved by all the students and staff. Our year 6 students have been working hard behind the scenes to organise their stalls and are excited to provide a great day for everyone. For \$5.00, all students will receive 20 tokens to enjoy a range of activities on the day. The students can choose from carnival games, sock wrestling, sponge throwing, jokes, hair spray, face painting, nail polish, soccer shooting, trick shots, skill games, snacks, drinks and so much more. Each activity is only 1 ticket so there will be lots of fun for everyone. We are all looking forward to a great fundraising event for our Year 6 students.

Another annual event that our community looks forward to is our Presentation Day assembly. This year it will be held on Friday December 8. Years 3-6 at 9:30am and K-2 at 12:30pm. Join us as we gather to celebrate the achievements and hard work of our students throughout the year. We will be recognising outstanding achievements, both academic and extracurricular, and applauding the efforts and dedication of our students. It is a day to honour excellence, so mark it in your calendar and join us for a day filled with inspiration, applause and a sense of pride as we come together to celebrate the incredible talent and accomplishments of our school community. If your child is receiving an award, you would have received an email on Monday. The 2024 leadership team will receive an email on Thursday.

Thank You!



We would love to see all our wonderful volunteers at our special morning tea to be held on Thursday 7 December at 11:25am.



I would like to congratulate our Year 6 leadership team on an outstanding job this year. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and leadership have truly made a positive impact on our school community. From organising events to fostering a sense of unity among students, their hard work has not gone unnoticed. The team's ability to lead by example, embrace challenges, and encourage their peers has set a standard of excellence. It's evident that their commitment to making a difference has helped create a more vibrant and inclusive school environment. As the leaders reflect on the year, I hope they take pride in the positive changes they have initiated and the lasting memories they've helped create.

I thank the leaders for their outstanding service, and congratulations once again on a job well done. Their leadership has been inspiring, and we look forward to hearing about their continued success in the years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS

Speaking of incredible talent, we have a sports star at UBPS! A massive congratulations to Callan, who competed at the School Sport Australia National Athletics Championships in Tasmania last weekend! He placed 4th in both 11 years boy's discus and shot put! This is such a great achievement and fabulous experience. Well done Callan – we are proud of you!



LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to our wonderful P&C from our entire school for providing the opportunity to witness the life cycle of the butterfly up close. Each day we had fascinated students, toddlers and parents stopping by to check on the butterfly's progress. We released 7 healthy butterflies into the world to continue their species and this was witnessed by many excited school community members.



Another warm thank you goes out to Stephen Oldham, a man I have not met but know I would like instantly because of his caring nature. Stephen heard that there are times when students at our school do not have access to a library bag that is their own and so he made 25 library bags for me to gift to students next year. They are beautiful and I am looking forward to putting smiles on some faces next year.

Borrowing from the library has been finalised for 2023. I ask that all books are returned this week before overdue notices are sent out on Friday. Students do not need to wait for their library day to return books. The last Book Club is due this Friday December 1st. Thanks for your continued support. *Melisa Deas*

Who's got worms? WE'VE GOT WORMS!!!

The World Class Musical Theatre performances of Global Worming are now available!

What an awesome Christmas present! The family can sit around on Christmas Day singing the songs, dancing the dances and being absolutely amazed at the talent on display at UBPS.

Below is the link for the Global Worming Videos. They are being sold as \$25.00 on a USB or \$20.00 as a direct download.

The quality of filming and sound, and of course acting, is superb. The school is not getting any profit out of these sales.

<https://www.dynamicvision.com.au/ubps.html>

What a great stocking filler!





We are so grateful to have local businesses, like Wiseberry and Baker's Delight supporting our school and our students. Wiseberry are teaming up with our social projects team to support Mary Macs to organise a Christmas Appeal that will support local families needing help this Christmas.

This is our opportunity to give back and here is how you can help:

Wiseberry Peninsula is asking our community to donate non-perishable festive foods such as pasta, pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned tuna, tinned spaghetti, baked beans, long life custard, Christmas pudding, gingerbread, shortbread, lollies, juice and long-life milk, as well as bon bons.

Wiseberry Peninsula staff members will

be at Sydney and Melbourne Ave gates on Wednesday 6 and Thursday 14 December to collect any donations.

You can also drop your donation into our office, where there will be a container for collections. Please get behind this great initiative and support our local families to make a difference for them this Christmas.



Parents and families, please contact the school if you are aware that you will be leaving us next year: this is really important information for us as we work to finalise classes for 2024. As class groups are informed by student enrolment data, it's important for us to include any new enrolments as well as plan for those students who may be moving to a new school in 2024. Thanks in advance for providing us with information of your new school and your last day of attendance at UBPS: please email this to the school via umina-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

We also encourage families to get in touch with the school if you wish to request a printed copy of your child's Semester 2 Academic Report. Each student's report will be published via the Parent Portal (you can also access this not only via your mobile but via computer browser, which makes it easy to read, print and share). If you would also like a printed copy of your child's report, please let us know by calling our friendly admin team or emailing the school: umina-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Have a great week. Mrs Nott

YEAR 6 INFORMATION

As we get closer to an exciting time for our amazing Year 6 students, we would like to share the following information about the upcoming celebrations. This year we have decided to hold a Year 6 Graduation Ceremony before the farewell arch on the student's final day. This ceremony will include the presentation of graduation certificates and a farewell gift from our wonderful P&C. The Year 6 Farewell to be held at **Umina Beach Surf Club**, is set to be a fun-filled event for our students with dinner and a disco. Information about our Year 6 Farewell has been sent to parents via an email and the portal. Please contact Mrs White if you have questions about these events.



Year 6 Farewell

Thursday 14th December
The event is will run as follows:
5:30 pm Students begin to arrive. Parents and students gather outside the venue to take photos etc.
6:00 pm Students and teachers enter the function room to be seated for speeches and dinner.
7:15 pm Disco
8:30 pm Finish time. Parents to collect students from inside the venue.

Year 6 Graduation

Year 6 Graduation Ceremony
Friday 15th December in our school hall

Parents and Carers are invited to attend

2:15pm- Ceremony begins. Year 6 students receive their Graduation Photo and farewell gift.

3:00pm- Students walk through the Farewell Arch



HPGE MATHS EXCURSION TO BWSC UMINA

On Friday 24 November, 15 Stage 3 students were selected to attend a special High Potential Gifted Education mathematics experience at BWSC Umina Campus. They participated in challenging and enriching mathematics activities which included trigonometry, measurement and number concepts while using technical equipment usually used for Stage 4 content. All the students participated enthusiastically and reported they enjoyed being challenged by the high school content. They will certainly continue to enjoy opportunities like this when they attend BWSC in the future.

Many thanks to the parents and carers for organising transport. And a huge thank you to Ms Perry and Mr Byrne for their amazing work with UBPS students.

Ms McLean -HPGE teacher



SCHOOL BAND 2024

In 2024, students in Year 3 to 6 will have the opportunity to enrol in our school band!

Umina Beach Public School hires out instruments:

Woodwind: Flutes, Clarinets, Saxophones

Brass: Trumpets, Trombones, Euphoniums

Percussion: Drums, Keyboard

*Bass guitar is an option if you own one.

If you would like your child to take part in our amazing band program, please sign up using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/dG4nrarWQxNpBhgH6>

At UBPS we value and care for our community, our students and our families and we're keen to show this in practical, helpful ways. As a result, we have recently set up a Community Pantry at school to help support and care for our families at Umina.

We have fruit, healthy snacks and sandwiches so that our children always have access to food at school, even in tough times. We can also discretely provide a meal for home, if needed.

If families need a little extra support from us, please send us a private message via the Parent Portal or FB and we'll get in touch with you with more information about our Community Pantry. You can also call or email the school, or your child's teacher, to ask for more details.

Please reach out to us if we can help in any way.



YEAR 2 EXCURSION



Last Thursday, Year 2 visited the Australian Reptile Park. The students, parents and teachers had a fantastic time exploring the park. They had fun learning first-hand about Australia's native animals. Ranger Mick was the highlight of the day, giving the students an amazing experience of seeing animals close up, sometimes getting to hold them and learning about animal safety.

DON'T FORGET TO HAND IN YOUR FREE DENTAL CHECK FORMS

NSW Health Primary School Dental Program

NSW Health is working with the Department of Education and public primary schools to offer free dental check-ups and preventive care, to all students as part of a school-based mobile dental program. Our school has been selected to participate the program.

Many parents may not realise two important things about their children's teeth:

1. Good oral health is essential for children to successfully learn and participate at school, and
2. NSW Health offers free public dental health services to all children under 18 years of age.

Learning and behaviour difficulties at school can start with tooth and gum problems. That's because decay and gum disease can cause pain and difficulties in eating, sleeping, talking, concentrating, and learning, which can in turn affect a child's behaviour in class. A child with tooth decay may feel self-conscious about the way their teeth look and feel, making it harder for them to join in class and social activities.

Our school is participating in the program and offering students the opportunity to have free dental check-ups in a comfortable and familiar environment at school. With a parent/carers consent, students are able to have a free dental check-up and free preventive care.

The program is scheduled to visit our school from [Select Date] to [Select Date].

A Parent Information and Consent Pack will be sent home with each student, and includes information sheets, consent forms and the program privacy statement. Parents/carers who want their child to receive care are advised to:

1. Read all the information provided in the pack
2. Carefully complete all the fields of the consent forms
3. Return the consent forms to the school as soon as possible

More information about the program or how to access public dental clinics is available on the NSW Health website at:

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/primaryschool dental _or
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/Pages/default.aspx>

If you have any questions, please contact CCLHD Primary School Mobile Dental Program – Wyong Hospital on 4394 4842 or email CCLHD-MDC@health.nsw.gov.au



Thursday 7th December 11.25 in our Aboriginal Education community room

We would like to invite all of our fabulous UBPS volunteers to come along to a morning tea to celebrate the year that was. We appreciate each and every one of you and would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



Glasses for Cambodia



I encourage our school community to engage in a very special international project, *Glasses for Cambodia*. If you have any old reading glasses at home, the wonderful Lyn Davis (previous principal of UBPS) is helping coordinate and deliver donated sets of reading glasses to a small village in rural Cambodia. If your family is anything like mine, you may tend to keep your old reading glasses after you acquire new ones. We have many old sets at home, but they are usually eventually thrown out. I'd love for them to be useful to others and this is the perfect opportunity to make that a reality. By donating your old glasses, you will help ensure that disadvantaged communities in Cambodia can experience the privilege of improved eyesight. Whilst it's not ideal to provide prescription lenses without consultation, the people of Anlong Pi in Cambodia live amongst the daily realities of extreme poverty and cannot afford an optometrist or the cost of the spectacles. We know that, in these circumstances, any contribution you can make to this project will be very much appreciated. This project has previously been coordinated at UBPS and, after a break of six years, our help has once again been requested. If you would like to know more about the community in Cambodia you will be helping through this project, click on the following link: <https://www.aljazeera.com/gallery/2013/10/23/life-in-a-cambodian-rubbish-dump>

We have a box in the foyer for any donations that you may be able to gift forward. Please make sure glasses are in good condition: lenses should not be cracked or broken. Donations will be accepted right up to the end of the year and the spectacles will be delivered to the village just after Christmas, 2023. Thanks again for considering contributing to this worthwhile initiative.

Mr Buist's HORRIBLE *and not so horrible* HISTORIES

The Life Of A Teacher

The following articles are about the funny and interesting experiences I have had as a teacher at Umina Beach Public School over the years.

I want to make the point that these are all true stories.

I'll start with this one.

"My Dad Died"

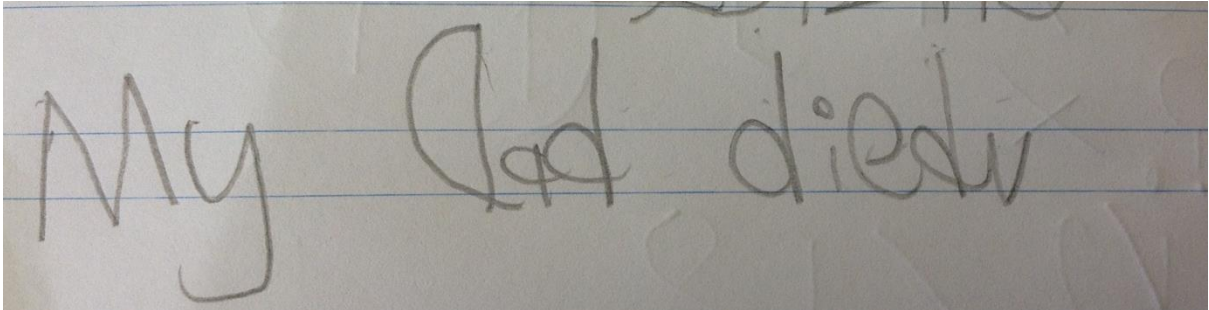
I was teaching Year 2 and it was about 5 weeks into the first term. The kids were getting used to the routine of the class, one of which was "Sentence a Day", where the students were given some theme words and a topic and were expected to write a sentence about that.

On this day, I'd told the kids that unlike the previous week or two where I'd been providing an example on the board that they had the option to copy, they'd have to create the sentence themselves. The theme was "proper nouns" and to help them the words "Sydney, Brisbane, Toyota and Mazda" were written on the

board. I also gave them a time limit, as I wanted them to get used to the idea of “Sentence a Day being a quick 5-10 minute activity.

At the end of the time, I got the kids to bring their books to me and then to sit on the floor so they could do “News”, whilst I checked their books. Things were going along smoothly, the kids where settled and listening to each other’s news, whilst I went through their books, occasionally calling up a student to explain an error. I then got to one boy’s book which had the sentence “My dad died”.

Well, that pulled me up quick. I reread it and the last word was a bit messy and squashed, but it definitely looked like “died”. Check for yourself:



You might already know that teachers become very adept at interpreting the writing of young students and even with all my years of experience I couldn’t work out an alternative to the word “died”. I then started to think about the significance of it. As teacher’s we are informed of any significant events that have occurred in a student’s life so we can understand our students. I hadn’t read or heard anywhere that this boy’s dad was dead. Then the thought struck me that what if I had inadvertently brought up this horrible memory because his dad was in a Toyota or Mazda or driving from Sydney to Brisbane when he died? I took a moment to think how to proceed and then I asked the boy to come up to me and I pointed to his sentence and said “Is this true?” to which he responded “No it should be ‘My dad drived to Brisbane.’, but I runned out of time to write it.”

Kids At Their Best

This next story happened on a Year 2 class also. I had a boy in my class who had a condition called “dyspraxia”. Now there are a number of versions of this condition, he had two of them. He had it with hearing so although he could hear sounds fine, the words someone spoke to him would become all mixed up as he tried to comprehend them. As if that wasn’t enough for him to cope with, he also had dyspraxia with his speech which meant his speech came out jumbled up. When he spoke he sounded almost like someone who is deaf where they don’t quite finish each word in a clear way.

Now being the game little fellow he was, that didn’t stop him from wanting to participate in “News”.

He’d get up in front of the class most weeks and he’d attempt to tell the class his news. Sometimes he’d have a toy or some object that the other kids could see what he was talking about, but sometimes he didn’t. Either way the kids would quietly listen as this young champion said something that I could never understand, before finishing his talk with: “Quere (rhyming with hair) Com”. Now the rest of the class knew that when he got to “Quere Com” that stood for “Are there any Questions or Comments”.

Every week without fail, other kids in the class would ask a question, with the response being something that I don’t think the kids could understand (I certainly couldn’t!). But that would not stop another kid from asking another question. And what makes this such a beautiful thing, is that the kids weren’t going out of their way “to be inclusive”, they were just being themselves. It’s moments like these that kept me teaching for so long.

OK this is from a few years ago and yes it’s from another Year 2 class! Little kids are so innocent and what they say and do can be just so memorable!

“The Overseas Trip”

At the very start of most years, the teacher’s take the kids they had the previous year for about an hour before forming the new classes while the office staff check on who has returned and who hasn’t. I decided to do a little activity about where the kids went for their holidays. One of the reasons I did this is because I knew that one of my little girls had gone to Sri Lanka to visit her family and I thought it would be interesting for the kids to hear about her trip. So, I started by getting all the kids to stand. Then I said “If the furthest you went in the holidays was just around Umina, sit down”. I then worked through different categories until it got to be just the kids who had gone overseas that where standing. Now obviously the girl I mentioned was left standing but also standing was a boy, which surprised me, because even though he was a really nice little fellow (though he could be a bit vague), his mum had recently had a baby and I didn’t think the family would be up to traveling overseas yet. However, I tried not to judge, so I said to him. “Wow, so you went overseas in the holidays?”

He nodded his head.

"So where did you go?"

He answered, "I went fishing."

Trying to stop myself (and some of my other kids) from laughing, I quickly got him to sit and asked the girl to tell about her holiday to Sri Lanka.

"The Best..."

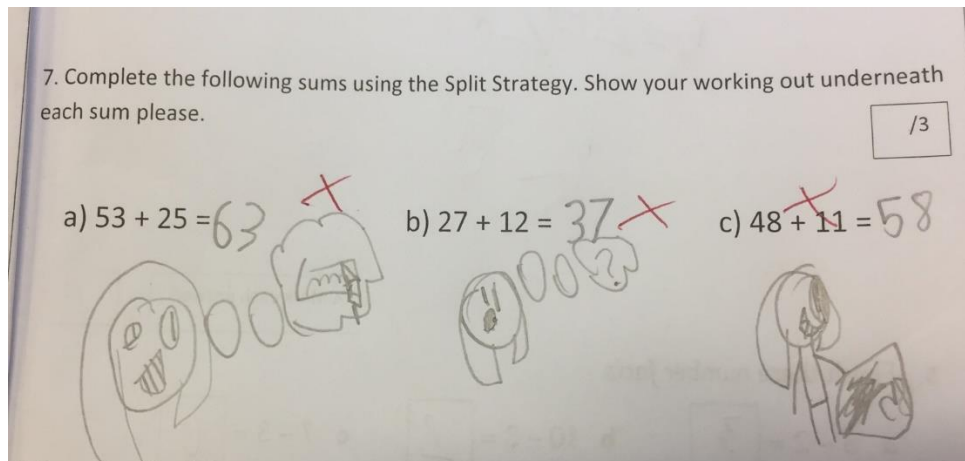
This true story is from just a couple of years ago (these students are still at school and might be able to figure out who it is I'm talking about!) The students were set a writing assessment with the topic being "The best..." with the children being able to choose whatever their favourite thing is.

Now being a Year 2 class, I gave them some ideas for their writing, such as it could have been "The best food", "best colour", "best animal", "best toy" etc. You might be able to imagine my astonishment when not only one, but two of my 8 year old students wrote about "The best element on the periodic table! With one of them writing about Magnesium and including details about how it burns underwater and it being a heavy element according to its atomic weight and the other student choosing an unstable radioactive element that I'd never heard of - "Neptunium!"

Test Answers

I've had some very interesting written responses from students over the years. Here's a couple:

- From a year 4 maths test. The question: Draw three different angles. One student did three drawings of stick figures, each with a different facial expression and each with wings and a halo.
- From another maths test: I'll let the photo explain. The second sentence in the question is the key.



Hunter Kids Umina Beach

Vacation Care Booking Form

December 2023 – January 2024



Fees Per Day:

Service Based \$76.50

Excursion/Incursion \$86.50

CONDITIONS

1. All fees need to be paid seven days after invoice. Fees are payable for days booked, irrespective of attendance. We have a NO REFUND or CANCELLATION policy once the program commences.
2. New enrolments will be required to pay the first week in advance at full cost. Child care subsidy will be applied and any credits will be refunded.
3. No swapping of days once program has commenced, only adding on days is allowed.
4. Our service is open daily from 6:30am - 6:30pm. We are unable to provide care outside of these hours. A late fee of \$5 per 15 minutes or part thereof per child will apply for children collected after 6:00pm.
5. Excursions. Staffing will be based on risk assessment. In the event the activities are cancelled, service-based activities will be offered.
6. Hunter Kids does not accept any liability for personal injury, property damage, personal items (including jewelry, glasses, and electronic devices) or any loss sustained by any child when attending the Vacation Care Program due to any cause whatsoever unless this has been caused by proven negligence of by the Approved Provider.
7. I have read, understood, and approved the information, policies and procedures on this form, the enrolment form, family handbook and centre policies and procedures.

Family/Guardian Name: _____

Family/Guardian Signature: _____

Phone Number Mobile: _____ Date: _____

Bookings (please tick the box each day the child will be attending)

CHILD 1:	Family Name:			First Name:		Age:
DOB:	CRN:			School:		
DATE:	MON 18/12	TUES 19/12	WED 20/12	THURS 21/12	FRI 22/12	ALL
DATE:	MON 08/01	TUE 09/01	WED 10/01	THUR 11/01	FRI 12/01	ALL
DATE:	MON 15/01	TUE 16/01	WED 17/01	THUR 18/01	FRI 19/01	ALL
DATE:	MON 22/01	TUE 23/01	WED 24/01	THUR 25/01		ALL
DATE:	MON 29/01	TUE 30/01	WED 31/01			ALL

What do children need each day?

1. Ensure each child has a complete lunchbox with snacks and lunch. Breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea is provided as per the menu.
2. Dress children in appropriate clothing & footwear for activities and bring a broad brimmed hat. No hat, no play!
3. Bring a water drink bottle every day or even two on hot days.

Return completed Booking form to:

Elaine McCourt

Hunter Kids OSHC or
hunter20kids@gmail.com

Hunter Kids Umina Beach

Vacation Care Booking Form

December 2023 – January 2024



CHILD 2:	Family Name:			First Name:		Age:
DOB:	CRN:			School:		
DATE:	MON 18/12	TUES 19/12	WED 20/12	THURS 21/12	FRI 22/12	ALL
DATE:	MON 08/01	TUE 09/01	WED 10/01	THUR 11/01	FRI 12/01	ALL
DATE:	MON 15/01	TUE 16/01	WED 17/01	THUR 18/01	FRI 19/01	ALL
DATE:	MON 22/01	TUE 23/01	WED 24/01	THUR 25/01		ALL
DATE:	MON 29/01	TUE 30/01	WED 31/01			ALL

CHILD 3:	Family Name:			First Name:		Age:
DOB:	CRN:			School:		
DATE:	MON 18/12	TUES 19/12	WED 20/12	THURS 21/12	FRI 22/12	ALL
DATE:	MON 08/01	TUE 09/01	WED 10/01	THUR 11/01	FRI 12/01	ALL
DATE:	MON 15/01	TUE 16/01	WED 17/01	THUR 18/01	FRI 19/01	ALL
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Elaine McCourt

Hunter Kids OSHC or
hunter20kids@gmail.com



KIDS SCHOOL HOLIDAY
WORKSHOPS

in Ettalong Beach

Selected dates in January
Limited places available



FLOWER POSY JAR

*Kid's school holiday
workshops*

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For more information, contact Erica
hello@wyldbynature.com.au

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- Bank reconciliations / general bookkeeping
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- end-to-end payroll (Including STP)
- BAS/IAS Lodgment
- Once-off catch ups
- Online business coaching (if you're doing your own books, we can help!)
- And much more, check out our website for more services

Bree Haritos
0420 940 816
briana@bkhbookkeeping.com.au
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