



A kind start to Term 2

Do it for Dolly Day was a huge success!

The captains presented some thought provoking information to all of our students and staff. The students were asked to think of, then share, three ways they show kindness to people they know and then another three ways to show kindness to people they don't know or don't get on with. The responses were thoughtful and showed a deep understanding of what it is to be kind.

Students were also asked to name five adults they trust to support them when they are feeling uncomfortable or sad regardless of the reason.

The variety of playground equipment resulted in some very excited students who had the opportunity to share and show kindness. The new toys in the sandpit and the skipping ropes were particular favourites.

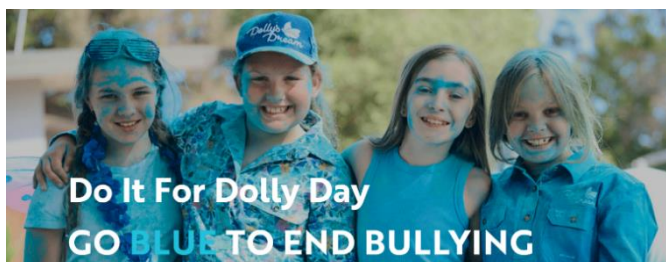
Congratulations to all the classes for their outstanding door displays. Congratulations also to Tallen, Savana, Winshar and Lavanya who were all recognised for their consistent acts of kindness.

Thank you to our very kind community who donated \$200 to support Dolly's Dream. Thank you also to our SRC, House leaders, Captains and Vice-captains, and Ms Daly for ensuring *Do it for Dolly Day* was both meaningful and successful.

While some photos appear later in the newsletter, more were shared on our Facebook page.

Factsheets for our families are found on our website [Student health and safety - Coniston Public School](#).

The message of *Do it for Dolly Day* beautifully complements our school's motto 'Friendship' so it really was the perfect day all round.



Have a wonderful fortnight!
Mrs Morton (Principal)

Coming Events

Week 4

- Monday 19 May 2:15pm: Whole school assembly – 5/6A (Banksia 3) class item
- Tuesday 20 May 9 – 11am: Playgroup
- Tuesday 20 May 3:15 - 6pm: Parent/Teacher Interviews – bookings only
- Wednesday 21 May: National Simultaneous Storytime

Week 5 – Reconciliation Week

- Monday 26 May: National Sorry Day
- Monday 26 May: Reconciliation Week incursion - Gumaraa
- Tuesday 27 May 9 – 11am: Playgroup

Week 6

- Sunday 1 June 9:30am: Wollongong Running Festival Kids 2km Fun Run
- Tuesday 3 June 9 – 11am: Playgroup

Dates for your diary

- Saturday 14 June: P&C Bunnings BBQ Volunteer at**

<https://signup.com/go/VBoMCyF>

- Monday 16 June 2:15pm: Whole school assembly – Year 2 (Darwinia 2) class item
- Monday 16 June 7pm: P&C Meeting. P&C Future events are listed in today's newsletter – see P&C News
- Wednesday December 10: Year 6 Farewell (inc. Year 5 for dancing). Times to come.
- Tuesday 16 December 9:30am: Presentation Assembly
- Wednesday 17 December: Celebration Mufti Day

What's overdue?

What's due?

- Instalment 1 for Stage 3 camp.
- Friday 4 July: Kinder 2026 enrolments

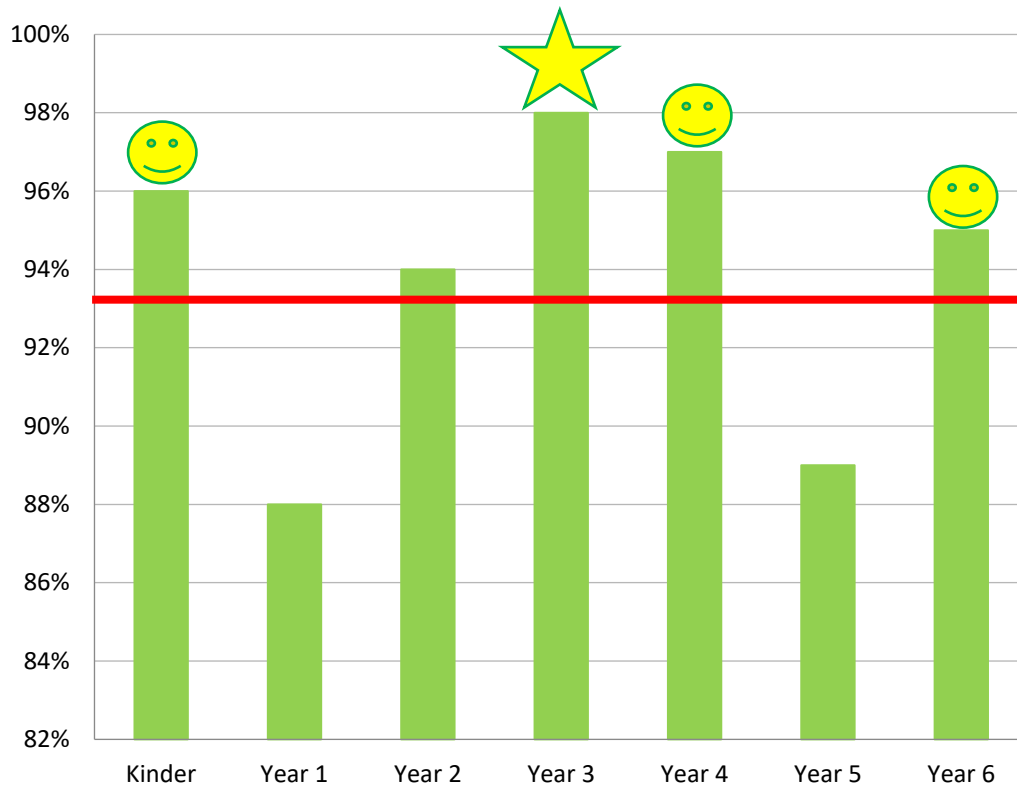
Attendance – Every day counts!

Now that's more like it!

The attendance graph below is for the period 1 – 14 May 2025. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.

Congratulations, Kinder, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 – all 95% or higher!

Congratulations, Year 2 – 92% attendance!



Kindergarten 2026 - enrol now!

Is your child due to start school in 2026?

To assist us with planning and to ensure our school is allocated the correct staffing and funding, **please enrol your child before the end of Term 2**. Our numbers are due to the Department early in Term 3.

This year you can complete an online application located at [Online Enrolment Application](#).

You can collect an enrolment form from our office if you prefer.

For more information on enrolling your child at Coniston Public School, please visit [Coniston PS Enrolment 2025 update.pdf](#) and [Online enrolment for parents](#).

If you know of someone who is due to start school and is not a member of our school community, please pass on this information.



Keirabald

Congratulations to Year 5 student, Susanna, for winning the Gallery Director's Prize at the Keirabald 2025 Portraiture Competition.

Her creative portrait represents her sister, who always makes her laugh and loves going to Sydney. Well done, Susanna!

The day we went to Keirabald by 4D

Today, 4D went on an excursion to the Keirabald exhibition in the Contemporary Art Space. The exhibition shows portraits created by students from schools across the Illawarra.



We set off on a long walk up to the gallery and crossed lots of roads. After a little rest to recover from the journey, we split up and went to explore the exhibition. We saw a picture of Abraham Lincoln who used to be the President of the United States. He looked a bit kinder than the current president! We even saw Albert Einstein. He had a thought bubble that showed some really tricky mathematical equations. We saw a great portrait of Steve, a character from Minecraft. There was a portrait of Monkey D Luffy. He's from a manga anime and he's going to be king of the pirates!

Susanna from Year 5 was presented with her award for best picture. We were proud to have one of the competition winners from Coniston!

We started off on the long walk back to school, but before we arrived it started pouring with rain! We were forced to take shelter under a big awning which luckily was large enough to keep all of us dry.

Eventually the rain stopped and we were finally able to continue our walk home.

The artwork we saw was so great, we are glad we got to see it and we hope we can go again next year! We are grateful for Mrs Piljevic for organising our adventure.

Cross-country Carnival

Last Friday, thirty-two of our students represented the school at the Central Wollongong District Cross-country Carnival. Held at the Kembla Joggers facility, we had a sunny day that lifted our running ability and our enthusiasm.

With sixteen schools represented and up to five students in each event, there was plenty of competition on the course. Every student ran their best on the day, followed the instructions and cheered on our own runners as well as those from other schools. Wherever we go, we show great sportsmanship!

While we don't have any runners proceeding to the regional carnival, notable mentions go to Felix (20th), Bo (31st), and Sadie and Lola (36th). For some of our students it was their first carnival, while many others who have competed before, improved their place.

Our team: Muhammad, Poe, Elia, Sasha, Kai, Hayley, Aurora, Evelyn, Leni, Abdulrahman, Winshar, Daniel, Sadie, Emma, James, Isaac, Abdalnafea, Noah, Lola, Siena, Eden, Lavanya, Felix, Ethan, Brody, Bo, Hannah, Saja, Emma, Chae, and Archie and Molly who unfortunately couldn't make it on the day.

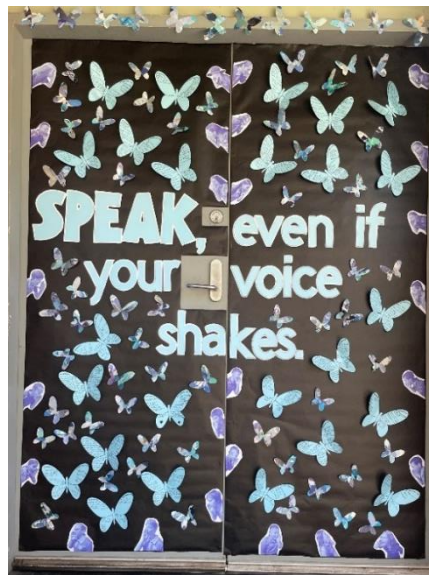
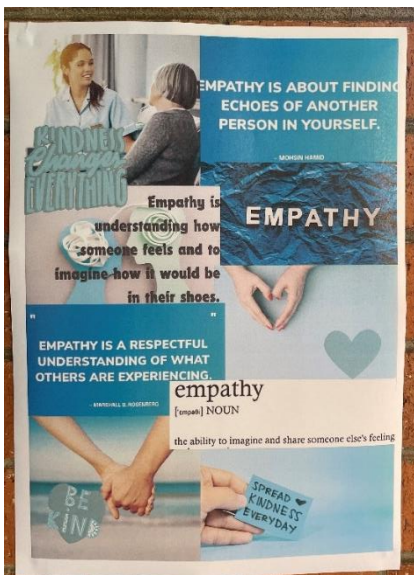
Thank you to all the parents who supported our team; some even joining in the 2km walk the course section. Thank you to :

- Miss Aroney for her meticulous organisation and marshalling on the day.
- Mrs Flynn for transporting students.
- Mrs Morton for managing the team on the day.

Congratulations to all our runners – you all did your very best and should be as proud of your efforts as we are of you!



Do it for Dolly Day photos



P&C News

On Monday, we held our first P&C meeting for Term 2 and what a celebration it was!

Fundraising update

The P&C is continuing to raise money towards purchasing cubby houses for the playground and we are well on the way to purchasing the first one due to our successful fundraisers. The school will purchase a second one so two should be on the way soon.

Our Election BBQ and Cake Stall raised over \$2000 – that's \$1000 more than we expected. Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who supported this event – we couldn't have done it without you!

Our Mother's Day stall was also highly successful with lots of smiling faces amongst the children as they selected the perfect gift for their loved one. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who shopped, wrapped and served!

Bunnings BBQ and Cake Stall Saturday 14 June – Volunteers needed

On Saturday 14 June, we have the opportunity to raise further funds without drawing from our own community. For this day to be successful though, we need lots of volunteers to set up / pack down, cook and serve. If you can spare two hours during the day, we need you!! Time slots start from 7:30am.



It's easy to volunteer – just register through

<https://signup.com/go/VBoMCyF> (no login or account creation required) or email your availability to conistonps.pandc@gmail.com. Mrs Morton has registered and found the link easy to use.

Thank you in advance for assisting us on the day. We have a great chance to make in excess of \$2000.

Future events

Term 3:

- **Second hand children's book fair** – start 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. (Please note: this is an alternate to the school's book fair that will be held in even years.)
- **Father's Day Stall** Thursday 4 September. Volunteers will be needed to sell 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** Wednesday 17 September – times to come. The school staff run the disco, but the P&C will be involved in other ways – more information to come.
- **Meal Deal Day** Friday 16 September – more information to come.

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 16 June 2025 7pm in the school library. (This meeting will be held in Week 8 due to the Monday public holiday in Week 7)

ICAS is an online academic competition across Australia that gives students the opportunity to challenge their higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling Bee, and Digital Technologies. If you would like your child to participate please see the information below and additional information sent home on School Enews. Participation is completely optional.

Join the ICAS 2025 Academic Competition.

The fun and inspiring challenge for bright young minds.

We're proud to offer ICAS 2025 to our students—a national competition that challenges their thinking, motivates them to excel, and celebrates their academic skills.

How ICAS helps our students succeed

- Develops critical thinking and problem solving through fun academic challenges
- Recognises academic achievement like we do in sport and the arts
- Provides insights that help educators and parents identify strengths and areas of growth.

Who can participate in ICAS?

ICAS offers a comprehensive suite of subjects for Year 2 to 12 students.

Dates and pricing

Each subject costs \$20.95 per student, except Writing which is \$24.95



Digital Technologies
4 – 8 August



Science
18 – 22 August



Writing
4 – 8 August



Spelling Bee
18 – 22 August



English
11 – 15 August



Mathematics
25 – 29 August



If your child is interested in taking part, speak with their teacher to find out how they can get involved.
[icasassessments.com](https://www.icasassessments.com)



Janison
Assessments.



Lunchbox ideas



4 simple steps to a healthy lunchbox

Packing an everyday lunchbox is as easy as:

- Step 1:** Pack vegetables for Veg & Fruit Break (e.g. carrot sticks or cherry tomatoes).
- Step 2:** Pack fruit and an everyday snack for recess (e.g. popcorn, reduced fat yoghurt, rice crackers and cheese).
- Step 3:** Pack a sandwich, wrap, roll or leftovers (e.g. pasta, rice or roast vegetables) for lunch.
- Step 4:** Finish with water as the perfect thirst quencher.

Don't forget to pack an ice brick to keep food safe!



Carrot sticks

Banana
Reduced fat yoghurt

Vegetable fried rice

Water

Before school care

🎉 Exciting News for Coniston Public School Families! 🎉

Before School Care is Now Available at Figtree Heights OOSH & West Wollongong Public School (Big Fat Smile)

Has your previous before school care been cancelled?
We've got you covered!

👨👩 **Figtree Heights OOSH** is now welcoming **Coniston Public School** students for our **Before School Care program**, following a request from the school community. We're here to support your family with a safe, fun, and caring environment each morning.

🚌 **Transport Provided** – We'll get your child safely to Coniston Public School in time for start of school.

🕒 **Hours** – Care available from **6:30 AM until school drop-off**.

🎨 **Activities** – Games, breakfast, creative play, and a positive start to their day.

💛 **Experienced Staff** – Our friendly educators are fully qualified and passionate about supporting your child's wellbeing.

👉 **Spots available – Enrol today!**

Enrol here <https://www.owna.com.au/enrol.aspx?c=figtreeheightsoosh> or contact us at centre@fhoosh.net for more information.

We look forward to welcoming your family to Figtree Heights OOSH!



02 4225 9520



DHARAWAL COUNTRY



West Wollongong Public School
Phillips Avenue,
WEST WOLLONGONG NSW 2500



westwollongong@bigfatmile.com.au



Age range 5-12yrs



Opening hours

6.30am-9am* (Before School)

2.45pm-6pm (After School)

6.30am-6pm (School Holidays)



Feeder Schools Transport (4)

enquire now

holiday program

<https://bigfatmile.com.au/centre/west-wollongong/>

Big Fat Smile information for new families...

Family Handbook

A comprehensive oversight
in to all things Big Fat Smile
from our Educational
Framework to daily
routines, fees and more!



Child Care Subsidy

A Frequently Asked
Questions guide for our
Long Daycare & Care and
Fun Club families on the
application of the Child
Care Subsidy



Kangaroo Time

A guide for Fun Club
families to install and use
the Kangaroo Time app to
make casual and vacation
care bookings



Policy Guide (EL&C)

A guide for families
entering in to early
learning & care services on
policies



Policy Guide (Fun Club)

A guide for families
entering in to our Fun Club
school-aged learning &
care services on policies



HAVE A QUESTION?

Speak to your Service Director or contact our Client Engagement Team
info@bigfatmile.com.au

We enrich the lives and minds of our children and families in their communities

BIGFATSMILE.COM.AU



SchoolEnews

Schools send alerts and notes, newsletters, digital permission notes, events and more.



Paper notes will usually only be sent home if they have a permission slip that needs to be returned to the school. We acknowledge that some families may not always be able to access our communications electronically or would prefer a paper note. Please let our school office know if you would prefer paper communication.

How to install School Enews

iPhone and iPad Users

- 1) Press App Store icon on your device
- 2) Press Search and type in "School Enews"
- 3) Press "Get", the app will download
- 4) Press "Open" and accept "push alerts"
- 5) Search for your school

Android Users

- 1) Press Play Store icon on your device
- 2) Press magnifying glass and type in "School Enews"
- 3) Press "Install", the app will download
- 4) Press "Open"
- 5) Search for your school



Configure Push Alerts - ESSENTIAL TO GET NOTIFICATIONS

- 1) Press "Settings / Cog" icon
- 2) Turn off the lists you don't want

Other Smartphones and Tablets

Visit <http://app.schoolenews.com> for more apps

School Enews delivers news directly to parents!

Subscribe for Email Updates

- 1) Visit your www.coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
- 2) Scroll down to Newsletters and Notes
- 3) Under the "Subscribe" heading, tick on appropriate lists
- 4) Enter in your name and email address.
- 5) Click Subscribe (IMPORTANT: An email will be sent to your email address, you MUST click the "Activate Now" inside this email that is sent to you)

Playgroup



Communities & Justice



ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
advancing participation

PLAYGROUP



Multicultural Supported Groups

مجموعات اللعب المدعومة متعددة الثقافات

လူမျိုးပေါင်းစုံ ကလေးကစားပွဲ

Muhimu Watoto Dada Kikundi

**FREE
Welcome
to ALL!**

Mondays

9:30 AM-11:30 AM

IMS Office - Level 1, 67-69
Market St, Wollongong

Tuesdays

9:00 AM-11:00 AM

Coniston Public School
123 Auburn St, Coniston

Thursdays

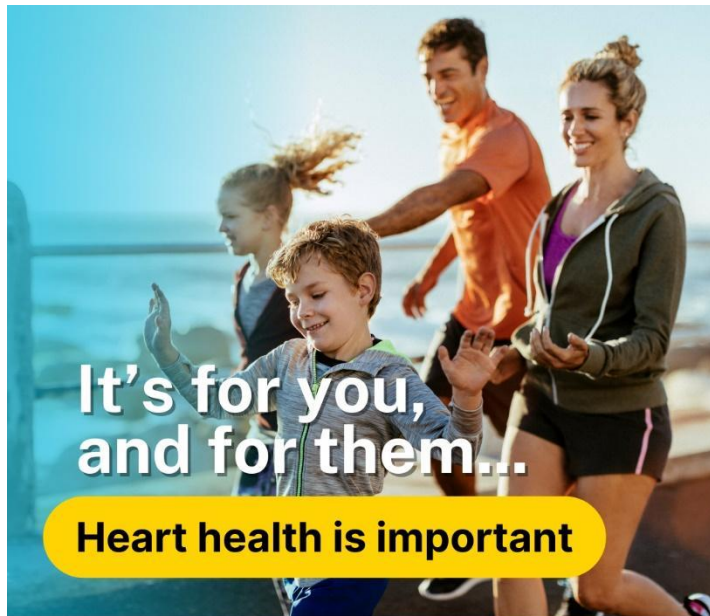
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Wollongong West Public School
442 Crown St, Wollongong

ALL WELCOME!

*The groups are run in English

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



Live Life Well
@ School



Healthy Cities Australia – Play Illawarra

Free family fun alert across Illawarra.



<https://kidsfestshellharbour.com.au>

<https://playillawarra.com.au>



Outside School Hours Care at Coniston Public School OSHC

At our OSHC service, we're dedicated to providing a safe, fun, and enriching environment for your children for before and after school care. Our experienced staff offer a range of exciting activities, from arts and crafts to outdoor games, ensuring that your child has a chance to relax, learn, and make new friends.

With a focus on care, creativity, and community, we give parents peace of mind knowing their children are in a supportive and caring space. Join us today and let your child explore, grow, and thrive with us!

Our passionate staff located in the hall from the hours of 6:30am – 8:30am & 3:00pm- 6:00pm are here to answer any questions you may have, share the exciting activities we offer, and ensure you feel confident and comfortable with our OSHC service. We're always happy to show you around and discuss how we can support your child's growth and development in a fun and nurturing environment!



www.campaustralia.com.au



Inspiring before and after school programs



Your OSHC. by



Our Before School, After School and Pupil Free Day experiences are tailored to your child and designed to inspire their confidence, creativity, and independence. Our inspiring experiences include science experiments, cooking classes, group sport and so much more.

Extraordinary holiday adventures



ROCKETEERS by



Every school holiday break is a new mission for your child to embark on. With hundreds of fantastic feature experiences every mission, your child will be engaged from morning until evening. Your child's holidays could be filled with trampoline parks, big sporting carnivals and filmmaking workshops.

Register with Camp Australia

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

Register now at pp.campaustralia.com.au



Figtree Heights OOSH

Fun, Adventure & Play Everyday



Services We Provide:

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE: 6:30am - School Drop Off

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: School Pick Up - 6pm

VACATION CARE: School Holidays 6:30am - 6pm

(Open to all children from any school)



Schools we service for Before & After School Care:

- Figtree Heights Public School
- Figtree Public School
- Mount Saint Thomas Public School
- Nareena Hills Public School
- Mt Kembla Public School
- Unanderra Public School (Before school Care only)
- **Coniston Public School NEW*** (Before School Care only)**



To make an enquiry please visit:
www.figtreeheightsoosh.com

Government Funded FREE Swimming Lessons



We are excited to share a new, fully funded initiative at **Northern Stars Swim Schools – Dapto and Russell Vale**, made possible by the support of the **NSW Government**. This program is targeting school aged children (K-Year12) through to adults, and is available to all families not currently accessing swimming lessons. Participants in this program will receive:

- ✓ **10 free swimming lessons** with experienced instructors
- ✓ A **swimming cap and goggles** to support their learning
- ✓ The opportunity to gain vital water safety skills and confidence in the water

Places are limited. If you would like a nomination form you can either print from here [enrolment form - Northern Stars Swim](#) or contact the school office for a copy.

Illawarra Multicultural Service Creative Expressions Competition



REFUGEE WEEK CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS COMPETITION 2025

The theme for this year is:

FINDING FREEDOM: DIVERSITY IN COMMUNITY

WRITING Competition

50 to 500 words of your choice of creative writing style

ART competition

Paintings or Drawings

PRIZES:

Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories.
Students from a non-English speaking background
Students for whom English is their first language
Primary and High school students

SUBMISSIONS:

Submit your entry before 5pm Friday
30/05/2025

Email To: aburbrook@ims.org.au

Winners will be announced during a formal presentation on the evening of Friday, 20th of June 2025 at the Music Lounge in Wollongong Town Hall.

For more details contact Ann on aburbrook@ims.org.au, 0439 627 260

SmartFone FlickFest 2025

SF3 2025 is here! The 11th season of the SmartFone Flick Fest is open for entries and wants your films; shorts, minis, feature films, AI films and films made by kids, tweens and teens. Filmmakers can be from anywhere in the world, from beginner to professional and everything in between.

Enter by September 1st to share in over \$50,000 in prize and be a part of one of the most innovative and accessible film festivals in the world. Find out more & enter at www.sf3.com.au



The poster for the 11th Annual SmartFone FlickFest 2025 features a dark blue background with a large, stylized smartphone at the bottom. On the screen of the phone, a film set is depicted with various crew members and equipment. The text 'ENTRIES OPEN' is prominently displayed in large, white, bold letters. Below it, the text 'FOR SMARTPHONE & TABLET FILMMAKERS OF ALL AGES' is written in smaller white letters. The top of the poster includes the event title 'THE 11TH ANNUAL SMARTFONE FLICKFEST 2025' with a green play button icon. A row of five categories is shown: SF3 GALA (films up to 20 minutes), SF3 MINI (films a max of 3 minutes), SF3 KIDS (up to 10 mins - 16 & under), FEATURE FILMS (40 minutes and more, no maximum length), and SF3 AI (written by you, made with AI). A quote 'from pocket dreams to the BIG SCREEN' is placed above the phone. A circular badge on the right states 'OVER \$50,000 IN PRIZES'. The bottom of the poster features the text 'ENTRIES CLOSE SEPT 1' and the website 'SF3.COM.AU'. A row of logos for supporters is at the very bottom.

THE 11TH ANNUAL
SMARTFONE FLICKFEST 2025

ENTRIES OPEN

FOR SMARTPHONE & TABLET FILMMAKERS OF ALL AGES

SF3 GALA FILMS UP TO 20 MINUTES
SF3 MINI FILMS A MAX OF 3 MINUTES
SF3 KIDS UP TO 10 MINS - 16 & UNDER
FEATURE FILMS 40 MINUTES AND MORE, NO MAXIMUM LENGTH
SF3 AI WRITTEN BY YOU, MADE WITH AI

"from pocket dreams to the **BIG SCREEN**"

OVER **\$50,000** IN PRIZES

ENTRIES CLOSE
SEPT 1 SF3.COM.AU

SUPPORTED BY
Blackmagicdesign RØDE MELODIE LumaTouch CHICKEN & CHIPS CITY OF SYDNEY NSW GOVERNMENT Screen NSW ...AND MORE

Contact Details

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Coniston NSW 2500

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConistonPS