



Coniston Connection

Newsletter Term 2 Week 1

Welcome back!

Welcome back to Term 2 everyone! We hope you had a wonderful holiday and are energised and ready for a busy term.

Anzac Assembly

On Thursday, we held an ANZAC Day commemoration to honour and remember the contributions of our servicemen and women. During the ceremony, SRC members from each class participated by laying wreaths, symbolising our collective gratitude and respect. Thank you to our school captains for hosting the ANZAC Day service.



Lest we forget.



Mothers' Day Sunday 11 May 2025

Wishing all our mothers, grandmothers and significant women in the lives of our students, a beautiful Mothers' Day. May your day be filled with love, laughter and a special treat or two.

Thank you to our wonderful P&C for organising the Mothers' Day Stall to be held next Tuesday. On Friday there will be a second stall for those children who were unable to purchase a gift on the Tuesday.



Best wishes to ...

- our students who are sitting the 2026 Year 5 Opportunity Class or Year 7 Selective High School tests.
- our runners at the District Cross-country event next Friday. Thank you, Miss Aroney and Mrs Morton for accompanying our team.

Have a wonderful fortnight! Don't forget to vote on Saturday 3 May and enjoy a P&C sausage sizzle at our school.

Mrs Morton (Principal)

Coming Events

Term 2 Week 1

- Saturday 3 May: Election voting (8am – 6pm) & P&C BBQ

Week 2

- Monday 5 May 6 - 6:30pm: Keira HS Year 7 2026 Excel Program parent information night at Keira HS. Applications open this week.
- Tuesday 6 May 9 – 11am: Playgroup
- Tuesday 6 May: P&C Mother's Day stall. Helpers needed.
- Wednesday 7 May: Stage 3 Science Space Excursion
- Thursday 8 May: Do it for Dolly - blue mufti day
- Friday 9 May: District Cross Country Carnival
- Friday 9 May 8:30 - 9am: Mother's Day Stall (for those that missed 6 May)

Week 3

- Monday 12 May 7pm: P&C Meeting (Library)
- Tuesday 13 May 9 – 11am: Playgroup
- Tuesday 13 May 3:15 - 6pm: Parent/Teacher Interviews - note sent home 30/4/2025
- Friday 16 May: Walk Safely to School Day

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 - note sent home 30/4/2025

Dates for your diary

- Sunday 1 June 9:30am: Wollongong Running Festival Kids 2km Fun Run
- Saturday 14 June: P&C Bunnings BBQ
- Monday 16 June 2:15pm: Whole school assembly – Year 2 (Darwinia 2) class item

What's overdue?

- Wednesday 30 April: Stage 3 Science Space Excursion

What's due?

- Friday 9 May: Parent/Teacher Interview notes
- Friday 4 July: Kinder 2026 enrolments

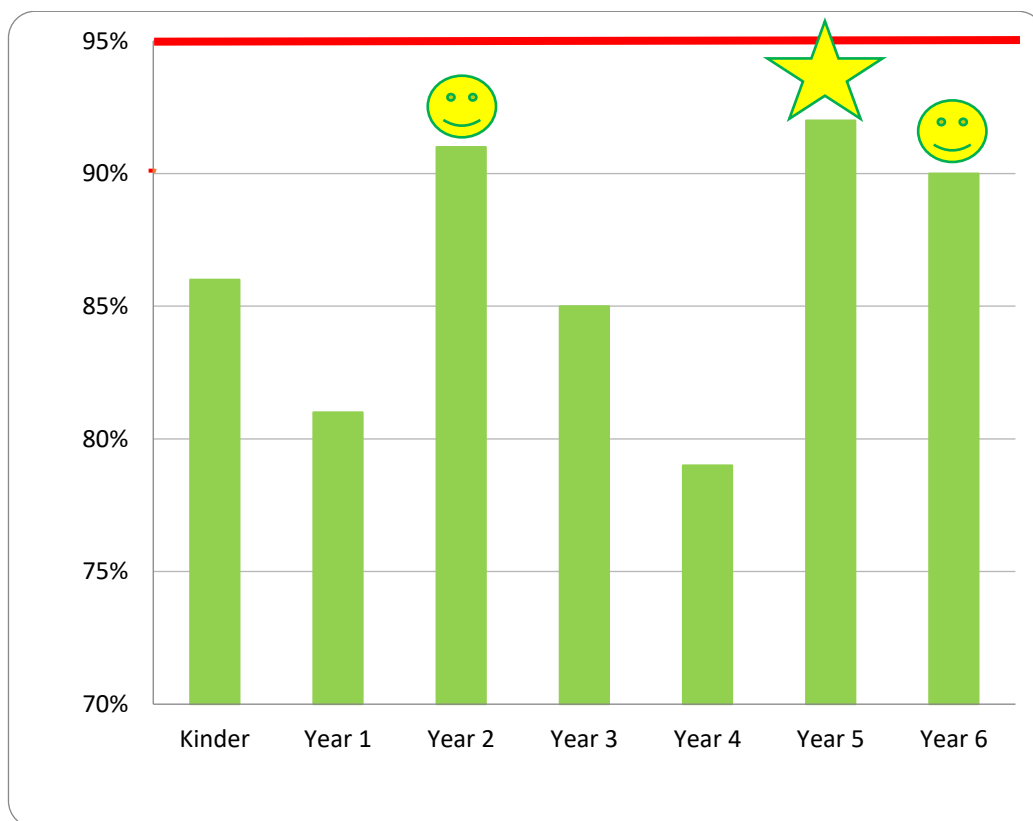
Attendance – Every day counts!

Is your child too sick / unwell to attend school? With the weather cooling, coughs and colds may be on the rise. If your child is contagious or symptomatic, please keep them at home for the safety of others. If your child is absent for three or more days, a medical certificate should be provided to the school to justify this absence. You are welcome to contact us by telephone in the morning to advise or respond to the SMS message.

Taking holidays in the school term? Please be reminded that if you are planning on taking a holiday during the school, prior approval must be given by the Principal and a certificate issued for you to take with you. You will need to provide evidence of your holiday plans, such as an itinerary from an airline or confirmation of accommodation.

The attendance graph below is for the period 3 - 30 April 2025 (8 school days). The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.

Congratulations, Year 5 - 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.



School Development Days

School Development Day 28 April 2025

On Monday 28 April, all classroom staff, including teachers, non-teaching Assistant Principals, Principals, counsellors and School Learning Support Officers, participated in High Potential Gifted Education professional learning. The majority of our staff attended a combined Keira Community of Schools day at Keira High School. Staff selected from a wide range of courses to attend for their three sessions.

Thank you to Mrs Flynn for being a member of the organising committee and for ensuring we had a 100% response and attendance rate. The only school to do so!

We were also fortunate and proud to have two staff members present courses.

Mrs Risi, our Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction, co-presented *Explicit teaching for High Potential / Gifted Students*. Based on research, this course addressed explicit teaching strategies to engage and challenge high potential and gifted students and how to apply these strategies to improve outcomes for these students.



Ms Daly is our Year 4 teacher and was awarded High Accomplished Lead Teacher status in 2024. Ms Daly presented *High Potential / Gifted Students at Risk*. This course assisted educators to identify and support high potential and gifted students at risk by understanding the risk factors and recognising the psychosocial and equity impacts on learning and wellbeing. Strategies to create meaningful, supportive learning environments were also explored.



School Development Day 29 April 2025

On the second school development day, our school hosted 66 School Learning Support Officers and teachers from across the Wollongong Network of Schools. Delivered by the Department's Behaviour Specialist team, the focus was *Regulation - More than taking a breath and speaking calmly*. This three-hour course provided attendees with practical strategies based on research to support students needing assistance to regulate themselves when they are hyper-aroused. This course was so well received, we are planning on more in the future. Thank you to Mrs Martin, Assistant Principal, Learning and Support for her involvement in organising this course.



Easter Hat Parade wrap-up

On the last day of Term 1, our school community came together for the Easter Hat Parade, showcasing the creativity and festive spirit of our students. Kindergarten to Year 6 students proudly wore their unique Easter hats and paraded in front of parents and family.

Each class then entertained everyone with lively dance performances, creating an atmosphere of joy and excitement.

A big thank you to Mrs Kate Rodgers and all the teachers for their hard work in organising this delightful event. Your efforts made the day a success and ensured that the children had a fantastic time.

We also extend our gratitude to the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association for their generous donation of class raffle prizes. Your support strengthens our school community and enriches our students' experiences.

The Easter Hat Parade was a wonderful celebration of our students' creativity and the supportive nature of our community.



Do it for Dolly - Thursday 8 May - wear blue, gold coin donation

Every year, Do it for Dolly Day is held across Australia.

The aim is to end bullying that sadly pervades all aspects of society.

Students are encouraged to wear blue clothing, face paint or hair accessories on Thursday 8 May and bring a gold coin donation.

Our school leaders will make a presentation to the students highlighting the need for all of us to show empathy and kindness towards others.

At lunchtime, the students will have some additional equipment to play with providing them with the opportunity to show kindness towards others by including them in their games.

Together we can create a safer, kinder world, starting with our own school community. You might even like to play kindness bingo at home!

KINDNESS BINGO			
Ask someone new to play at recess	Hold the door open for someone	Write a kind note to your parents	Let your brother/sister play with your toys
Leave a kind note for a friend	Clean up your classroom without being asked	Draw a picture and give it to a friend	Give a hug to each member of your family
Tell your parents you love them	Write a kind note to your teacher	Say thank you to the office staff	Teach someone something new
Put your plate in the dishwasher	Call your grandparents just to say hi	Donate clothes you have outgrown	Write a kind note to a classmate
Pur every item in the recycling bin	Give someone a compliment	Choose an area to pick up litter	Tell a joke to a friend

National Walk Safely to School Day - Friday 16 May

National Walk Safely to School Day in 2025 is on Friday 16 May.

School children are encouraged to walk and commute safely to school.

This day encourages families to walk to school together, promoting physical activity, road safety, and environmental benefits.

Did you know?

Until they're ten, children must always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road. This is something for you to consider if you allow your child to walk home from school.

Please know that our staff accompany students to the Auburn / Bridge St lights in the afternoon and supervise as they cross the road.



NSW Public Schools Survey



NSW Public Schools Surveys
A voice for students, parents and teachers

In Term 2, Week 4 we are offering our students (Yrs 3-6) the opportunity to participate in the NSW Public Schools Student Survey. The survey gives students the chance to share their thoughts and feelings about life at school, including questions about their engagement, learning experiences and wellbeing at school.

Hearing directly from our students will help us understand what's working well and where improvements can be made to our school. The survey is confidential, takes around 10 to 15 minutes to complete, and will be conducted online during school hours.

Further information will be sent home on School Enews about the survey or is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/npss>. If you prefer your child not to participate, please complete the opt-out consent form, available from the office, and return it to the school.

School Athletics Carnival

On Thursday of the last week in Term 1, we had our school Athletics Carnival at Beaton Park's Kerry McCann Athletics Track. It was such an enjoyable day, rotating around all the events. The field events were shot put, long jump, discus and high jump. The early birds who showed up before the buses competed in the 1500m and the rest of the school showed their running skills in the 100m, 200m and 800m races. In the middle of the track we had novelty games, including parachute, relays and other fun games.

It was great seeing everyone participating in lots of events and trying their best. Thank you to the Keira High students who helped with the events, and we loved having spectators cheer us on. We appreciate all the teachers who ran events and encouraged us throughout the day. Thank you to our other House Captains for helping Miss Aroney organise the carnival and assisting during the day as well. Miss Aroney will have information for students who have qualified for district toward the end of Term 2.

From your **Kookaburra Captains**, Archie and Esme.



Keirabald

During Term 1, our Stage 3 students were hard at work crafting their artworks for the prestigious Keirabald competition. Inspired by the theme "Adventures Through Time, Lands, and Imagination" in honour of the 80th anniversary of Children's Book Week, our talented artists have poured their creativity into portraits that tell captivating stories of time, exploration and adventure.

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as school finalists for this year's competition:

Year 5 - Susanna, Grace

Year 6 – Hannah, Lyla, Bo, Esme, Rahaf, Lavanya, Lily

Winners will be announced during the opening night of the exhibition on Thursday 8 May.

Session One: 5:30 – 6:15pm for students and parents/caregivers of Years 5 and 7

Session Two: 6:30 – 7:15pm for students and parents/caregivers of Year 6

Prizes will be awarded for Best Work of a Year 5, 6 and 7 artist, Gallery Director's Prize and Packer's Prize. The exhibition is open to the public from 7 May to 18 May 2025 at Project Contemporary Artspace, Wollongong.



Reminder: Camp Australia (Out-of-school hours care)

Unfortunately, Camp Australia has had to close its doors to before school care due to a lack of enrolments.



The good news is that after-school-care is still running! If you are looking for care after school, you can enrol or express an interest at any time. <https://campaustralia.com.au/>


Figtree Heights OOSH has kindly offered to support our school community by offering before school care to our families. (See information below and flyer in community news).


Exciting News for Coniston Public School Families! **Before School Care is Now Available at Figtree Heights OOSH!**

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!

P&C News

Community Building Partnership Grant

The P&C have applied for funding through the State Government's Community Building Partnership grant in the hopes that we can secure enough for the installation of play equipment at the school. Unlike our neighbouring schools which have access to multiple play structures, we haven't had any for a number of years due to drainage issues, so this project is a priority for the P&C.

The criteria for funding is that our project must meet the community's needs - so your support in this matter could make a huge difference. You can contact our State MP Paul Scully's office on **(02) 4226 5700** or at wollongong@parliament.nsw.gov.au to let him know that our kids - and all kids - are deserving of inclusive and first-rate facilities.

Election Sausage Sizzle & Bake Sale Volunteers Required

The P&C will be holding a sausage sizzle and bake sale on Saturday, May 3. Do you have a couple of hours to spare to help us raise funds towards additional resources for the school? Duties include setting up, packing down, cooking, serving, assisting with baked goods and raffle ticket sales, taking orders from customers. Visit the URL below to register for a time slot – no login or account creation required – or email your availability to conistonps.pandc@gmail.com

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



eNews



SchoolEnews

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



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



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.

School Enews delivers news directly to parents!

Subscribe for Email Updates

- 1) Visit your [www.coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto: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

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!

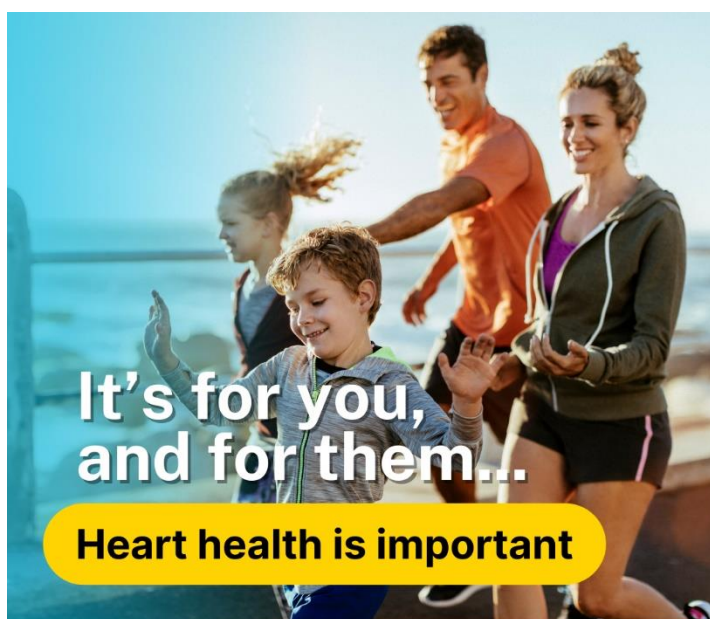
*The groups are run in English

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

www.ims.org.au info@ims.org.au  02 4229 6855 www.facebook.com/ims.org.au www.instagram.com/illawarramulticulturalservices/

Community News

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District



It's for you,
and for them...

Heart health is important

Live Life Well
@ School



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)

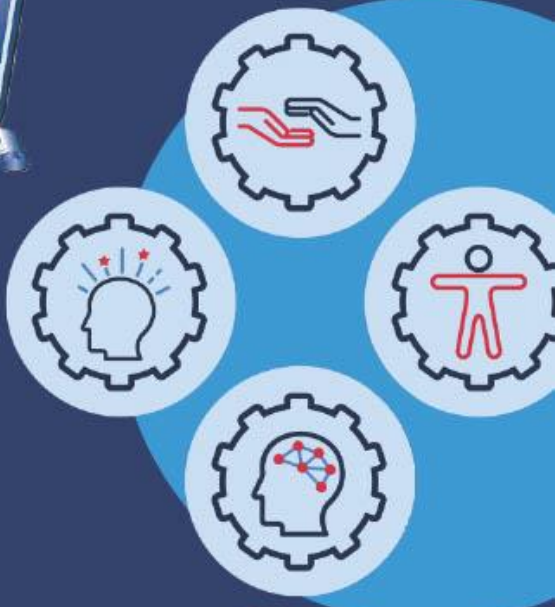




Schools we service for Before & After School Care:

- 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



YEAR 7

EXCEL PROGRAM


Class of 2026

About the class

This is an opportunity for high potential and gifted students to attend their local comprehensive high school to experience the curriculum with greater depth and extension.

Parent Information evening on
Monday 5th May 2025
6.00-6.30pm School Library

Applications open in Week 2, Term 2



Key features of the program include:

- Enriched curriculum
- Individualised learning
- Expert instruction
- Extracurricular activities
- Talent development

For more information see
keira-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Great traditions, a confident future

Contact Details

Coniston Public School
123 Auburn Street
Coniston NSW 2500

P: 02 4229 1117
E: coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
W: coniston-p.schools.nsw.gov.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConistonPS