

### **Kindergarten's first visit to the Library**

Kindergarten borrowed their first book from the Library last week! Another first for this amazing group of students. Mrs Smith is very impressed with how settled they are, eager to borrow and ready to learn. Great work, Kindergarten!



### **Swimming Carnival**

Tabby, Molly, Taj, Saja, Felix, Pele, Fimmy, Esme and Lola recently competed in the school's swimming carnival. Throughout the event, they swam to the best of their ability and were terrific ambassadors for our school, including being complimented by a member of the community.

Congratulations, Esme and Pele, our swimming champions for 2025! Kookaburras were the House Champions!

Best wishes to Tabby, Esme, Pele, Saja, Molly and Lola who will swim at the District Swimming Carnival on Monday. Thank you to all the parents / carers who are providing transport and support.

### **Staff professional learning**

To ensure our staff are highly qualified, they engage regularly in professional learning, mostly outside of school hours.

Staff have recently completed their cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and anaphylaxis training as well as their mandatory training, including Child Protection and Code of Conduct.

This year we will develop a deeper understanding of the new syllabuses for Creative Arts, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment (HSIE), and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

In addition, the teachers will deepen their knowledge and skills regarding explicit teaching while classroom staff will delve into the Resilience Project that is being introduced across the school.

*Have a wonderful week!*

### **Coming Events**

#### **Week 5**

- Monday 24 February: District Swimming Carnival – competitors only
- Tuesday 25 February: Class information sessions and P&C Welcome BBQ
  - 3:15 - 3:45 Session 1 (K-6)
  - 3:50 - 4:20 Session 2 (Years 1 - 6)
  - BBQ: 4 -5pm

#### **Week 6**

- Monday 3 March 2:15pm: Leader's Induction Ceremony. Invitations have been issued. All parents / carers are welcome!
- Wednesday 5 March 4:30 – 7:30pm: Keira HS Expo for Years 5 and 6

#### **Week 7**

- Monday 10 March 7pm: P&C Meeting (including the Annual General Meeting)

### **Dates for your diary**

- NAPLAN Years 3 & 5: Wednesday 12 March to Monday 24 March
- Thursday 27 March: Cross Country Carnival
- Friday 2 May: Photo Day

## Attendance – Every day counts!

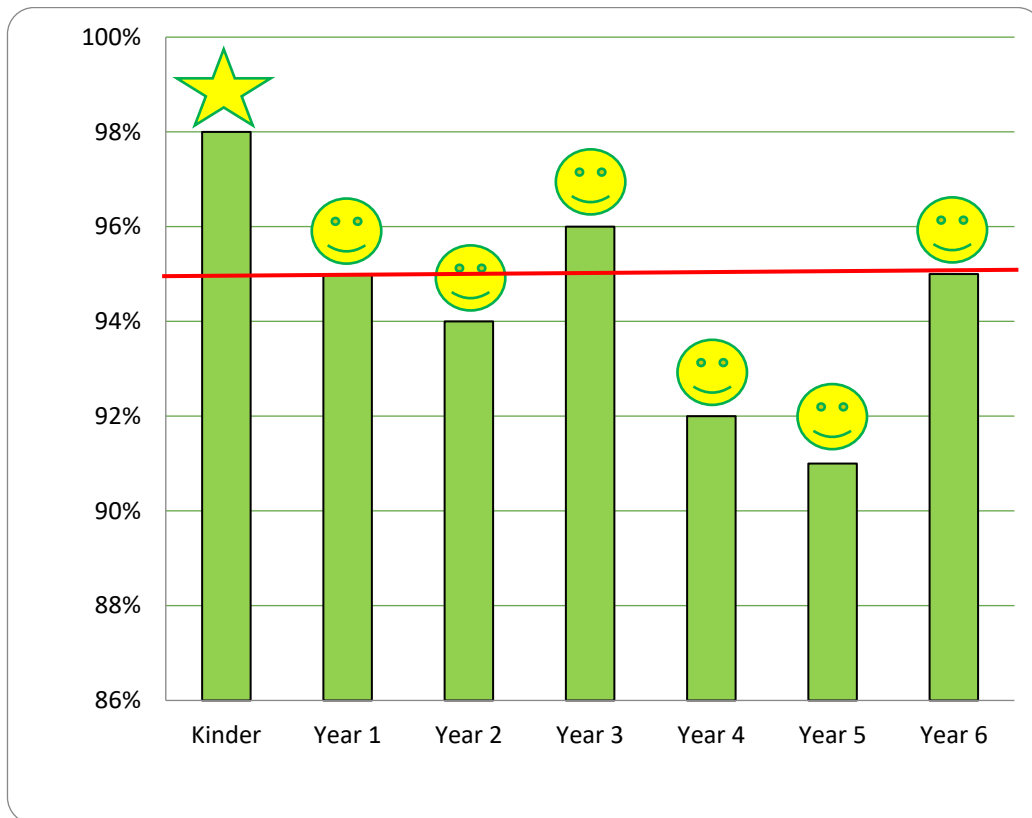
This year we are striving once again to have every grade above 90% attendance every fortnight.

We are off to a fantastic start with all grades exceeding this benchmark. Congratulations, everyone!

The attendance graph below is for the period 6 - 19 February 2025. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.



# *Congratulations Kindergarten – 98% attendance!*



## Swimming Carnival

On Friday 7 February, the second day of school, nine students competed at the combined school swimming carnival at Unanderra Pool. We were lucky to have a warm, sunny day for swimming. It was great to see everyone having a go at many different events, cheering for each other and showing good sportsmanship. All the competitors are to be proud of their achievements. Good luck to our District representatives.

Boy Swimming Champion: Pele

Girl Swimming Champion: Esme

House Champions: Kookaburras



## Swap It

**swop it**  
everyday in the lunchbox

### Add a splash of rainbow

Wow your kids by making everyday lunchboxes fun, colourful and appealing. Lots of colour means lots of different vitamins and minerals.

Swap out cupcakes or lollies and swap in:

- Grapes or berries – sweet, shiny and juicy!
- Rainbow vegetable sticks – try carrot, green beans and capsicum
- Our rainbow recipes – Lunchbox rainbow noodles, rainbow vegetable kebabs or fried rice salad for a colourful vegetable hit!



# NAPLAN 2025

## parent and carer information

Each year the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is sat by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Students will participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN 2025 will take place from **Wednesday 12 March** to **Monday 24 March**.

NAPLAN is just one part of our school's learning assessment program. The tests assess literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school, so the best preparation is their everyday classroom learning. Our school will also undertake activities to help students become familiar with the types of questions and tools available in the online tests.

The public demonstration site (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) is available for you to see the format of the online tests.

Further information about NAPLAN is available on the NESA website (<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/naplan>) and the NAP website (<https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>).

If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

Welcome back to all our students, staff and families. And importantly, Coniston Public School P&C Association would like to extend a warm welcome to new students and families joining us for 2025! The P&C is a friendly, inclusive group who advocate for the interests of all students at the school. We are 100% volunteer powered, so your involvement in any capacity is much appreciated.



Over the school holidays Grill'd Burgers Wollongong generously hosted a fundraising jar for our P&C. Unfortunately, we placed second to the much deserving Imagination Library initiative, but Grill'd nonetheless donated \$100 towards our new play equipment. Thanks so much, Grill'd Wollongong!

We have ambitious goals for the coming year so if you are looking for a way to get involved there has never been a better time. Drop by to say hi to our friendly volunteers at the complimentary **Welcome BBQ on Tuesday February 25**, held in conjunction with the Meet The Teacher event that afternoon. We will have drinks and snacks for sale priced between \$1 - \$2.50 with all proceeds going towards our fundraising.

### **Volunteers Required – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle June 14**

After a huge organisational effort from our President Melissa, Bunnings Kembla Grange will host Coniston P&C on **Saturday, June 14** for a fundraising sausage sizzle. Volunteers will be required for the entire day, so if you have an hour or two to spare please reach out to [Conistonps.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:Conistonps.pandc@gmail.com)

### **Coniston Public School P&C – Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

It's almost time for our first P&C meeting for 2025, including the Annual General Meeting. All are welcome to attend!

**When:** Monday 10 March, 7 pm in the Library. Please enter via the Auburn St main gate and make your way directly forward to the Library entrance. Gate will open at 6:50pm.

At the AGM, all positions are vacated and new elections held for the positions of President, two Vice-presidents, Secretary and Treasurer.

To be elected or to vote as a general member, you must become a financial member. Please bring along your \$1 on the night. We will have the membership form ready for you to complete.

If you have an agenda item for the next meeting, please email it to the school at [coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) by Friday 7 March 2025.

We look forward to meeting many of our new families at the welcome BBQ next week and at our first P&C meeting.

*Kind regards,*

*Coniston Public School P&C*

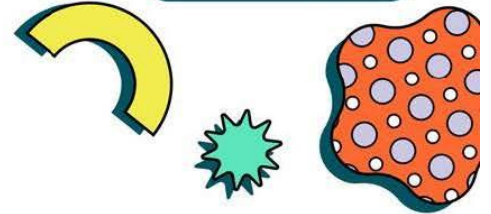


Guiding children's growth

# Meet the team

At Coniston Public School

Newsletter



Jaide Short – Left  
Samantha McGlashan - Right

**Jaide Short – Service Leader**  
**Samantha McGlashan - Educator**

We are excited to introduce our amazing team to you!

Jaide Short is our dedicated Service Leader, and she has been working with children for six years. Jaide holds a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and is currently studying her Diploma of School-Aged Care. When she's not working, Jaide enjoys four-wheel driving, fishing, and camping. A fun fact is she has a bearded dragon as a fun and unique pet!

Samantha McGlashan has been a part of the Camp Australia team for three years and has loved every moment of it. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Primary Education at the University of Wollongong and has a bachelor's degree in psychology. In her free time, Samantha enjoys playing basketball, reading, and spending quality time with her friends and family. Fun fact: Samantha can juggle, a skill she picked up during her university days!

We're thrilled to have such a passionate and dedicated team here to support your children!

**Your OSHC.** 

Tailored Out of School Hours experiences.

Your OSHC by Camp Australia provides enriching experiences for children during term – before school, after school and on pupil free days.

[Find out more](#)



## Visits welcome!

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



## Register with Camp Australia

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

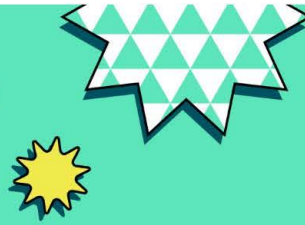
[Register now](#)

## Visit our blog

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

[Visit our blog](#)

# Outside School Hours Care Newsletter



10/2/2025

Coniston Public School

Your  
OSHC.



## A message from your Service Leader – Jaide Short

Welcome to Term 1 of 2025! We are excited to kick off the new year with fresh opportunities for learning, growth, and fun. As always, we're here to support our students and families. Don't forget about our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service, offering a safe, engaging, and flexible environment for your children before and after school. Whether you need a little extra time for work or want your child to enjoy fun activities, our OSHC team is here to help make this term a great success!

## Activities coming up

- Valentine's Day Craft
- Kindness week
- Fruits and vegetables
  - Outdoor sport
  - Iron beads
  - Big Art Friday



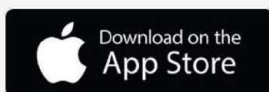
## Make a booking

Join in the fun of Outside School Hours Care activities and experiences with Your OSHC and Rocketeers.

[Book now](#)

## Register free and book in 24/7 via our app

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at [pp.campaustralia.com.au](http://pp.campaustralia.com.au) or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



Find out more and book now at [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)



# Keira High School

*The school of choice for our local community*



## EXPO Evening

4:30pm-7:30pm Wednesday 5 March 2025

*We look forward to meeting you at our Expo Evening*  
Find out why Keira is *your* outstanding local school



Welcoming Year 4, 5 & 6 students and their families

For further information please contact the school on **4229 4644**  
or visit our website at [www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.keira-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)  
Keira High School, Lysaght Street, Fairy Meadow

*Great traditions, a confident future.*



# Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts

To book for the open night please click on link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/1351382/sessions>



Wollongong High School  
of the Performing Arts

**WHSPA**

**Open  
Night**

**IMAGINE  
WHSPA**

Year 6 Parents &  
Students are invited  
to attend WHSPA's  
Open Night.

**WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH**

**Auditioned Students**  
Book through Trybooking  
5.30pm | 6.30pm

**In Area Students**  
Book through Trybooking  
5.00pm | 6.00pm



Lysaght Street  
FAIRY MEADOW NSW 2519

**BOOK YOUR TOUR**

# Fairymeadow Netball



**JOIN US FOR**  
*Season 2025*

Part of Illawarra District Netball Association  
We welcome players from 6 years and older

✉ [fairymeadow.netball@gmail.com](mailto:fairymeadow.netball@gmail.com)

REGO COSTS	
<b>NetSetGo Skills \$110</b> 5 - 8 yrs	<b>NetSetGo Comp \$200</b> 6 - 9 yrs
<b>Juniors \$200</b> 10-12 yrs	<b>Inters \$200</b> 13-14 yrs
<b>Cadets \$200</b> 15-17 yrs	<b>Seniors \$225</b> 18 yrs+
<b>Coaches, Managers &amp; Umpires</b> FREE	

[www.fairymeadownetball.com.au](http://www.fairymeadownetball.com.au)






# Primary Ethics

## Primary ETHICS

ETHICS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN  
THINK • REASON • DISCUSS

Do something life-changing!  
**Volunteer to teach ethics**  
at your local school

Ethics classes help children develop the life skills they need to voice their opinions, listen respectfully to others and make decisions based on evidence and reasoning rather than habit or peer pressure.

Thousands of volunteers from all walks of life and of all ages teach ethics every week. We offer free training, full lesson materials and ongoing support.



**Volunteers are needed now**



You'll get as much out of it as the children do!  
Visit: [PrimaryEthics.com.au](http://PrimaryEthics.com.au) to learn more

For around an hour a week, you can have a positive impact for the future when you teach ethics, using an approved curriculum specially designed for each age group.

Topics include: How can we work out what's true? should animals be kept in zoos? what is fairness? is it ever okay to lie? The teacher's role is not to make judgements or give their own opinions about right or wrong, but to encourage questions and reflection by the children themselves.

**We rely on parents, grandparents and people who are community-minded - it's a rewarding way to get involved, learn new skills and connect positively with the future generation.**

## Primary ETHICS

Learn more at: [primaryethics.com.au](http://primaryethics.com.au)



# *Disabled Surfers Association South Coast Volunteers Needed*

## **Port Kembla 'Smiles on Dials' Surf Day**



**Saturday 8th March 2025**

***Check-in no later than 9.00am - (Earlier if you can) All sign ins done on the promenade Between Pool and Beach***

This is your chance to VOLUNTEER and assist our Surfers to enjoy a Fun, Safe, Surfing Experience. All run by the local Disabled Surfers Association with the help of many other community members. DSA Surfing events cater for any person with a disability, no matter how challenging. Rash vests also provided for the day's activities.

Various jobs available on the day both In and Out of the water. Just ask at the sign in tent on arrival.

Registration for Volunteers is **FREE**, BBQ lunch Provided as well as a whole lot of FUN.  
All thanks to our local participating businesses.

**Free** registration @ [HUMANITIX.com.au](https://www.humanitix.com.au) or go to the below web pages for more details.  
Walk up Registrations accepted for volunteers on the day if unable to pre register.

For more information and who to contact view  
[disabledsurfers.org/nsw/south-coast-branch](https://disabledsurfers.org/nsw/south-coast-branch) or  
[www.disabledsurfers.org](https://www.disabledsurfers.org)



***See you there putting "Smiles on dials"***



**FREE!**

Morning Tea Provided

Fun Activities

Qualified Staff Available

Kiosk On Site

Inclusive Environment

Intergenerational

Free Parking

# REAL LITTLE CONNECTIONS

## MONDAY MORNINGS AT REAL LIFE ASSISTANTS

Real Little Connections is a free social group for children aged birth to 5 years, held every Monday from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. It's a relaxed space where little ones can play while families connect and build friendships. All children must remain in the care of their grownup during the session.

**real life assistants**

ndis • support • services

[www.reallifeassistants.com.au](http://www.reallifeassistants.com.au)

0400 364 003

## 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)