



Newsletter Term 2 Week 2

Relieving Principal's Message

It was wonderful to see so many parents attend our Parent-Teacher interviews over the past two weeks. We greatly value the opportunity to collaborate with our families, and we are pleased to report that over 85% of our students were represented during the interviews. A big thank you to the Gillman family for providing our staff with a delicious afternoon tea; it was greatly appreciated.

We are getting closer to the Wollongong Running Festival on Sunday 2 June. So far, 70 students, parents, and teachers from our school have registered. The fun run begins at 9:30am and promises to be a fantastic morning for all. For more details, please check the newsletter and keep an eye out for emails from the Wollongong Running Festival.

Last Monday afternoon our Coniston teachers met with the teachers from our Community of Schools group (COS) to learn from each other and share best practice across our schools. Our COS consists of Mount Ousley PS, Wollongong PS, Balgownie PS, Pleasant Heights PS, Fairy Meadow PS and Keira High School. The year 7 teachers from Keira High School also joined our stage 3 teachers to help strengthen the links from Year 6 to Year 7 for our students.

Thank you to Year 6 for presenting their item at assembly in Week 4. Your movement and rhythm with the basketballs, staying in time with the music, was very entertaining.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Nicole Flynn
Relieving Principal

Coming Events

SCHOOL HAT EVERY DAY

HEALTHY LUNCHBOX EVERY DAY

Regular Events

- School Assembly - Mondays Week 4 & 8
- Running Club - Wed & Friday 8:30am
- Community Gardening: Tuesdays 9:15am -10:45am: call in via the office.
- Playgroup - Tuesdays 9am - 11am

Term 2

Week 5

- Sunday 2 June - Fun Run: Wollongong Running Festival

Week 6

- Friday 7 June – Hot Dog day

Week 7

- Monday 10 June – Public Holiday
- Tuesday 11 June – Pie orders due
- Thurs 13 – Fri 14 June: Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

Week 8

- Monday 17 June – P&C Meeting 7pm Library
- Tuesday 18 June – Pie orders delivered

What's due?

- Register for Wollongong Running Festival

Dates for your diary

- Monday 17 June – Assembly: Year 1 & 2 class Item



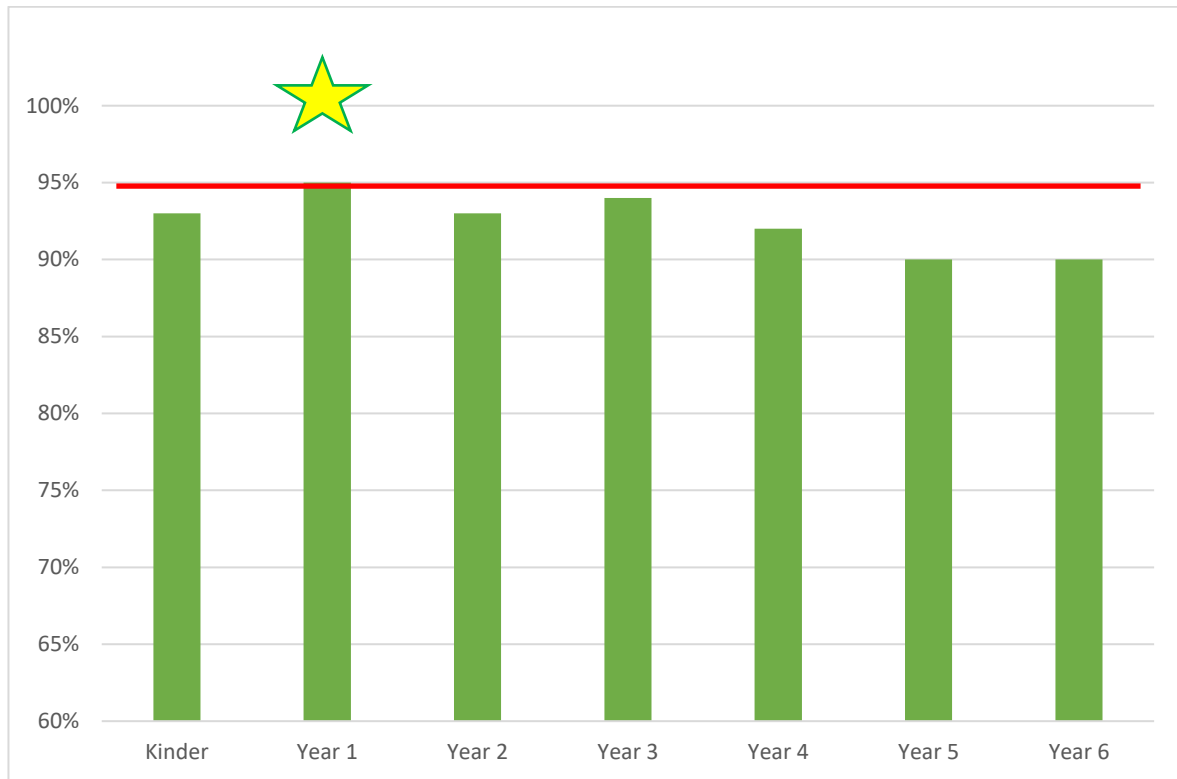
Attendance – Everyday counts!

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

The attendance graph below is for 30 April –8 May 2024. The red line is the NSW Department of Education's expected 95% attendance marker.



Great work Year 1 – 95% and
K-3 Boys all above 95%



If your child is away and you haven't let the school know in advance, an SMS alert will be sent out to the mobile number we have as Contact 1. You can respond to this and this will be recorded in our system as an explained absence. It is a legal requirement that all student absences be explained.

P & C News

Coming Events

Friday 7 June – Hot Dog Day

Pie Drive

- Payment Due: Tuesday 11 June
- Delivery: Tuesday 18 June

Please contact the P&C or School office if you can help at these events. Parent helpers always welcome and needed. It's a great way to meet our school community.

**Next P&C meeting: Monday 5 August 7pm in the library.
All welcome.**

Kind regards,
Coniston Public P&C
conistonps.pandc@gmail.com

Communication

Please use the school's email address for non-emergencies in the first instance or phone the office. Our staff will respond to your queries **within 2 school days** under normal circumstances.

For longer discussions or complex matters, we ask parents and carers to make an appointment to speak to teachers directly, at a time that works best for everyone.

For emergencies, please contact the office on 4229 1117. Emergencies include serious student health, safety and wellbeing issues.

School email: coniston-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

World Bee Day

Our friends from Transport for Tomorrow visited Coniston yesterday to celebrate World Bee Day. A handful of students, including our Ganugan Ambassadors, enjoyed learning about solitary bees, sustainability and gardening. Our students helped plant an array of native flowers and Coniston was gifted 3 new Bee Hotels which will help to attract solitary native bees and other pollinators to our garden.

Thank you Transport for Tomorrow!



Tournament of Minds

Training has begun in earnest for this year's Tournament of Minds. Students are working on a practice long-term challenge for Week 6 in which they have to design a boat that fits a Barbie doll, and ten marbles, and can remain afloat while Ms Daly throws water bombs at it! This week, they were also working on a spontaneous challenge in which they had four minutes to design a ghost and tell its life story about who it was haunting and why.



SRC – Mufti Day for Story Dogs

Congratulations to our SRC for organising the mufti day on Tuesday to raise money to donate to the Story Dogs Program. Story dogs is a reading program used within schools (including Coniston) where a trained volunteer, accompanied by a reading assistance dog, works with students while they read. Our school raised \$161 which will be donated to Story Dogs.

This is Leo the Story Dog.



National Simultaneous Storytime



National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is an annual event at schools around Australia. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places. NSS aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the curriculum.

This year the book we shared for NSS was 'Bowerbird Blues' by Aura Parka. It is a new book about a beautiful bowerbird in search of blue. It's a moving story of longing and connection, that unfolds as the bowerbird's search sends him soaring across the sea, sky and city.

At Coniston PS we all enjoyed sharing the book and celebrated the day with a variety of fun activities.

Here is Miss Rogers and Year 1 students enjoying the story.



District Cross Country

The Central Wollongong PSSA district cross country was held at Kembla Grange on Wednesday, 22 May. Following two postponements due to rain and wet grounds, the weather was warm and sunny, and it was a fantastic day for all. Congratulations to the students who attended, representing the school proudly and giving their best on the day.



Swap it!



Get your kids packing everyday lunchboxes

When children help plan and pack their own lunchbox, they are more likely to eat it.

Encourage them to swap:

- Muesli bar to wholegrain cereal bites
- Pre-packaged cheese-dip and crackers to wholegrain crackers and cheese

SWAP FROM



Cheese dip & crackers



SWAP TO



Wholegrain crackers & cheese



Download our free "SWAP IT Everyday Lunchbox Planner" to try with your child! Scan the QR code or visit www.swapit.net.au/planner



We need you to join our school team!

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.
- 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!

Pre-race-day bib collection

Pre-race-day bib collection will be available for participants that have registered on or before Thursday 30 May.

Our event crew will be set up at Stuart Park on the corner of Cliff Road and George Hanley Drive, North Wollongong for bib collection on the following days:

- Friday 31 May, 12pm - 4pm
- Saturday 1 June, 8am -12pm

To ensure you have ample time for pre-race preparations and to prevent any delays on the day of the event, we highly recommend picking up your bib ahead of race day.



Guiding children's growth

What is OSHC and why is it right for your family?

OSHC stands for Outside School Hours Care. Camp Australia's OSHC service provides enrichment and care for primary school-age children outside school hours and during the school holidays. Depending on your school, it can cover Before School Care, After School Care and Vacation Care.

At Camp Australia, our vision is *To support families in achieving their dreams* and our promise that is that *we will Guide Your Child's Growth.*

To do that we take a unique approach to OSHC based on over 30 years of experience.

Enriching experiences that children love

Our experienced educators involve your child in designing the experiences that make up our OSHC program. Our industry leading approach to program development ensures that your child is at the heart of what we do each day.

A place for friendships to form

OSHC is a great place for your child to meet new friends and bond over shared interests. We design programs that bring children together so they can connect and grow outside school hours.

Easy, hassle-free care

Our service is available to all families, no matter the need. Our extended hours offer peace of mind so you can manage work, health, study and more stress-free. Plus, our industry leading Parent Portal gives you unrivalled access to make and manage your bookings.



FREE to Register

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

Are you eligible for the Child Care Subsidy?

The Child Care Subsidy can provide up to 90% off your fees. If you're unsure about your eligibility contact Centrelink on 13 61 50.



Make and manage bookings using the Parent Portal app for smartphone

We conducted customer focus groups to get direct feedback from parents regarding their experience with Camp Australia.

This research highlighted the need to have a streamlined way for parents to access their accounts and manage their bookings and enrolments; and informed the design for our brand-new Parent Portal app for smartphone.

- Easy booking features.
- Simple booking calendar overview.
- Track your spend.
- Contact your service Coordinator.
- Update your and your child's details.



Search for **Camp Australia Parent Portal** on the App Store or Google Play, to download the app and register free with us now.



Multicultural Supported Playgroups
PLAY, LEARN, CONNECT

IMS
ILLAWARRA
MULTICULTURAL
SERVICES
advancing participation



Playgroups are back in 2024!

FREE
WELCOME TO ALL

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




Communities & Justice




KIDS RUN PROGRAM - WITH COACH JAMES

FREE VOUCHER

First Session FREE voucher
Term 2 2024
Tuesdays 7:05am at Bulli
Thursdays 4:15pm at Stuart Park

Savvy Kids Run is for Primary School Age children who want to:
Learn the foundations of running
Train for and improve in Cross Country and Athletics
Improve fitness for other sports

Contact us to redeem your voucher

1300 942 895 | recreation@savvyco.com.au | savvyco.com.au



Port Kembla Youth Project



**Port Kembla Youth Project is conducting
Homework Hub**

**Assisting students with
Tutoring and Homework Help**

*Small Group Programs open to:
Primary and High School Students*

Enrolment Essential

8wk program run during school terms

PKYP also offers:

Learning Lab – fee based private tutoring

Contact our Youth Team on 02 4276 1229 or email team@pkyp.org.au to book or visiting our website pkyp.org.au for more info!

Sponsored by:



Creative Kids Vouchers

\$50 Active and Creative Kids Vouchers

The NSW Government is helping to make activities more affordable for eligible NSW families with the new Active and Creative Kids Vouchers program.

There are 2 x \$50 vouchers, issued in school term 1 and school term 3. To be eligible for the vouchers a student must be a resident of NSW, enrolled to attend a government or non-government school, or registered for home schooling in NSW during the 2024 school year and receive Family Tax Benefit Part A, or Family Tax Benefit Part B, or both. The vouchers are now available and can be redeemed at registered businesses before their expiry date.

Parents, carers, and guardians can apply for the Active and Creative Kids Vouchers via their MyServiceNSW Account, in the Service NSW app or website or by visiting a Service NSW Service Centre.

Vouchers will be provided as a downloadable QR code. They can either be used separately, or both vouchers can be redeemed in the same transaction (once the second voucher is available). Each voucher can only be redeemed once. If the transaction is less than the amount of the vouchers redeemed, then the remaining balance is forfeited.

For further information about the program, eligible activities and registered businesses visit <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/active-and-creative-kids-voucher>

ROCKY TRAIL ACADEMY
Wollongong Primary Schools MTB Event
Cringila MTB Park
Wollongong
THU, 20 JUN 2024

More info

Where the mountain biking adventure begins!
Dedicated to nurturing the fundamental growth of mountain biking within school communities.

STUDENTS LOVE IT.

A FUN INTRODUCTION TO MOUNTAIN BIKING

Open to Y3-6 primary school kids, regardless of experience or skill level. The focus is on enjoying the sport, exploring nature, and making new friends.

HAPPY TEACHERS.

HIGHLY EXPERIENCED ORGANISERS.

The three tracks selected will be short, engaging, and designed for maximum fun. Results will be published, but no rankings to encourage participation over competition.

IMPRESSED PARENTS.

GREAT VALUE AND SAFE EVENT ENVIRONMENT.

Affordable entry fee of \$49 per child includes AusCycling insurance. Riders who do each track at least once are "finishers" and get a fun reward prize.



Contact Details

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Coniston NSW 2500

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W: coniston-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConistonPS