



### Relieving Principal's Message

What an outstanding day to wrap up the term! A big congratulations to all our students today for their behaviour and participation throughout today's athletics carnival. It was lovely to see our students stepping outside their comfort zone, giving activities a go and trying their best.

Last week I had the opportunity to accompany our Captains and Vice Captains to Keira High School for a Community of Schools Leadership assembly. Witnessing our leaders engage with leaders from neighbouring schools and sharing insights into their leadership journeys, was inspiring. I am very proud of the development and confidence our leaders are showing this year.



Following a trial this term, we have opted to revise the structure of our Monday afternoon assemblies. Going forward, assemblies will take place in Weeks 4 and 8 each term and feature a brief presentation from one of our classes. This will allow each class the chance to showcase their learning throughout the year. Term 2 will feature Year 6 and Years 1 & 2. Parents are welcome to join in our running club on a Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:30am.

Mrs Rhonda Morton has chosen to extend her leave into next term. I am honoured to remain in the role of Relieving Principal until the end of term 2.

Have a safe and relaxing break over the holidays. School resumes for students on Tuesday 30 April.

*Mrs Nicole Flynn*  
Relieving Principal

### Coming Events

**SCHOOL HAT EVERY DAY**

**HEALTHY LUNCHBOX EVERY DAY**

### Regular Events

- School Assembly – Mondays Week 4 & 8
- Running Club - Wed & Friday 8:30am
- Community Gardening – Tuesday 9:15am – 10:45am: call in via the office.
- Playgroup Tuesday 9am – 11am

### Term 2

#### Week 1

- Monday 29 April - Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 30 April - Students return to school
- Friday 3 May - School Cross Country

#### Week 2

- Tuesday 7 May – P&C Mother's Day Stall
- Thursday 9 May – Selective High School Test for students in Yr 6 who have applied (off site)

#### Week 3

- Monday 13 May – P&C Meeting 7pm Library
- Tuesday 14 May – Parent Teacher Interviews

#### Week 4

- Monday 20 May - School Assembly 2pm: Item presented by Year 6
- Tuesday 21 May – Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 24 May - **School Photo Day**

### What's due?

- Register for Wollongong Running Festival

### Dates for your diary

- **Friday 24 May: Photo Day**
- Sunday 2 June: Wollongong Running Festival (info for our students to come)
- 13 – 14 June: Stage 3 overnight excursion to Canberra (all students)



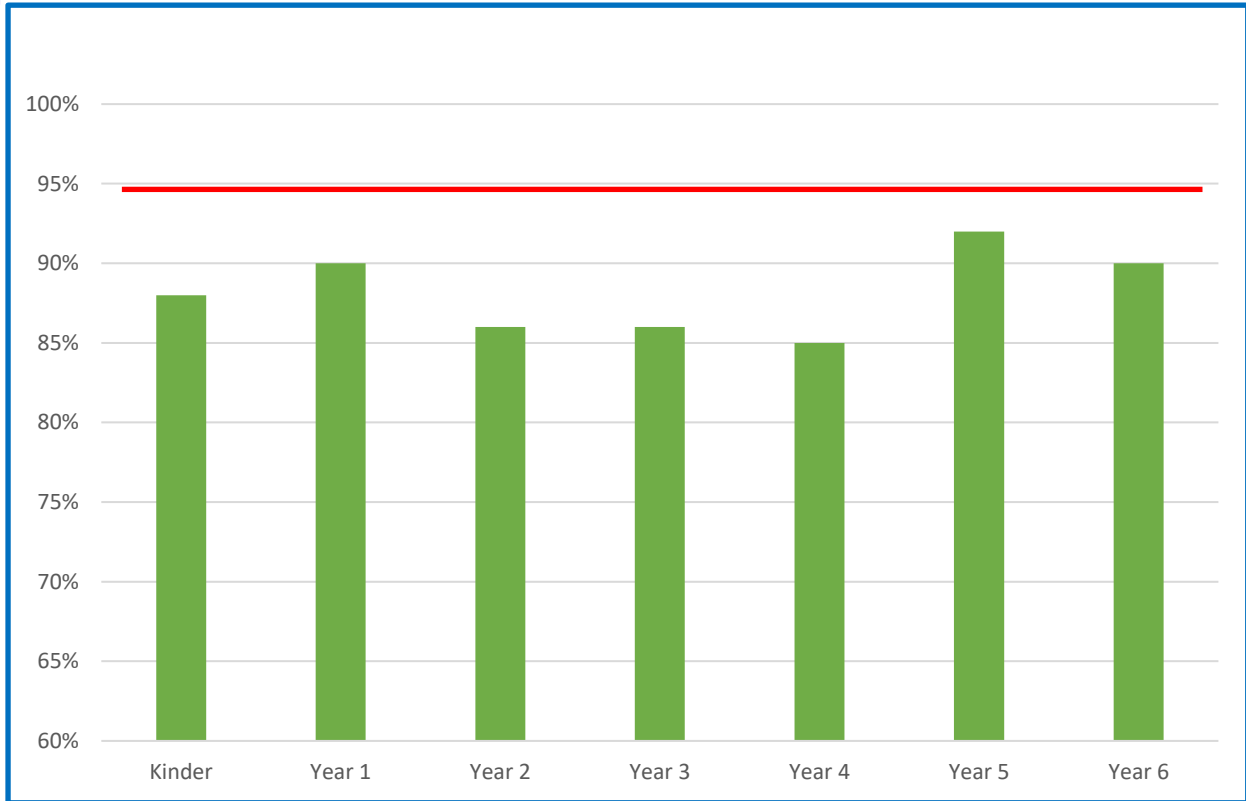
## Attendance – Every day counts!

This year we are really striving to have every grade over 90% attendance every fortnight.

The attendance graph below is for 27 March –10 April 2024. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.



*Great work Year 5 Boys and Year 6 girl at 93%*



Many students have been unwell over the last 2 weeks. Thank you for keeping students' home when they are unwell and providing communication to the school regarding their absence. It is a legal requirement to provide a reason to the school when your child is absent.

## P & C News

Thank you for supporting our Meal Deal Day last week. All funds raised will go back into supporting programs at school for our students. Keep checking here for opportunities to assist with future P&C events. All help welcome!

**Tuesday 7 May** – Mother's Day stall. Parents helpers needed to prepare items and sell on the day from 9am. Please let the front office know if you can help or email [conistonps.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:conistonps.pandc@gmail.com)

**Next P&C meeting: Monday 13 May, 7pm**

*Kind regards,  
Coniston Public P&C*





## Communication

As a parent or carer, you are an important part of our school community. We know that you play a crucial role in helping your child become a motivated learner. Communication between our school and our community is critical for us to partner together.

To give our teachers the opportunity to recharge, spend time with their families and bring their best creative selves to work, we are setting clear expectations for when and how they respond to communication outside school operating hours. This means teachers may not reply to non-emergency messages or emails outside of school operating hours.

Please use the school's email address for non-emergencies in the first instance or phone the office. Our staff will respond to your queries **within 2 school days** under normal circumstances.

For longer discussions or complex matters, we ask parents and carers to make an appointment to speak to teachers directly, at a time that works best for everyone.

For emergencies, please contact the office on 4229 1117. Emergencies include serious student health, safety and wellbeing issues.

Our staff will always stay in touch because open communication is what's best for your child and their education. We don't want you to stop communicating with your teachers – we still want to hear from you if you have any questions or need to discuss a matter about your child. We know it's often easier to send emails or messages after work. We will make sure we read and respond in school operating hours.

Our dedicated teachers want to help our students achieve their best – we're on the same team. Thank you for treating our staff with kindness and respect.

School email: [coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews are coming up in Term 2 – Week 3 and 4

Tuesday 14 May - 3:15pm and 6pm.

Tuesday 21 May - 3:15pm and 6pm.

***Booking information will be sent home on Tuesday 30 April***



## School Photos



MSP Photography Illawarra

T: 02 42613009

E: illawarra@msp.com.au

www.msp.com.au

**School:** Coniston Public School

**Photo Day:** Friday 24th May 2024

**You will receive an email with login instructions to order school photos on:  
Friday 3rd May 2024**

*If you do not receive an email with login instructions, please email or call MSP Photography directly, using the above contact details. Please do not contact the school as they do not have this information.*

- If you wish to purchase sibling photos, please be aware that the orders cut-off the night before photo day to allow for scheduling.

- You do not need to return any paperwork on photo day.

- Cash envelopes will be available at your school office if you are unable to place your order online.

**SAY  
CHEESE**



Preorder to receive packs at the bulk order rate. Orders placed after photo day will be charged at a higher price.

**LIFE IS  
EASIER  
WITH MSP**

## Anzac Day

On Thursday, Year 6 took charge of an Anzac assembly, guiding the school in honouring the brave individuals who have served to protect Australia. This assembly marked the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing on April 25, 1915, where Australian and New Zealand soldiers landed on the shores of Turkey. Anzac Day serves as a poignant moment to reflect on the sacrifices of past and present servicemen and women. To deepen their understanding, students engaged in classroom activities, crafting paper wreaths and poppy badges.

The City of Wollongong RSL sub-branch will hold an ANZAC Day dawn service and march on Thursday 25 April 2024.  
**5am - ANZAC dawn service      10am – ANZAC day march**

The Wollongong City ANZAC Day March: contingents will form up in Crown Street Mall Wollongong, facing Kembla Street, then turn right into Kembla Street, then right into Burelli Street, then turn left into Church Street.



## Opportunity Classes – Year 5 2025

**Applications are open 4 April - 20 May 2024**

Opportunity classes are one of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students.

The classes help students learn by:

- grouping them with other gifted students
- using specialised teaching methods so students can learn concepts in more detail and more quickly
- supporting their wellbeing needs.

Opportunity classes provide an environment where students can learn and make friends with classmates of similar ability. This can benefit students' academic progress and wellbeing. Opportunity classes are **not** zoned.

These classes are offered in Years 5 and 6, with parents/carers applying when their child is in Year 4. If you would like to discuss whether you think you should apply, please contact your child's teacher.

Parents/carers apply online between Thursday 4 April and Monday 20 May 2024 at:  
[education.nsw.gov.au/oc](https://education.nsw.gov.au/oc)

## Library News

### NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

The 2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge has started at Coniston PS and all the students are excited! The reading challenge is an initiative which aims to develop a love of reading for leisure and pleasure. It encourages students to engage with quality literature and promotes the benefits of reading. The Premier's Reading Challenge involves all students in K-6.

K-2 classes will be read to by their teacher and will complete the reading challenge in class at school. If students in Years 3-6 wish to participate in the reading challenge they need to read 20 Premier's Reading Challenge books independently and enter them online on the Premier's Reading Challenge Student Site. The PRC student site can be accessed through the Student Portal.

Also, please find the link below:

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>

All students in Years 3-6 have been introduced to the reading challenge in library lessons and will be supported throughout the challenge at school. The 2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge finishes at the end of August.

**Happy reading!**

*Mrs Smith*  
Teacher Librarian





## Athletics Carnival 2024



## Stage 3 - History

Stage three have been learning about Australia's past with Mrs Hill, including Aboriginal and colonial history. As a research project, all the students were involved in group slide show presentations. They even dressed up! The students learnt a lot about early settlers, bushrangers, gold diggers and convicts. They did an excellent job at both researching AND presenting their work to the rest of stage three. A very worthwhile learning experience!!





# WOLLONGONG RUNNING FESTIVAL

## We need you to join our school team!

In 2024 we will again be participating in the Wollongong Running Festival. This year the Wollongong running festival will be held on Sunday 2 June at Stuart Park North Wollongong. Students will participate in the 2km Fun Run which starts at 9:30am, (arrive by 9am to collect participant bib). Teachers will also be running with the students.

To register as part of the school team:

1. Head to <https://www.wollongongrunningfestival.com>
2. Along the top of the website go to Enter, click on Team Entries
3. Scroll down to school initiative and click register now
4. Fill out your details
5. When you get to TEAM select join a team
6. Click on the down arrow and select "Coniston Public School"
7. Make sure you have filled out all required fields
8. Press Submit
9. You will then be taken to the payment page
10. Type CPS in the promotions code box.

**Register before the 30 April** and use the promotion code 'CPS'. The entry fee will come down to \$15.

If we are the school with  
the most entries, we will  
win \$500 for the school!





### Easy swaps to save you money

Swapping from sometimes foods to everyday foods in the lunchbox can help save money.

Swap from:

- Cereal bars to raisin bread and save \$2.85 per week
- Packaged potato chips to rice crackers and save \$1.05 per week
- Muesli bars to a fresh apple and save 75c per week

**SWAP FROM**  
  
Cereal bar



**SWAP TO**  
  
Raisin bread

For more tips on cutting the cost of lunchboxes, visit:  
[www.swapit.net.au/savemoney](http://www.swapit.net.au/savemoney)



### Multicultural Supported Playgroups

PLAY, LEARN, CONNECT



### Playgroups are back in 2024!

Tuesdays (School Term only)  
9:00am - 11:00am (ages 0-5)  
Coniston Public School  
123 Auburn St, Coniston NSW 2500

To register your interest, please contact Paulina!  
Mobile: 0431 123 389  
Email: [ppesavento@ims.org.au](mailto:ppesavento@ims.org.au)







# DISCOVER A WORLD OF HOLIDAY FUN!



ROCKETEERS



Child Care  
Subsidy (CCS)  
available  
for eligible  
families.

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY  
BOOKINGS NOW OPEN**

\*Please note the fees on the following pages are only of the maximum Child Care Subsidy (CCS) a family may be entitled to. To find out your eligibility, simply log into MyGov and complete your CCS Assessment.

[www.campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers](http://www.campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers)

by  **Camp  
Australia**



# MISSION XIII PROGRAM

**Coniston Public School**

**Address:** 123 Auburn Street CONISTON NSW 2500

**Phone:** 0405 449 285    **Program Times:** 07:00 am - 06:00 pm



## Mon 15 Apr Mission Takeoff XIII: Camp Explorers

Get set for an adventure-packed camping themed day! Master navigation with your handmade sundial and compass. Dive into Aussie tradition with damper bread making. Plus, team up for tent decorating fun with friends!

Full Fee \$97.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$9.70



## Tue 16 Apr Operation: Kartoon Kids

Channel your alter ego and immerse yourself in the world of beloved cartoons! Whether you come dressed up as your favourite cartoon character or create your own comic flip books, it's your chance to unleash your creativity however you like.

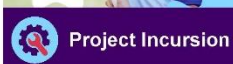
Full Fee \$80.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$8.00



## Wed 17 Apr Big Art Day: Umbrella Art Showcase

Get set to explore the theme of belonging through creativity! Dive into an engaging book before unleashing your artistic flair on a blank umbrella. Then, at the end of the day, showcase your vibrant art with a gallery exhibition hosted at Base Camp!

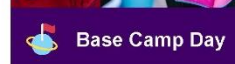
Full Fee \$101.50 | After Max. CCS\* \$10.15



## Thu 18 Apr Operation: Messy Makers

Time to get messy! Discover a day of delightful chaos where you could play with slime or even try painting without brushes and so much more. Let your imagination run wild and get ready to make some MEGA mess!

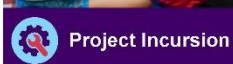
Full Fee \$80.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$8.00



## Fri 19 Apr Project: Rainbow Pasta Party

Craft your very own, all-natural rainbow-coloured pasta! Whip up signature pasta sauces and immerse yourself in the rich Italian culture with trivia and games for a party like no other! You'll get to take home a special Rocketeers rolling pin too!

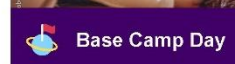
Full Fee \$102.50 | After Max. CCS\* \$10.25



## Mon 22 Apr Operation: Earth Day Extravaganza

Let's get involved in some eco-fun and celebrate Earth! We'll celebrate Earth Hour, share ideas on how to be 'greener' and explore ways to protect our planet.

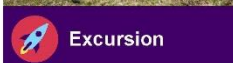
Full Fee \$80.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$8.00



## Tue 23 Apr Adventure: Wild Encounters at Symbio Wildlife Park

Explore various native and exotic species as you enjoy a self-guided tour through the park grounds learning about sustainability, then get close with our adorable farmyard friends!

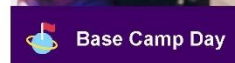
Full Fee \$135.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$13.50



## Wed 24 Apr Operation: Jungle Craftopia

Embark on a wild jungle adventure where you might craft paper chain pythons, have some jungle-themed sensory play, and explore the wild safari in various ways. Let the roars of the jungle ignite your imagination!

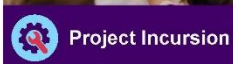
Full Fee \$80.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$8.00



## Fri 26 Apr Project: Shadow Puppets & Dice Tales

Unleash your imagination and discover the magic in storytelling! Craft your own shadow puppets and story dice and make a special puppet theatre to perform on. Then it's showtime as you breathe life into your creations and perform your stories!

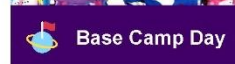
Full Fee \$102.50 | After Max. CCS\* \$10.25



## Mon 29 Apr Operation: Pyjama Party

Don your PJs for a day of fun at Base Camp! Let's have a blast with awesome sleepover themed activities as we munch on some classic sleepover snacks and dive into fun dreamy adventures. It's a sleepless party like no other!

Full Fee \$80.00 | After Max. CCS\* \$8.00



Visit [campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers](http://campaustralia.com.au/rocketeers) to join our next mission

by Camp Australia



**NEW  
EDITION  
AVAILABLE  
NOW**

# DIGITAL CHILD SAFETY HANDBOOK

We are pleased to advise that a new edition of this valuable safety resource is now available online with updated safety content.

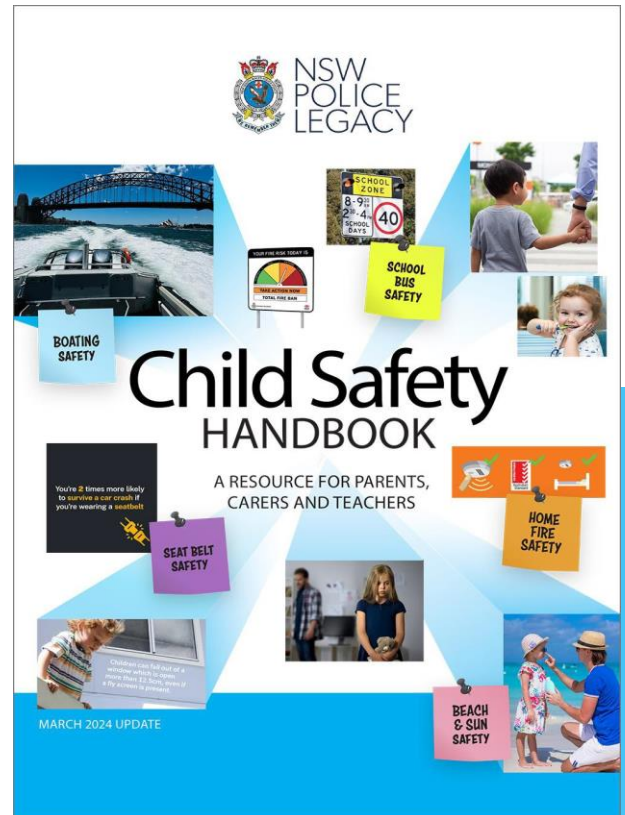
We urge all parents and carers to download this latest edition and discuss the safety content with your children.

**Child Safety Handbook App** available for download:



## Visit the Child Safety Hub

[Read the Child Safety Handbook](#)



## Creative Kids Vouchers

## \$50 Active and Creative Kids Vouchers

The NSW Government is helping to make activities more affordable for eligible NSW families with the new Active and Creative Kids Vouchers program.

There are 2 x \$50 vouchers, issued in school term 1 and school term 3. To be eligible for the vouchers a student must be a resident of NSW, enrolled to attend a government or non-government school, or registered for home schooling in NSW during the 2024 school year and receive Family Tax Benefit Part A, or Family Tax Benefit Part B, or both. The vouchers are now available and can be redeemed at registered businesses before their expiry date.

Parents, carers, and guardians can apply for the Active and Creative Kids Vouchers via their MyServiceNSW Account, in the Service NSW app or website or by visiting a Service NSW Service Centre.

Vouchers will be provided as a downloadable QR code. They can either be used separately, or both vouchers can be redeemed in the same transaction (once the second voucher is available).

Each voucher can only be redeemed once. If the transaction is less than the amount of the vouchers redeemed, then the remaining balance is forfeited.

For further information about the program, eligible activities and registered businesses visit <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/active-and-creative-kids-voucher>

Join us for a

# RECONCILIATION WALK

Thursday 16th May 2024 | Starting at 11am

## NOW MORE THAN EVER

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2024 27 MAY – 3 JUNE #NRW2024 RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



You're invited to join us from 11am for a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Performances at Lakeside Reserve, Koonawarra Bay. This will be followed by a short walk and a BBQ at 12pm at the Koonawarra Community Centre.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

SMOKING CEREMONY

GUEST SPEAKERS

For further enquiries contact  
CareWays on 4261 8426 or  
email [help@careways.org.au](mailto:help@careways.org.au)



CareWays  
community



Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts Production

WOLLONGONG HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS  
P R E S E N T S

# MAMMA MIA!™

30 MAY - 8 JUNE

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY  
**BENNY ANDERSSON**  
**BJÖRN ULVAEUS**  
AND SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

BOOK BY  
**CATHERINE JOHNSON**  
ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY  
**JUDY CRAYMER**

LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA).  
ALL PERFORMANCE MATERIALS SUPPLIED BY HAL LEONARD AUSTRALIA

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE AT  
[WOLLONGONG-H.SCHOOLS.NSW.GOV.AU](http://WOLLONGONG-H.SCHOOLS.NSW.GOV.AU)

## Port Kembla Youth Project



**Port Kembla Youth Project is conducting  
Homework Hub  
Assisting students with  
Tutoring and Homework Help**  
*Small Group Programs open to:  
Primary and High School Students*

***Enrolment Essential***

**Tuesdays during School Terms**

Available online and in person.

**FREE**

Contact our Youth Team on 02 4276 1229 or email [team@pkyp.org.au](mailto:team@pkyp.org.au) for bookings

Sponsored by:



**Macedonian  
Welfare**  
ASSOCIATION of NSW Inc.



**Family &  
Community  
Services**



BlueScopeWin, Port Kembla  
Youth Project, Macedonian Welfare Association

of NSW Inc, Family and Community Services and Wollongong City Council.

**Port Kembla Youth Project is conducting  
Splash Swim Program**  
*Water Confidence,  
Learn to Swim, Stroke Correction,  
Parent Baby and Adult beginners*

***Enrolment Essential***

**Thursday and Friday afternoons**

**\$11 a lesson**

*Active Kids Provider (up to \$100 paid for school aged children)  
First Laps Provider*

**Call or text our Swim Coordinator on 0434 938 480**

or email [team@pkyp.org.au](mailto:team@pkyp.org.au) for enrolments





## Killalea Regional Park



April 2024

# Cultural Workshops these holidays



For details & bookings follow these links:

18th April



Experience  
*Gumaara*

24th April



Traditional  
Weaving





## Primary Ethics

Ethics is available at Coniston Public School for children in years 5 / 6. Ethics can also be available for children in years 1 / 2 / 3 / 4, depending on student numbers.

Ethics classes run in the SRE (Scripture)/SEE (Ethics) timeslot each week – on Wednesdays between 9am – 9:30am.

In ethics, students explore everyday issues suitable for their age. They learn to listen closely to each other, to disagree without putdowns and to think carefully as they form their own opinions through ethical reasoning. Ethics is for children of all faiths and none. Classes are free and are run by specially trained Primary Ethics volunteers.

You can find more information about the Primary Ethics curriculum [here](#).

Watch a video: A snippet of an ethics lesson [Empathy – an ethics class on Insight SBS-TV - Primary Ethics](#)

Contact our school office if you want your child to attend ethics classes.

Contact Feyza Tuncay via [feyza.tuncay@primaryethics.com.au](mailto:feyza.tuncay@primaryethics.com.au) if you are curious and would like to learn more about Primary Ethics' program.



Ethics classes are now an option at our school

"It really helps with my confidence to know my opinion is valued in ethics - and it's a lot of fun"

**Primary**  
**ETHICS**

[www.primaryethics.com.au/about-ethics-classes/](http://www.primaryethics.com.au/about-ethics-classes/)

## PCYC Holiday Program

### April School Holiday Activities

COST: \$45/day (\*\*\$55/day)

AGES: 5-12 years

TIME: 8:30am - 3:00pm (4pm for added \$11)

**BOOK NOW**



**PLEASE BRING:** Water bottle, lunch, enclosed shoes

**WE ACCEPT CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS**

Mon 15th April	Parkour - Dodgeball - Felt Tissue Holders
Tues 16th April	***Gymnastics - Silent Disco - Bead Bracelets
Wed 17th April	MEET MY SQUAD DAY --- Parkour - Team Activities - Magic Painting Pictures
Thur 18th April	***Parkour - Nerf Wars - Bead Leg Bears
Fri 19th April	Gymnastics - Ten Pin Bowling - Wooden Boats
Mon 22nd April	***Parkour - Nerf Wars - Create Your Own Wooden Puzzles
Tues 23rd April	Gymnastics - Balloon Volleyball - Peg Animals
Wed 24th April	***Gymnastics - Nerf Wars - Loom Bands
Thurs 25th April	CLUB CLOSED - ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Fri 26th April	***Parkour - Nerf Wars - Wooden Animal Keyrings
Mon 29th April	BRAIN BOOSTER DAY --- Brain Teaser Activities - Paper Cup Characters

Phone: 4284 3878 | Email: [bulli@pcycnsw.org.au](mailto:bulli@pcycnsw.org.au)

Website: [www.pcycnsw.org.au/bulli](http://www.pcycnsw.org.au/bulli)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pcycbulli](https://www.facebook.com/pcycbulli) | Instagram: @pcycbulli

## Wollongong City Council - Skate Park

### [Let's Talk Skateparks](#)

Wollongong City Council is working on four exciting skate park-related projects over the next two years. This includes building two brand new skate spaces in Wollongong City Centre and Thirroul. Right now, they want to hear from local skaters about who they are, and when and how they use skate parks. Visit [our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au](http://our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au) to find out more and fill in an online survey. This feedback will help design contemporary new skate spaces that meet everyone's needs. Feedback closes 1 May 2024. Complete the [online survey](#).



## Contact Details

Coniston Public School  
123 Auburn Street  
Coniston NSW 2500

P: 02 4229 1117

E: [coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

W: [coniston-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://coniston-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ConistonPS](https://www.facebook.com/ConistonPS)