

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

APRIL 2026

Healthways Recreation Centre - We have a large range of facilities and activities that are all **ON-SITE** at Healthways and Mont Albert Reserve, and all **INCLUDED** in the price, including: Tenpin Bowling, Art & Craft, Swimming, Building Cubby-houses, Outdoor Activities & Games, Ball Games, Racquet Games, Cooking, Science Experiments, Board Games, Structured Play, Special Workshops, Special Incursions, Dress ups, Writing and Performing plays, Educational Themes, And lots more!!

Program Dates:

- Tues 07/04/26 – Fri 17/04/26

Program Time:

- Structured program 9.00am-4.30pm
- 3 activity sessions in the morning
- 3 activity sessions in the afternoon
- (Social grouping 7.45-9.00am & 4.30-6.00pm)

The aim of the program:

Healthways School Holiday Program aims to provide children with activities during the school holidays that are:

- Physically active and engaging;
- Creative;
- Stimulate lateral thought and problem solving skills;
- Make educational concepts fun! eg. STEAM activities;
- Encouraging of social interaction between the children, to develop a sense of community and skills in team-work;
- And that throughout the day, and throughout the holidays that the activities are varied to cater for different children's interests and capabilities.

Theme Days: Each day has a theme attached to it, where the activities on the day relate to a particular concept. Across the program, we try to provide a range of pursuits to encourage the next generation of modern renaissance boys and girls. "The term Renaissance person is used for a very clever person who is good at many different things." We hope you and the children enjoy the range of activities we organise! We have so much fun putting the ideas together and welcome your feedback and input. If you have any suggestions for themes please email us at healthways@healthways.com.au.

ENROLMENTS OPEN NOW. Enrol online at:

<https://www.healthways.com.au/boxhill/other-programs/school-holiday-program/>

EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY. No program Monday 06/04/26.



Tues 07/04/26

Melbourne's World-Renowned Street Art

Melbourne is world-renowned for our public art and street art scenes. Walking tours through Melbourne CBD's famous laneways are filled with tourists taking photos of murals, light shows and other installations.

Today we'll be having fun with our home town's street art culture. We'll be starting the fun with some 'Just Dance' hip-hop and pop dance moves. This was so much fun last holidays that we've picked out some more song favourites and are doing it all again. For art & craft we're going to try our hand at some street art techniques – starting with some templates and then using our surrounds to inspire canvases. We've also got some super cool street art inspired etch kits that the kids can try. In the afternoon we'll be playing music games & as Easter has just happened we've got some Easter egg wooden cut-outs that you can decorate and take home to make some Easter art installations at your house next Easter.



Full program with 6 activity sessions, incl: Bowling, Arts & Crafts, Physical Education/Games, Little Legends, Kids Club, Swimming AND MORE!!!!

Wed 08/04/26

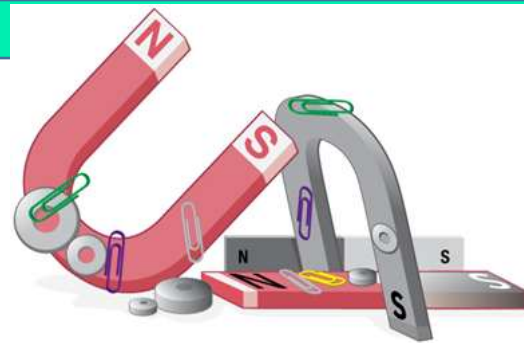
Science: Opposites Attract

Today we'll be entering a topsy-turvy world, and looking at all the things that are opposites. In our science sessions we'll be using concave and convex mirrors to get opposite images, and using light refraction through water to swap left to right. We'll also be exploring the science of magnets, that have north and south poles. Electromagnetism is used everyday, in everything from healthcare and transportation, to building and construction.

We'll be using magnets to build a magnetic maze; and we'll be making our own magnet art & craft to take home and show off on your kitchen fridge.

In the afternoon, we'll also make some Oobleck. Made from kitchen ingredients – cornflour and water – Oobleck is a non-Newtonian fluid and acts in the opposite way you would think. "GNOLA EMOC!" (Come along!)

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Thurs 09/04/26

Remarkable Reptiles

Today we'll be celebrating these remarkable animals and the special skills they are capable of. Reptiles are cold blooded which helps them conserve energy – today we'll be doing some science experiments with heat and thermal energy. Most reptiles are nocturnal – we'll be making it dark and playing some blindfold games. For art and craft, we have some special gecko diamante craft kits to make and take home. Gecko's have tiny hair-like structures on their legs that let them stick to almost any surface. Did you know that many lizards can drop their tails to escape predators – and then regrow them! In sport, we'll be playing games with pretend tails. And lastly, did you know that species of lizards and snakes can reproduce through parthenogenesis (basically cloning themselves)! In the afternoon the children will have the opportunity to do some symmetry art, to clone their pictures. So much to learn and do!



Full program with 6 activity sessions, incl: Bowling, Arts & Crafts, Physical Education/Games, Little Legends, Kids Club, Swimming AND MORE!!!!

Fri 10/04/26

Electric Vehicles: Science in Motion

Battery technology is the foundational component of electric vehicles, determining their driving range, charging speed, safety, cost, and overall lifespan. Today we'll be learning about the mechanics of how electric cars work and the batteries that make it possible. In our science session, we'll be making some lemon batteries. This classic STEM activity teaches the chemistry of electrical charge. Can our batteries create enough charge to light a light globe? We'll also be bringing out our electric drones for fun at the park. These are super fun! In art and craft we'll be constructing a craft car from recycled materials. And in the afternoon we'll be doing some science experiments with static electricity and playing balloon games.



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Mon 13/04/26

Crack the Code!

Calling all spy kids and code breakers! Today we'll be using our problem-solving skills to de-code secret messages, clues and patterns. In art and craft, we'll be making a cipher-wheel. These code making wheels can be used to write secret messages to your friends and family. We'll also be having some fun with invisible ink activity books – can you solve the puzzle and reveal the secret message? At the park, we're going to use our powers of observation for a fun 'Where's Wally' treasure hunt. And every secret agency needs a secret headquarters. In the afternoon, we'll be bringing out the cubby-house construction pieces to make some wonderful secret bases or lairs. "Mission complete, over and out..."



Full program with 6 activity sessions, incl: Bowling, Arts & Crafts, Physical Education/Games, Little Legends, Kids Club, Swimming AND MORE!!!!

Tues 14/04/26

Geography: Kenya

Kenya, located in East Africa on the equator, has the highest number of national parks in Africa and is home to the Masai Mara annual migration of over 1.5million animals from the Serengeti – one of the seven wonders of the world! Today, we're going to be learning about this amazing nature phenomenon, and in art and craft we'll be making some safari animal crafts. Kenya is also globally recognised as the "Cradle of Mankind", a hotspot for human fossil archaeology. We're going to pretend to be archaeologists for the day with a fun choc-chip cookie dig. With just a toothpick see if you can excavate all the choc-chips from the cookie. Kenya's national sport is track & field athletics. In our sports session today, we're going to include some mini-Olympics activities. "Tutaonana"... that's 'see you soon' in Swahili!



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Wed 15/04/26

Build your own Robot

Today, each child is going to receive their own 'Build a Robot' kit. These STEM kits are wonderful and the kids love them! Over two sessions in the day, the children will be engaged and busy as they organise their assembly, click pieces together, connect wires, and watch as their robot starts taking shape. It's always so exciting when the mechanics begin to move. In our sports sessions today we'll be making obstacle courses, and we're also going to bring out the 4WD construction tracks. These tracks are a holiday program favourite. Woohoo!



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Thurs 16/04/26

Kids on the Moon

There was a total lunar eclipse in March 2026, with the best views being from the Oceania region, including Australia. Today we're going to learn about the solar system and how the sun causes the phases of the moon. We'll do some science experiments to track the movement of the sun over the course of the day, and we'll do some torch and ball experiments to track how the moon looks from different parts of the world. For art and craft we'll be making some moons and planets and decorating their surface crusts. Most moons and planets have evidence of collisions with space matter – we'll also be doing some art activities with these asteroids and comets. In our sports session today, we'll be playing ball games, imagining they're planets hurtling through the universe. And we'll take our collection of stomp rockets to the park for some fun seeing how high you can make them fly.



Full program with 6 activity sessions, incl: Bowling, Arts & Crafts, Physical Education/Games, Little Legends, Kids Club, Swimming AND MORE!!!!

Fri 17/04/26

Breakfast-in-Bed

Mother's Day is just around the corner and having breakfast in bed is a classic favourite. Today will include a fun session in the kitchen learning how to make novelty toast – a variety of spreads and gluten free options will be catered for. We'll also be making and decorating some gifts for Mum or your special someone. In our sport session today we'll be playing parachute games – flicking the parachute up and down is like flicking your sheets out when you make the bed, don't you think? A good night's sleep keeps us healthy & growing – we're also going to be decorating our very own sleep masks to take home. And as it's the last day of the holidays we'll of course have our traditional end-of-holidays glow-in-the-dark bowling party too! Happy holidays everyone!



Full program with 6 activity sessions, incl: Bowling, Arts & Crafts, Physical Education/Games, Little Legends, Kids Club, Swimming AND MORE!!!!

Program Information

Eligibility to attend:

As per the national regulations, children can attend vacation care as of 1st January in the calendar year that they are attending primary school OR once they have turned 6 years old. So if your children are going to primary school in 2026, they can attend as of 1st January 2026.

Daily Routine:

7.45am-9.00am: Social grouping & free-play.

9.00am-9.30am: Daily Welcome and Ice-breaker games.

9.30am-4.30pm: Structured Program – your children will be active and engaged all day. We have 3 activity sessions before lunch and 3 activity sessions after lunch. The activities in each session change depending on the day's themes, but usually the morning includes Tenpin Bowling, Art & Craft, and Physical Education; and the afternoon includes Investigation and Discovery, Creativity and Problem Solving, and Physical Education.

4.30pm-6.00pm: Social grouping & free-play.

Daily Fees:

- Base Fee \$73.00 + Experience Fee \$31.00
- Total Fee = \$104.00
- (With Maximum CCS = \$10.40 out of pocket)

There are NO EXTRA CHARGES. Included in the above prices are ALL ACTIVITY COSTS, ALL SPECIAL EVENTS/ THEMES/ INCURSIONS and ALL MATERIALS for the daily Art and Craft, Science and/or Cooking sessions.

Children's Groupings:

The children are organised into groups of 15-20ish for their activities and then all groups come together at meal times – just like school. There are 6 activity sessions every day - 3 activities in the morning and 3 activities in the afternoon, so we have a maximum of 3 groups of children at any time. The groups rotate through the day's activities, so children participate in all 6 activity sessions over the course of the day.

Groups are organised on the day. We're able to group friends or family members together as needed. In the morning the children can let us know themselves that they want to be together, or parents can let us know at drop off on the day too.

Leaders:

We have an industry-leading staff ratio of 1:10. All leaders are experienced in working with children and have all their required qualifications. Most leaders work during the term as school teachers (eg. early education, primary, secondary) and/or arts teachers (eg. painting, drama, music, etc) and/or sports teachers (eg. swimming, cricket, football, basketball, dance, etc) and then work with us in the holidays.

Claiming the 'Child Care Subsidy' (CCS):

When you book a day at the holiday program you'll pay a deposit of up to \$30/day. (Where Centrelink estimates that your out-of-pocket fee is going to be less than \$30/day, you'll only pay the estimated amount at the time of booking.) Over the course of the holidays we submit your attendances to Centrelink. Centrelink calculates your applicable CCS and applies it to your holiday program account. On your enrolment form there is a place for you to fill in your CRN details to claim CCS. At the end of the holidays, if your CCS doesn't cover the balance of the day's fee, the remainder will be charged to the payment method on file. Payments are processed on the second Thursday after the end of the holidays. If your CCS covers more than the balance of the day's fee, the surplus will remain as credit on your account and can be used towards any future bookings. You will be emailed invoices detailing any CCS payments that Centrelink has made for your children.

For more information from Centrelink about CCS, go to <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/child-care-subsidy>.

A note about CCS and Absences on the first or last day of your enrolment:

Please note that as part of the new CCS rules, starting in Jan 2026, Centrelink will cover more CCS for more people. This is very welcome for working parents!

However, please note that as part of the new rules, if you are absent on the first or last day of your enrolment, Centrelink will not pay any CCS for that day. This is a rule that the industry has lobbied to change, but it is currently the legislation. If you are going to be absent on the first or last day of your enrolment and you want to claim CCS, you do need to come in to the centre and sign-in and sign-out such that you then either then don't have an absence or that your absence is not on the first or last day of your enrolment. If this applies to you, please contact us and we'll do our best to help you navigate this rule.

For more information from Centrelink about the rules around absences, go to: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/child-care-subsidy-if-your-child-absent-from-child-care?context=41186>.

What to bring:

- Clothing:
 - Socks & Closed-in shoes
 - Bathers, towel & goggles (Optional)
 - On sunny days (and all days Sept-April): Sun Hat, Sunscreen & Clothing that covers the shoulders
 - On cold days: Jumper and warm clothes to wear outdoors
- Food:
 - NO NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS – WE HAVE CHILDREN ATTENDING THE CENTRE THAT ARE AT SEVERE RISK OF ANAPHYLAXIS!
 - Morning play lunch
 - Lunch / Lunch order
 - Afternoon play lunch
 - Water bottle
- Any medication, personal requirements, etc.
- A small toy you might like to play with during social grouping time (ie. 7.45-9.00am & 4.30-6.00pm) while students are being dropped off and picked up. Please don't bring anything precious or valuable. (Optional)
- Maximum \$3.50 to spend at the canteen. (Optional)
- (Please note: Smart watches, mobile phones, electronic devices, etc are not permitted at the program. Please keep these items at home. Alternatively, they can be handed in to reception at the start of the day for safe keeping.)

Forget something?:

We're parents too and we know that life is busy!! So if you've forgotten something we have done our best to organise options to be available on the day for your child. For example:

- Forget your socks? Children need socks so that they can go bowling. We have socks available for purchase from the bowling area for \$4.00.
- Forget your lunch? We have lunch orders available. Order at reception in the morning when you drop-off.
- Forget your towel? We have towels available for purchase from the swim shop for \$10.00.
- Forget your drink bottle? We have drinks available for purchase from the fridge at reception for \$3.20.
- If you've forgotten something else, let us know and we'll try to help!

Any items supplied to your child during the day will simply be added to your family invoice and paid at the end of the holidays. No worries.

Changes to the activities:

We plan all the activities in advance, however, sometimes late or unexpected changes to the program are needed. This can be due to daily weather forecasts, emerging interests, children's individual needs, or other unexpected situations. When unexpected situations happen, please understand that our educators may need to adjust activities or the schedule to ensure all children remain safe, supported, and engaged. This is always our priority.

Children with additional needs:

We support all children including children with additional needs. If you would like to provide additional information about your child and his/her needs or require inclusion support funding, please contact us 6 weeks prior to program commencement on healthways@healthways.com.au for staffing purposes.

(An Optional Extra) Holiday Swim Lessons

Healthways' award winning Swim School also runs swimming lessons during the school holidays. Did you know that if you're attending the Holiday Program at Mont Albert North we can take the children to their intensive swimming lesson each day!

Use your holidays to learn swimming too! Classes run in the mornings. This allows your children to consolidate and build on their swimming skills every day.

- Max. 4 students in group classes!
- 3yrs to School Age levels!
- Private lessons also available!

Enrol at reception by phoning 98952300 or [CLICK HERE](#) to log into the swim school client portal and book online:

<https://www.healthways.com.au/boxhill/swimming-pool/swimming-lessons/book-now/>

More information about the swim school can be found here: <https://www.healthways.com.au/boxhill/swimming-pool/swimming-lessons/>

(Note: Swimming lessons and the School Holiday Program are booked via different software solutions. Please book them in separately and on the day just let the holiday program know that you're attending swimming lessons too. Easy!)



Holiday Swimming Intensive Group Classes

- ✔ Use your holiday to learn.
- ✔ Max. 4 students per class.
- ✔ Qualified Teachers.

Enrol via Your Client Portal or See Reception!

Program Available for:
3-5yr old | School Ages | Stroke Correction

Classes run in the mornings for 5 consecutive days. This allows your children to consolidate and build on their skills every day.

Weeks are booked individually.

Mont Albert North:
1-11 Arcade Rd,
ph. 9895 2300

Ringwood:
108-110 New St,
ph. 9879 5777

The poster features a blue background with a yellow wave at the top. It includes a logo of a stylized swimmer, a list of benefits with checkmarks, and three polaroid photos showing children swimming in a pool.



Holiday Swimming Private Lessons

- ✔ Use your holiday to get PERSONALISED TUTORING
- ✔ Get tuition in 1:1 or 1:2 lessons
- ✔ Qualified Teachers.

Enrol via Your Client Portal or See Reception!

Program Available for:
3-5yr old | School Ages | Stroke Correction | Squad | Access & Inclusion | Adults

These sessions can be used to focus on specific skills or to accelerate overall skill development.

Lessons are booked individually.

Mont Albert North:
1-11 Arcade Rd,
ph. 9895 2300

Ringwood:
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ph. 9879 5777

The poster features a yellow background with a blue wave at the top. It includes a logo of a stylized swimmer, a list of benefits with checkmarks, and three polaroid photos showing children swimming in a pool.