



Celebration time!

Welcome back to Term 3! I'm excited to be stepping into the role of Relieving Principal for the next six weeks and look forward to working in partnership with our wonderful school community to support every student to thrive.

During the last week of Term 2, NAIDOC Week was observed with a range of class activities, including dreaming stories, history lessons and relevant discussions. This year's theme is The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy.



A group of our Aboriginal students chose to come together to replant our Harmony Garden where our Acknowledgement to Country is located. Thank you to these wonderful students and Ms Daly and Mrs Morton for your organisation.

Sarah Martin
Relieving Principal

Coming events

Week 3	Week 4	Week 5 – Book Week!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 4 – Wednesday 6 August: Stage 3 Camp Monday 4 August 7pm: P&C Meeting (Library) Tuesday 5 August: 9 – 11am: Playgroup Friday 8 August 9 – 9:30am: Public Education Week open classrooms. All parents/carers are invited to see your child in their classrooms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 11 August 2:15pm: Whole school assembly – Year 1 (Darwinia 1) class item; parents welcome Tuesday 12 August 9 – 11am: Playgroup Tuesday 12 August - 6:45am – 3pm: Cantabile choir rehearsal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 18 August – Friday 22 August: Mobile Dental Bus Tuesday 19 August: 9 – 11am: Playgroup Thursday 21 August 10:15am: Book Week Parade and BYO Picnic Lunch (families welcome) Thursday 21 August 10:45 – 11:45am and 2:30 – 3:30pm: P&C 2nd hand book stall for families (Library) Friday 22 August 8:30 – 9:30am: P&C 2nd hand book stall for families (Library) Friday 22 August - Incursion Book Week.

For your diary

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 1 September 7pm: P&C Meeting (Library) Tuesday 2 September 9 – 11am: P&C Father's Day Stall Thursday 4 September: P&C Pie Drive delivery Monday 8 September 2:15pm: Whole school assembly – Year 4 (Acacia 2) class item; parents welcome Wednesday 17 September: P&C Disco. K-2: 4.30 -5.30pm. Year 3 -6: 6-7 pm. Library.
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What is due?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 18 August: P&C Pie Drive orders
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What is overdue?

- There are no items currently due



Contact Details

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConistonPS

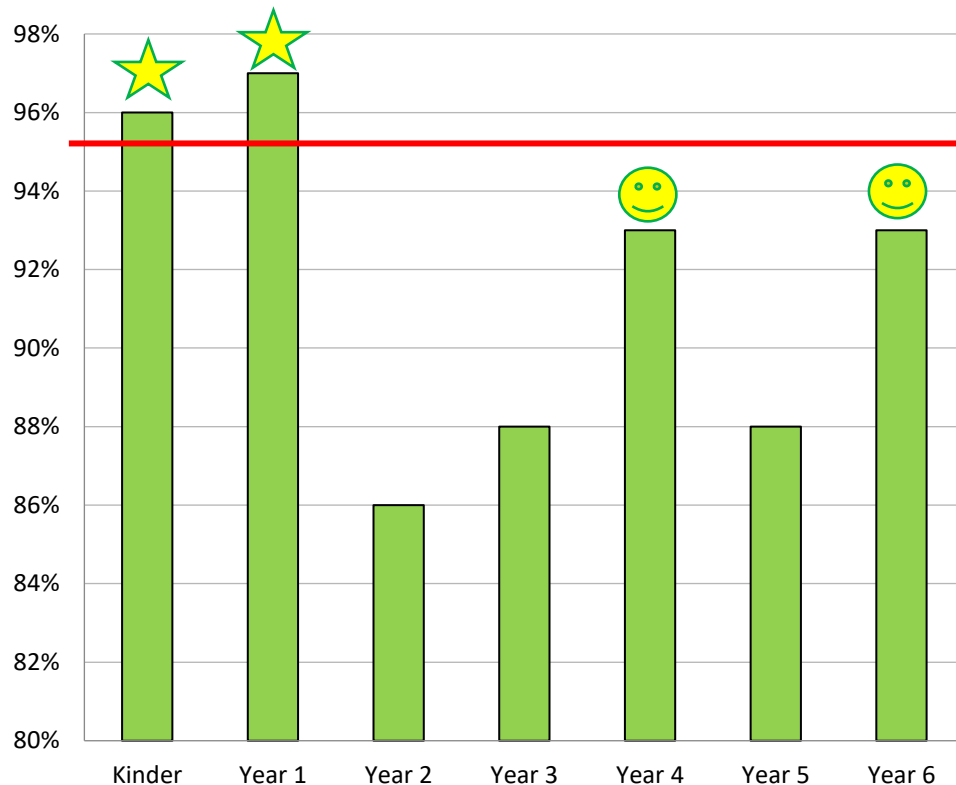
Attendance – Every day counts!

Welcome back everyone! Let's see if we can meet our 95% target more often this term.

Please remember though, that for the safety and wellbeing of others, please keep your child at home if they are unwell. You can ring us to let us know or respond to your SMS message. If your child is absent for more than two days due to illness, please provide a medical certificate on their return to school.

The attendance graph below is for the period 26 June – 30 July 2025. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.

Congratulations, Year 1 - 97% attendance!



Here are three tips to support regular school attendance and respond when child says they don't want to go to school:

1. Stay calm, listen, and validate - but keep the routine.

When your child says they don't want to go, acknowledge their feelings ("It sounds like something's hard today") but stick to the routine. Predictable structure helps reduce anxiety and builds trust.

2. Focus on connection instead of consequences.

Avoid threats or lectures. Instead, ask gentle questions to find out what's going on and work together on small solutions - like arriving a bit earlier to feel settled. Children are more likely to attend when they feel safe and connected.

3. Celebrate effort, not just attendance.

Praise small wins like "You got out of bed even when it was hard" or "You walked through the gate today." This builds your child's confidence and resilience over time.

Back to Term 3 Learning Across the School

Students have returned with great energy this term and have been busy diving back into their learning across all year levels. Please see the photos below for a glimpse of the great learning happening across our school.

“Kindergarten have started strong this term! We are learning the sounds of some common digraphs (two letters that make one sound), such as ‘ch’, ‘sh’ and ‘th’. We have also been noticing how teen numbers end with ‘teen’ and tens numbers end with ‘ty’. We are reading and writing and thinking like scientists. We are learning drama, and emotional regulation and tactics in sports. We love learning in Kindergarten!”

By Ms Fist.



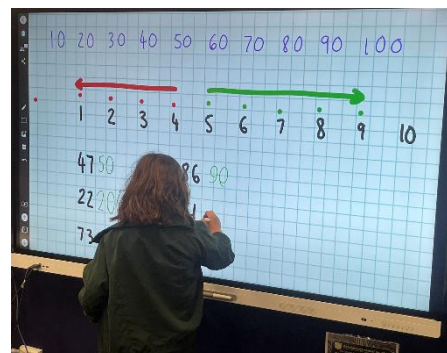
“This week in Year One, we’ve been diving into the world of place value. The students have been learning how to break numbers into tens and ones to help them solve addition and subtraction problems. By splitting larger numbers into their place value parts, they are discovering how much easier it is to work with big numbers. It’s been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they begin to understand how numbers are built and how they can take them apart and put them back together again! We took part in a consolidation activity where we built a given number using MAB blocks, then revealed our creations to a partner to see if we had used the same combination of blocks - or found a different way to make the same number!”

By Mrs Rodgers.



“This week in Year Two our young mathematicians are rounding numbers! Rounding is a valuable skill that helps simplify numbers, making them easier work with in everyday situations. Our students are learning how to round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100 which is an exciting step in their mathematical journey. Through engaging, hands-on exercises, children are exploring how rounding can help estimate sums, understand number patterns and make quick calculations. By the end of the week, they will have a solid understanding of rounding as they continue to build a strong foundation in numeracy.”

By Mrs Jacobs.



“In English we have been learning to change statement sentences into question sentences. In maths we have been learning the addition levelling strategy.”

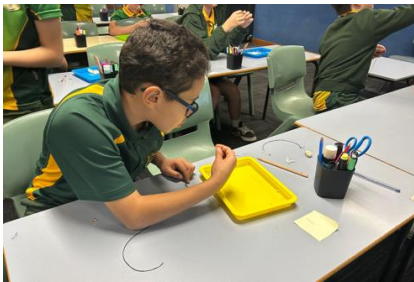
By Mr Whittaker.



“Students in Year 4 are learning to write persuasive paragraphs. We are practising how to clearly state our opinion, support it with reasons and conclude with a strong closing statement.”

By Mr Kauffman.

“In 5/6A, we kicked off the term by focusing on athletic skills and engaging in cultural games during our physical education sessions. As part of The Resilience Project activities, we explored various strategies to “fill our buckets” and enhance our emotional regulation. We reflected on our personal values and crafted bracelets or keychains as tangible reminders of these important principles.”



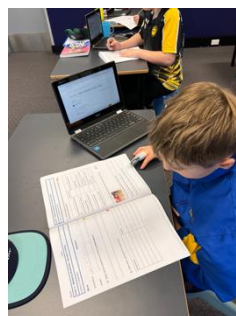
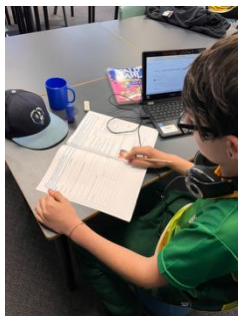
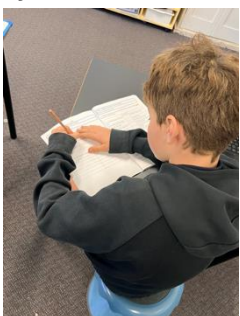
“Year 5-6 are straight back into learning for Term 3. We have been exploring force in science and how the pressure of elastic bands around a watermelon causes it to explode.”

By Mrs Macrae



“In Cedar 3, the students have been working hard in literacy during their literature study - focusing on vocabulary building, reading comprehension, writing skills and a deeper understanding of the novel’s elements and themes.”

By Mr Formica



Homework Policy – Parent and Community Survey

We are reaching out to invite your feedback on developing our school's homework policy.

Department of Education NSW policy states that homework guidelines must be:

- relevant to student needs
- developed in consultation with key school community stakeholders including staff, parents or carers and students

While the policy itself is compulsory, the setting of homework and any time allocations across year levels is not compulsory (Department of Education NSW).

To gather your insights, we will be sending home a survey that you can complete either digitally through the provided link or via a paper copy. We kindly ask that you complete or return your responses by the end of Week 4, Friday August 15. Your input is invaluable in helping us shape our homework guidelines, ensuring they reflect our community's needs and expectations. Students will have an opportunity in class to give feedback on homework. Thank you for your involvement in this important process.

[Homework Parent & Community Survey - Coniston Public School](#)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVPGO3pOsmc1R_bQpMt5C_gqaNkM34adi7PH8_bgK0td5zZA/viewform

NAIDOC Week - Harmony Garden Photos



SRC Pyjama Day, P&C Pizza Meal Deal, PBL Movie and Kindness Door Challenge Popcorn



Library News


During Semester 1 Stage 3 students in 5/6A and 5/6P studied the History unit 'Australia as a Nation'. A research task they completed during library lessons investigated the roles significant individuals played in shaping Australia eg explorers, farmers, artists, writers, entrepreneurs, political leaders and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. The following drawings were completed as an important part of their research task on significant people in early Australian times.

5/6A



Mary Reibey
 ~ merchant ~
 ~ Ship owner ~
 ~ property owner ~

Lola




David Unaipon
 ~ author & Aboriginal ~
 ~ activist ~

Bo




Catherine
 Spence Heppen
 ~ Author & Politician ~

Esme



Mary Reibey
 ~ Merchant ~
 ~ Prosperous ~
 ~ Affluent ~

Chae Meh



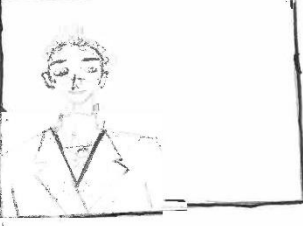
John Flynn
 John Flynn is the
 owner of doctor
 flying service

Abdul




Edith Cowan
 Social worker

Elena



Dame Mary
 Gilmore
 ~ Poet ~
 ~ Journalist ~

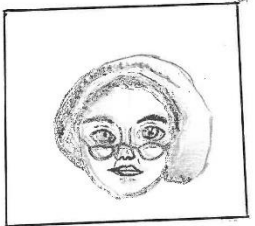
Lyla



David unaipon,
 Inventor
 and
 author.

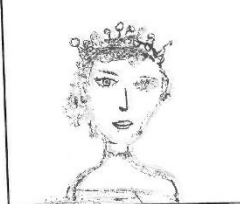
Liam

5/6P



Trader.
 Business woman.

Fimmy



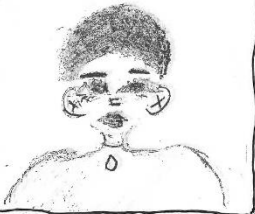
Queen Elizabeth
 ~ politician & philanthropist ~

Emma M



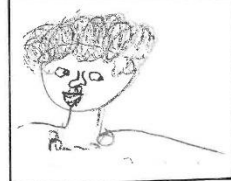
Banjo paterson
 - Author -
 - poet -
 - Lawyer -

Lana




Dame Mary
 Gilmore
 ~ Poet ~
 ~ Journalist ~

Makenzie



Dame
 Nellie Melba
 ~ opera
 Singer ~

Liliana



Mary Reibey
 ~ Businessperson ~
 ~ trader ~

Sienna



David unaipon.
 David unaipon - inventor, writer,
 public speaker.

Tiago

Book Week



We will be celebrating Book Week in Week 5 this term and everyone is feeling excited!

The 2025 theme 'Book An Adventure' encourages readers to explore the exciting worlds within books, much like embarking on a real-life adventure. It invites students to see stories as journeys of discovery, bravery, and imagination.

Book Week at Coniston PS is going to be a busy time with a book character dress up parade followed by a parents and families picnic lunch in our playground. Our P&C are holding a second hand book sale in the library with lots of beautiful pre-loved children's books to buy along with bookmarks and surprises too. Our younger students in Years K-2 are going to be entertained by a visiting puppet show entertainer and a graphic novel illustrator is coming to present an exciting workshop to our 3-6 students!

Please join us at school during Book Week for all the fun!

Thursday 21 August

- Book Character Dress Up Parade in the school COLA area starting at 10.15am. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character or as something to support the 2025 theme 'Book an Adventure'. All parents are invited to join us and watch our fun filled dress up parade. Prizes will be awarded to reward students for consistent borrowing of library books. One student per class will receive a prize in our Borrower's Raffle Draw!
- BYO Picnic lunch after the parade until from 10.55am to 11.45am. Please share lunch time with us! Bring a picnic rug, some lunch and yummy treats to share with your children.
- P&C second-hand Book Sale will be open in the library at 10.55 am – 11.45 am and 2.30pm – 3.30 pm.

Friday 22 August

- Puppet Show for K-2 students. A permission note requesting payment will be sent home soon. Please return it to school by Monday 18 August.
- Illustrator workshop for 3-6 students. A permission note requesting payment will be sent home soon. Please return it to school by Monday 18 August.
- P&C Second Hand Book Sale will be open in the library from 8.30am – 9.30am.

Looking forward to a great Book Week!

Mrs Smith
Teacher Librarian



Future events

School holidays:

The school holiday is the perfect time to have an autumn cleanout of your books for the **second hand children's book fair**. We are after good quality pre-loved children's books. Donations can be dropped at the office after the holidays.



Term 3:

- **Second hand children's book fair** – keep collecting your good quality pre-loved children's books ready to donate to the P&C's book sale. The book sale will be held on 21 – 22 August to coincide with the school's Book Week parade (Thursday 21 August 10.15am). Books will be for sale on Thursday 21/8 from 10:55 - 11:45am (BYO Picnic Lunch time) and 2:30 – 3:30pm. Books will again be for sale on Friday 22/8 from 8:30 – 9:30am. We will need volunteers to set up on Wednesday 20/8 and to sell books at the indicated times. We hope you can assist by donating and/or working at the book sale.
- **Father's Day Stall** Tuesday 2 September (new date). Volunteers will be needed to set up and sell.
- **Pie Drive** – orders will be sent home next term for delivery on Thursday 4 September. Volunteers will be needed to process the orders and distribute the pies.
- **Disco** in the Library Wednesday 17 September: K - 2 4:30 – 5:30pm and Years 3 – 6 6 – 7pm. The school staff run the disco, and the P&C will provide the students with a drink and snack as they leave. There is no cost for the disco – it's a gift from the P&C to say thank you!
- **Meal Deal Day** Friday 26 September. Further details to be advised.



Term 4:

- **Fun Run** Friday 7 November - more information to come
- **Celebration Day** Wednesday 17 December – volunteers needed to distribute the ice creams – more information to come

Next P&C Meeting: Monday 4 August 2025 7pm in the school library. This meeting will be attended by Mrs Nicole Flynn, while relieving Principal Mrs Martin attends the Secretary's award ceremony as a finalist for the Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging award.

More Bunnings BBQ photos



Cubby House Project

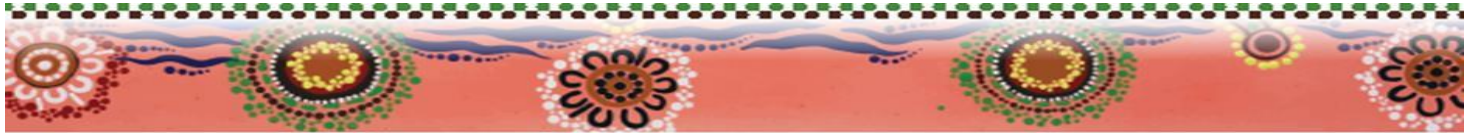
Our P&C project for 2025 is to purchase at least one cubby house for the playground with the school purchasing a second. We have applied for a Commonwealth Building Partnership Grant that may enable us to purchase more than one cubby house for the playground. We are expecting to find out the result in July. In addition to the grant application and our successful fundraisers, Mrs Flynn is working with the Department's asset team regarding supporting infrastructure and ongoing maintenance. At present, we are on track to have this project completed by the end of year. Thank you to everyone involved.

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 in this program and the Dental Bus will be at our school from 18-27 August. Attached is an information sheet with more details about this program.

Your child will have brought home the information and consent package with all the details and forms you need to complete. **Please return the completed forms to school prior to 13 August.**

Interpreters are available to help you complete the forms if needed.



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.

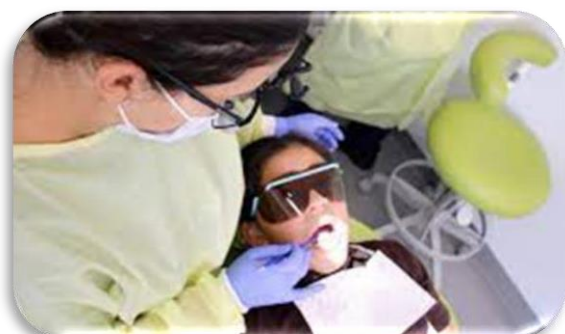
Our school is participating in the program and offering students the opportunity to have FREE dental check-ups in a comfortable and familiar environment at school. With a parent/carers consent, students can receive a FREE dental check-up and free preventive care.

The program is scheduled to visit our school from 18/08/2025 to 27/08/2025

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/Pages/default.aspx>





Simple sweet swaps

Have you already tried swapping?

Next week, why not challenge yourself to try one of these sweet swaps:

- Muesli bar to pikelets
- Dairy dessert to reduced fat custard
- Juice to water with fresh fruit

Making these sweet swaps can protect kids from tooth decay.

SWAP FROM



Dairy dessert



SWAP TO



Reduced fat custard



Communities & Justice



ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
advancing participation

PLAYGROUP




Multicultural Supported Groups

مجموعات اللعب المدعومة متعددة الثقافات

လူမျိုးပေါင်းစုံ ကလေးကစားခိုက်

Muhimu Watoto Dada Kikundi

FREE
Welcome to ALL!

<p>Mondays 9:30 AM-11:30 AM</p>	<p>IMS Office - Level 1, 67-69 Market St, Wollongong</p>
<p>Tuesdays 9:00 AM-11:00 AM</p>	<p>Coniston Public School 123 Auburn St, Coniston</p>
<p>Thursdays 10:00 AM-12:00 PM</p>	<p>wollongong West Public School 442 Crown St, Wollongong</p>

ALL WELCOME!

Contact Paulina to register your interest
Mobile: 0431 123 389
Email: ppesavento@ims.org.au

*The groups are run in English

www.ims.org.au info@ims.org.au 02 4229 6855

www.facebook.com/ims.org.au
www.instagram.com/illawarramulticulturalservices/

Newsletter

Program spotlight

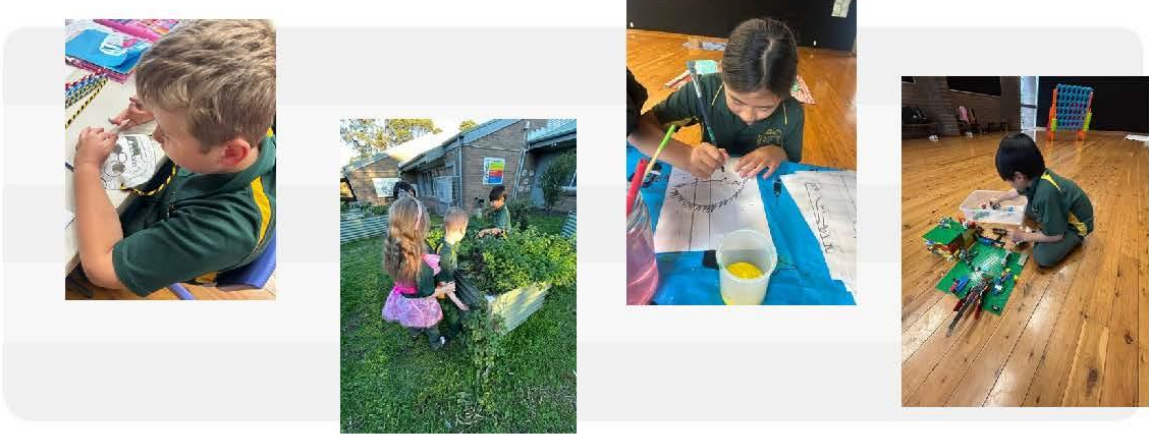


Your OSHC.



Your OSHC by Camp Australia provides enriching experiences for children during term – before school, after school and on pupil free days. At Your OSHC we give children a supportive space to continue their development, build confidence and socialise with their friends.

What's coming up at Your OSHC this week:



Stop by and say hi!

Please feel free to visit the program with your children to meet the team and see what happens in our great program each school day.



Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.



Register for Your OSHC

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

Food Relief

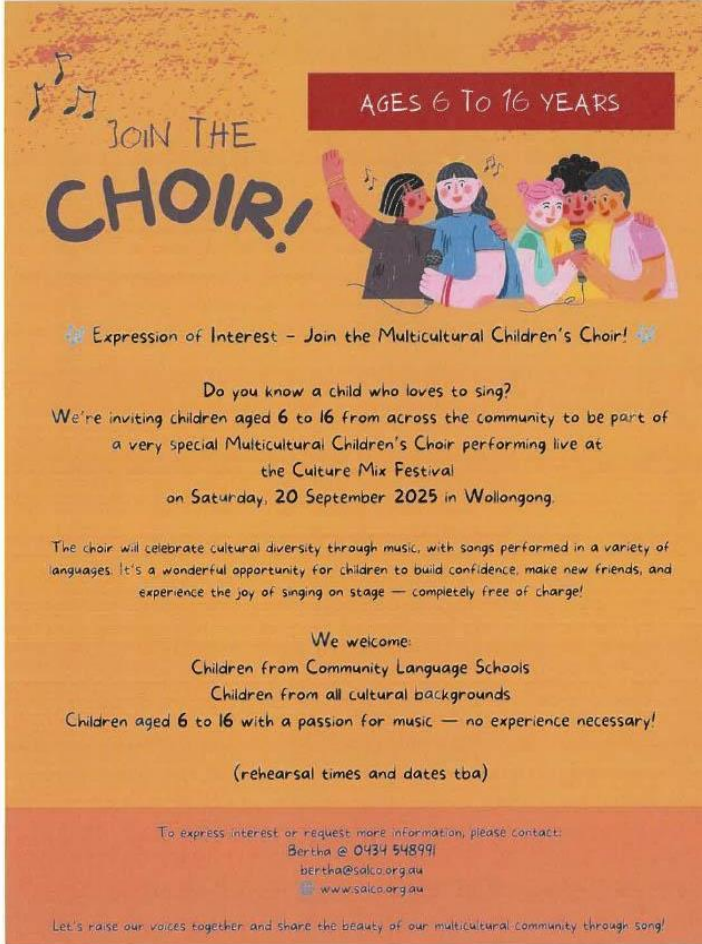
Visit our blog

Register now

Register free and book now at www.campastralia.com.au



Join the Choir



AGES 6 TO 16 YEARS

JOIN THE CHOIR!

✿ Expression of Interest - Join the Multicultural Children's Choir! ✿

Do you know a child who loves to sing?
We're inviting children aged 6 to 16 from across the community to be part of a very special Multicultural Children's Choir performing live at the Culture Mix Festival on Saturday, 20 September 2025 in Wollongong.

The choir will celebrate cultural diversity through music, with songs performed in a variety of languages. It's a wonderful opportunity for children to build confidence, make new friends, and experience the joy of singing on stage — completely free of charge!

We welcome:
Children from Community Language Schools
Children from all cultural backgrounds
Children aged 6 to 16 with a passion for music — no experience necessary!

(rehearsal times and dates tba)

To express interest or request more information, please contact:
Bertha @ 0434 548991
bertha@salco.org.au
www.salco.org.au

Let's raise our voices together and share the beauty of our multicultural community through song!

SALCO ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Paint the Gong REaD!

Free, early literacy event

PAINT THE GONG REaD!



Join BrightSpark, Billy Backpack and our special guest star story tellers for our annual reading day to celebrate Book Week! All families with children 0-5 years are invited!

Thursday 14 August
9.30 - 11.30am
Warrawong Plaza
Dharawal Country
Meet at centre stage

**STORIES
ACTIVITIES
READING TENT
CRAFT CORNER
MUSIC MAT
+MORE!**

bg Visual Story     

A Wollongong City Council accessible and inclusive event. WCC2008985

wollongong city of innovation     **goodstart** early learning  **ectarc** EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION RESEARCH IN ACTION  **Barnardos Australia**  **warrawong plaza** 

Family Services Illawarra Inc.  **UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG**  **KidsUni**  **FRSACC**  **WARRAWONG plaza** 



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