

# NSW SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

## SCHOOLS PROGRAM



Writing Copperplate with pen and ink



Writing lesson on slateboards with slate pencils

## HANDS-ON HISTORY PROGRAMS

*Immersive experiences in  
authentic settings*

### Stage 1 – School Life of the Past

Students are immersed in past daily school life through recreated lessons, outdoor activities and exploration of artefacts and other sources. They compare children's daily lives, use changing technologies and identify and interpret features of a variety of objects and remains of the past.

Supports History syllabus topics: *Present and Past Family Life* and *The Past in the Present*.

### Stage 2 – Continuity and Change

Students use primary sources and immersive experiences to investigate the continuities and changes in education from the 1880s to the present. They compare teaching methods, use past teaching and learning tools, and analyse a range of sources including artefacts, photos and learning spaces.

Supports History syllabus topic: *Community and Remembrance*.

### Stage 2 – At School At War

Students re-enact school children's contributions to the First World War as part of the war effort on the home front. They use 1914-1918 sources and props to understand the origins and significance of ANZAC Day and to build empathetic understanding of the impact of war on families and communities.

Supports History syllabus topic: *Community and Remembrance*.



Drill exercises using dumb-bells



Weighing vegetables for the war effort

**Step back in time  
to school days of the past**





# NSW SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM

## LEARNING EXPERIENCES

A visit to the NSW Schoolhouse Museum can give your students the chance to:

- **Experience** an 1880s school lesson sitting at long-toms by firelight
- **Examine** artefacts and discuss the stories they hold
- **Explore** remains of the past and consider change and continuity over time
- **Look** at early crafts and work samples treasured through generations
- **Write** on slate boards with genuine slate pencils
- **Dip** a pen to write Copperplate with ink
- **Study** early photographs of school children and discover life in the past
- **Use** jelly pads and/or rubber stamps as early technologies
- **Dress** up in pinafores, lacy collars, sailors' collars, red cross cloaks
- **Dance** around a maypole
- **Practise** military drill using wands or dumb-bells
- **Learn** cadet drill with semaphore flags
- **Roll** and fold bandages as Junior Red Cross members
- **Recreate** an Empire Day tableau
- **Spin** wool or make twisted threads
- **Play** with knuckles and marbles
- **Enjoy** early chants and outdoor games
- **Compare** life of the past to that of today.

In winter the open fires are alight and students cook toast over the coals.

*NB Learning experiences vary for each program. See the [Schools tab](#) on our website for specific activities and sample visit plans.*



Maypole dancing



Using a jellypad for printing



Examining contents of early school cases

## BOOKINGS

**No. of students:** Max. 105 students

**Duration:** 3-4 hours including recess and lunch

**Cost:** \$18 per student, no GST. Accompanying adults free.

**Calendar:** Check availability at [www.schoolhousemuseum.org.au](http://www.schoolhousemuseum.org.au)

**Parent helpers:** We ask that two parent helpers accompany each class in Terms 2 and 3 to help with the toasting activity. Parents and grandparents are welcome.

**Information pack:** Visit plan and links will be emailed.

*Check calendar then email your booking enquiry to [info@schoolhousemuseum.org.au](mailto:info@schoolhousemuseum.org.au)*

*Or phone 9805 1186. Email is preferred as it is checked daily.*

Each visit is staffed by a qualified teacher and experienced facilitators. Visit fees fund staffing, collection management, conservation and maintenance. The NSW Department of Education owns the building. The collection is owned and managed by the NSW Schoolhouse Museum of Public Education Inc. Emails are checked daily but phone messages are checked less regularly. Bookings are taken in order of receipt. We are open school hours in term time.

