

# CHILL OUT WITH CREATIVE FUNKY CANVAS

As the mother of three wonderful sons, Katie Gibbons believes that to survive the helter skelter of school demands and modern family life, both kids and adults need to 'chill out' and find the space they need to enable their expression and creativity to surface.

This has led to her establishing Funky Canvas offering after-school art classes for kids from K - Year 6.

The classes, set to commence with the new school term will be located above The Children's Bookshop at 6 Hannah Street, Beecroft.

Funky Canvas also offers pre-school classes, Children's Art - themed Birthday Parties, a school holiday workshop program and adult classes on request.

Before migrating to Australia from the UK in 2005, Katie studied Art and Design at Birmingham University.

"I had the opportunity to explore all the wonderful



*Katie Gibbons offering the chance to develop creativity through art with her new venture - Funky Canvas*

periods of art history and to do painting, drawing and finally sculpting with many different materials," she explained.

In 2010 she graduated from the International School of Colour & Design, North Sydney and she is returning this year to further her studies in Surface Design.

While not a trained teacher, Katie has

developed a K-6 program designed to ignite a passion for art through fun and the exploration of a number of techniques and mediums including: pencil sketching; charcoal and pastels before moving on to paint and testing mixing abilities with acrylics, watercolours and gouache.

Absolutely no experience is required and all materials are supplied by Funky Canvas and included in the fee.

The aim is for the children to enjoy the experience, learn about art and develop their own creative style and talent. All they need to bring is their afternoon tea!

Funky Canvas is also offering two-hour long Art themed Birthday Parties where the children can imagine, paint and take home their own masterpiece. Catering can be included or parents can choose to provide their own, all materials are included in the fees.

During School Holidays, a selection of three-hour

long workshops will be available in morning and afternoon sessions.

For Pre-Schoolers aged from three years, classes are planned which encourage children to explore using paints and craft supplies in a safe environment.

"We use fingers, hands and feet. Yes, we get messy! We look at colour and shape and link beautiful story books to create great works of art," Katie said.

This pre-school class is also linked into the school term timetable and will run for a few weeks each term, giving the children the opportunity to explore with confidence. The children can be dropped off and will be supervised in a small group.

To find out more about classes at Funky Canvas, SMS 0424 780 768 or email [katie@funkycanvas.com.au](mailto:katie@funkycanvas.com.au) Enrolment forms can be obtained from The Children's Bookshop or by email.