



Relieving Principal's Message

What a marvellous morning we had at our Annual Hat Parade! It was heart-warming to witness our community coming together to share in the festivities. The performances were a resounding success, showcasing the talents of many students and staff members alike. A special acknowledgment to Mrs. Kate Rodgers for her outstanding hosting and meticulous organization of the event.

Over the last two weeks our students have enjoyed finding the hidden "Teacher bunnies" in the playground. Thank you to Mr Trent Whittaker and Mrs Belinda Jacobs for hiding the bunnies each morning.

We are excited to announce that Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday, April 14th and 21st (Term 2 - Week 3 & 4) from 3:15 to 6:00 pm. Notes for booking appointment times will be distributed on the first day back in Term 2. We strongly encourage all parents to take this opportunity to meet with their child's teacher, discussing strengths, progress and setting goals for future growth. Let's work together to ensure every student thrives!

We currently have several staff on leave.

- Mrs Rhonda Morton on leave until 29/4. Mrs Nicole Flynn Relieving Principal
- Mrs Nadine Risi on leave until 5/4
- Mrs Jodi Thompson on leave until 29/5. Mrs Belinda Jacobs relieving as Assistant Principal (Cedar – Support Unit). Miss Hayley Faust teaching Year 3 during this time.
- Miss Tegan O'Brien on leave until 8/4. Miss Erin Lam teaching Year 2.
- Mrs Wendy Marczan on leave until 7/5. Mrs Carolina Jara-Vidal Relieving School Administrative Manager.
- Mrs Amanda Hanrahan Administration Officer during this time.

As always, any queries regarding your child or school please phone the office and/or make an appointment to see class teachers.

Happy Easter 🐰 Have a great long weekend everyone.

Mrs Nicole Flynn

Relieving Principal

Coming Events

SCHOOL HAT EVERY DAY

HEALTHY LUNCHBOX EVERY DAY

Every Week

- Monday 2:10pm: Whole School Assembly then Running Club – families welcome
- Tuesday 9:15 – 10:45am: Community Gardening – call in via the office
- Tuesday 9 – 11am: Playgroup
- Friday: Got Game! Sport program

Week 10

- **Easter Monday** – Public Holiday, School Closed
- Friday 5 April P&C Meal Deal Day

Week 11

- Friday 12 April Athletics Carnival K-6 held at Beaton Park
- Friday 12 April – Last Day of Term 1

Term 2 Week 1

- Monday 29 April – Staff Development Day – Staff only
- 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)

What's due?

- Fri 8 March: Got Game! payment due
- Thursday 4 April: Harmony Day poster competitions (no late entries)
- Athletics Carnival Permission note and payment due Monday 8 April

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)



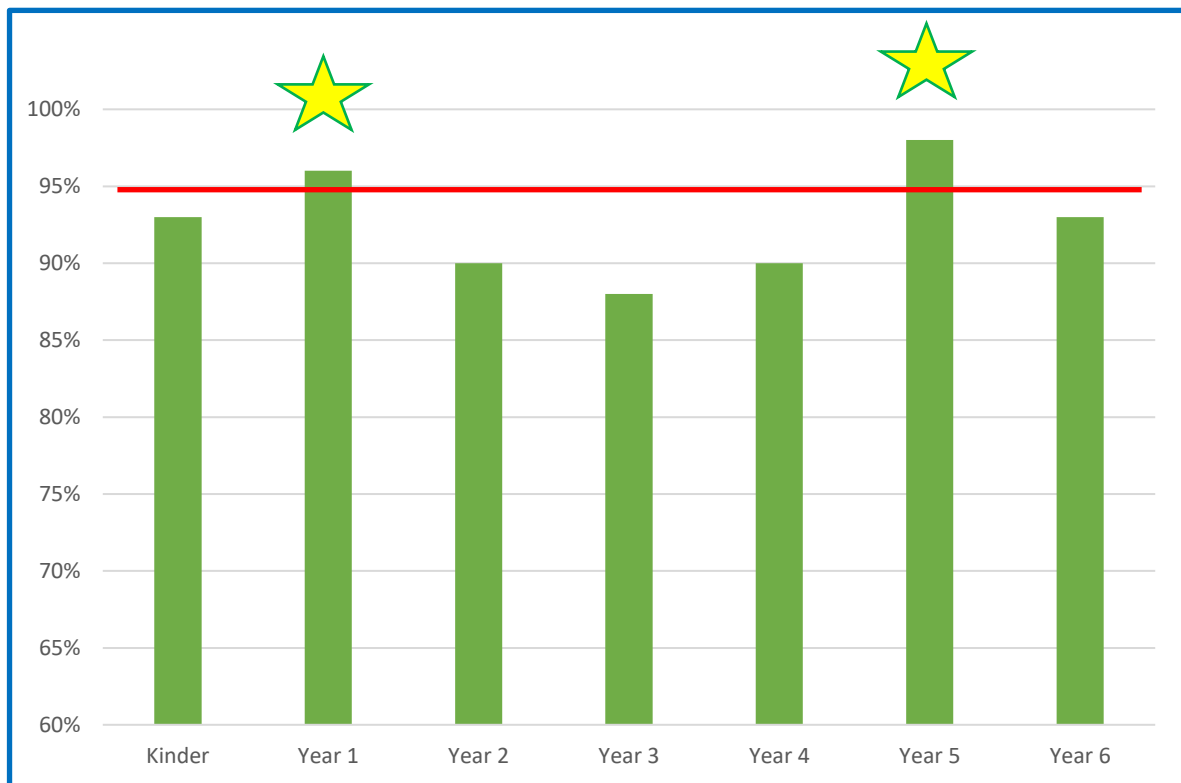
Attendance – Every day counts!

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

The attendance graph below is for 13 March –26 March 2024. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.

Congratulations to K, Year 1 & Year 5

all 95% or above!!!



Regular attendance at school is important for students to reach their potential. It is a legal requirement for schools to record the reason for any absences. Please let the school office know via phone, email or written note when your child is absent. If a child is marked absent on a particular day and no reason has been entered into our system an automated SMS message will be sent to the mobile number we have on file.

P & C News

The P&C was happy to provide each class with an Easter Raffle after the Hat Parade on Thursday. Congratulations to the class winners. We hope you enjoyed your Easter Eggs!

Keep checking here for opportunities to assist with future P&C events. All help welcome!

Friday 5 April – Parents helpers needed to assist with Donut Day from 12:30pm. This will involve sorting class orders and delivering to classes.

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

Kind regards,

Coniston Public P&C

Hat Parade

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 enthusiastically participated in our Annual Hat Parade on Thursday. Congratulations to all for showcasing their creativity with an array of vibrant hats. Following the parade, classes delighted the audience with diverse dance performances, displaying their impressive moves.



Veggie Day

On Tuesday our students participated in Veggie Day and were provided with a variety of vegetables to munch on. From the crisp crunch of celery to the juicy burst of cherry tomatoes, our young food explorers were treated to a colourful array of nutritious delights. Veggie Day wasn't just about munching on greens; it was a celebration of mindful eating and the joy of discovering new flavours. As our students embraced the challenge of trying different vegetables, they also discussed the importance of nourishing their bodies with wholesome foods.

Crunchy cucumbers and crispy carrots vanished faster than you could say "vegetables".



Library News

Library Helpers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to join us at school to cover some of our new books in contact. If you are able to help out on any of the following dates/times please call the office and leave your name.

When: Anytime from 2.15pm onwards

Friday 5 April

Friday 12 April

Where: School library

Any help is much appreciated! Training provided!

Hope to see you there!

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!



Library News continued...

Harmony Day Poster Competition

All students are invited to participate in the 2024 Harmony Day Poster Competition, which is open to students in all schools in Australia.

We have entered some amazing artwork from our students in previous years and all students are invited to participate again this year.

The poster design is to be completed at home, but students will have the opportunity to start their posters during library lunch time activities.

The theme for this year's poster is **'Harmony – What Can We Do?'**.

Please share the information below with your child/ren if you would like them to participate.

Specifications: A3 drawing, painting or mixed media work (A3 paper supplied by the school)

Starting Date: Participating students are to come to the library during lunch time on Thursday 7 March to collect their A3 paper and start their poster designs.

Closing date: Please deliver poster entries to the office **before Thursday 4 April** so they can be posted for judging. Mrs Smith will send the posters on this date so no late entries can be accepted.

Important: Please ensure finished artworks are clearly labelled on the back with your child's

- Full name
- Class
- School grade (eg. Year 4)

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

*Primary (Year K – 6), Secondary (Year 7 – 12)

* Competition Winner: Primary & Secondary \$500 each

If you have any questions, please ask Mrs Smith (Thursday, Friday).

Looking forward to some fantastic entries again this year!

Mrs Smith
Teacher Librarian



GRIP Leadership Conference

Coniston's school leadership team attended a conference on March 26 which armed them with the clear vision and dozens of ideas for their time as school leaders. The University of Wollongong hosted Year 6 leaders from more than sixty schools across the region for the Grip Leadership Conference.

The training day focused on preparing leaders for their roles with the focus on what the students could do right now to make their school a better place. Coniston's School Captain, Liam, said the best part of the day was getting to meet students from other schools. Fellow School Captain Boe Meh said an important lesson she took from the day was what *not* to do as a leader. Vice-captain Aliyah said she loved the games throughout the day and Vice-Captain Archie said an important lesson was that you sometimes have to sacrifice what you personally want, to be a great leader.



Year 1 – Underwater Mural

This term in Visual Arts Year 1 have been looking at the question: “What do living things look like?”

Dive into a world of wonder with our amazing underwater mural. Imagine swimming alongside colourful fish, playful dolphins, and a mysterious sea creature. We have been focusing on colour, shape, line, texture and visual art techniques, including drawing, painting, printing and collage.

So grab your snorkel and get ready to explore the depths of creativity. Who knows what incredible discoveries you’ll make beneath the deep blue sea.



Running Club

Have you signed up for the Wollongong Running Festival Yet?

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

Year 6 Fundraising



**ZOOOPER
DOOPER**

**WEDNESDAYS
&
FRIDAYS**

1 = \$1

2 = \$2

MAXIMUM = 2

SOLD AT RECESS

**FUNDRAISING FOR
YEAR 6 ACTIVITIES**

Year 6 students will be selling Zoooper Dooper ice blocks on Wednesdays and Fridays in Term 1. They can be purchased during recess (second break) for \$1 each.

All money raised will go towards Year 6 end of year activities.

Students may purchase a maximum of 2 ice blocks.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our fundraiser!

(Poster designed by Yati, Year 6)

Swap it!



Veg-tastic lunchboxes

Your child doesn't need to wait until dinner to eat their vegetables.

Swapping out sometimes foods for vegetables can help your child reach their daily vegetable needs.

Try:



Zucchini fritters



Green beans



Roasted sweet potato



Capsicum sticks



Corn



Pumpkin scone

For more veg-tastic lunchbox ideas scan the QR code or visit www.swapit.net.au/vegetables



Playgroup



Multicultural Supported Playgroups IMS
PLAY, LEARN, CONNECT
ILLAWARRA MULTICULTURAL SERVICES
advancing participation

Playgroup

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

FREE
WELCOME TO ALL

CONISTON PUBLIC SCHOOL
PUBLIC CONISTON
FRIENDSHIP

NSW GOVERNMENT | Communities & Justice

Community News

Primary Ethics



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/

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 if you are curious and would like to learn more about Primary Ethics' program.

Disability Sports Australia are delighted to announce the return of Abilities Unleashed (Previously Activate Inclusion Sports Days) for 2024.

The Abilities Unleashed program is designed for people ages 25 and under living with physical, sensory, or intellectual disabilities. The program provides the opportunity for participants experience a range of adaptive sport and recreation activities in a fun and inclusive environment.

Since its creation in 2016, this program has engaged more than 6,000 participants with a focus on creating a safe environment that inspires students and instils belief that with the right support, they can achieve great things.

In 2024, Disability Sports Australia in partnership with local councils will deliver events across both metropolitan and regional New South Wales.

Abilities Unleashed events are FREE for participants to attend, and we recommend registering early as places are limited for each day and traditionally sell out.

To register, simply visit: www.activateinclusion.com.au and register for an event near you.

For any enquiries, please contact National Program Manager Kristy Rohrer - aisd@sports.org.au



Free School Holiday Clinic

A free, fun and inclusive day of activities connecting people with disabilities to local sport and active recreation opportunities.

Thursday 18 April, 2024
10 am - 1 pm
Shellharbour City
Stadium, 110 Croome Rd,
Croom NSW 2527

Click here
or scan the
QR code
to register:



Contact: Kristy Rohrer
kristy@sports.org.au



Abilities Unleashed School Holiday Program is a national initiative by Disability Sports Australia focused on promoting active pathways for people with disabilities aged 25 years old and under during the school holidays.

These multi-sport come and try days mark the initial steps in the active journey of children living with disabilities. Each event aims to motivate and enable participants to discover local opportunities by trying a variety of sport and active recreation within a fun, safe, and inclusive environment.

The program provides a platform for local inclusive program and disability service providers to collaborate and connect to people with disabilities in their area.

What Ability 

Benefits of attending the day:

- physical and mental health benefits of exercise
- social wellbeing, friendships, and community connection
- strengthening balance, coordination and mobility skills
- teamwork, collaboration and planning
- increased self-esteem through a sense of achievement

Disability Sports Australia (DSA) is a National Sporting Organisation and charity whose mission is to enable more Australians with disabilities to be more active, more often.

Donate now to make sports and active recreation accessible for all!



Volunteer with DSA!
sports.org.au/volunteer

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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

Community Culture Day

Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation

Invites you to attend a **FREE**

COMMUNITY CULTURE DAY

Monday 15 April 2024 at 10am -2pm

Location: Coomaditchie Lagoon, Port Kembla – meet at 10am by the facilities block, near the corner of Parkes St & Shellharbour Rd, Port Kembla.

What to expect:

- Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, followed by community yarning circle about cultural heritage, bush regeneration and water management at Coomie Lagoon.
- Free Bush Care and Planting workshop, led by the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council and Wollongong City Council.
- Free BBQ / Sausage Sizzle.

RSVP: Please register with Kristy (Lil) by emailing coomaditchie@gmail.com



ILLAWARRA
LOCAL ABORIGINAL
LAND COUNCIL



wollongong
city of innovation



New South Wales
Aboriginal Land Council

Illawarra Performing Arts

A tale full of magic.

Merrigong Theatre Company and Jens Altheimer presents

Whalebone

by Jens Altheimer



19 - 20 APR

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come together
MERRIGONG
SEASON 2024
theatre thrills here.

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

Website: www.pcycnsw.org.au/bulli

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pcycbulli | Instagram: @pcycbulli



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