



Condong Public School
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Phone: 02 66722390
Principal: Mr Brendan Quinn
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

8 APRIL 2024
TERM 1 - WEEK 11

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Well, it's hard to believe that the end of Term 1 is already upon us! I hope that everyone had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed some down time, along with the sunny days that we had. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along to our Easter Hat Parade and Picnic on Thursday, it was wonderful to see so many families and not to mention the beautiful hats and egg-oramas. Thank you to our wonderful 5/6 class, Mrs Borton and Mr Stewart for their smooth organisation and running of the parade.

We also welcome Mr Stewart who is completing his final teaching practicum on the 5/6 class. Thank you for your positive contributions, Mr Stewart and we know the students are enjoying having you in their class.

Ms Whyte is currently on long service leave until the end of the term and 1/2 are in the capable hands of Mrs Kerr, Leanne and Jane.

Have a safe and happy break and I look forward to seeing everyone back here safely on Tuesday 30 April.

Kind regards,
Brendan.

Expression Of Interest (EOI) - P & C or Parent Representative

This EOI is for one P & C or a parent representative to join with Mr Quinn and join the Flood Recovery Project Committee for the first Governance Project Reference Group (PRG) meeting. The focus of this committee is for the rebuild of CPS and the way forward. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 May from 10-11.30am, with the location to still be confirmed. It is envisaged that this committee will meet once at month for between 60 – 90 minutes each time.

If you would like to express your interest to join this committee, please phone the school office on 02 66722390 or drop in and see Mr Quinn before Friday 12 April.

Important Dates

- 10 Apr - Soccer Fun Day Yr 3-6
- 12 April - Last day of Term 1
- 25 April - ANZAC Day
- 30 April - First day of Term 2
- 3 May - Cross Country
- 9 May - Mothers and Others Morning Tea



ANZAC Day March

Students have the opportunity to represent our school at the Murwillumbah ANZAC Day March and Remembrance Ceremony on Thursday, 25 April (during the school holidays).

Students will need to wear full school uniform and meet at the Post Office by 10.15am for the march off at 10.30am. If you would like your child to represent the school please return the response slip sent home today by Friday.



Attendance

As we head into the end of Term 1, it remains important that your child attends school every single day. Being at school is the best place for students to learn as well as to keep social connections and build life-long skills.

Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up and can negatively impact your child's learning and wellbeing. When your child misses one day per fortnight, that's 4 weeks of missed learning in one year. Over an entire school journey this adds up to 1 year of lost learning.

We want to do everything we can to help all students be at school every single day, because every day counts. If you have any concerns or questions, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Naplan 2024

Congratulations to our students in Years 3 and 5 who recently completed the NAPLAN Writing, Reading, Language Conventions and Numeracy assessments. We are very proud of how students gave their best efforts during the assessments. Information regarding student results will be shared with parents and carers once it is received.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that NAPLAN provides a snapshot into how students perform in a series of online tests over a few days. The writing assessment for Year 3 is still in written format and not online. Our dedicated and hard-working teachers undertake regular formative and summative assessments with students to constantly track and monitor student growth and achievement.

Our wonderful and supportive staff also recognise that there are a number of areas, such as wellbeing, kindness, resilience, care and effort that are not measured via NAPLAN, and as a whole school, we know how awesome and amazing your children are every day. A special thank you to Mrs Warner for all her hard work that went on behind the scenes in preparation for the testing period!

Are Your Contact Details Up To Date?

Please update the school office whenever there is a change to any of your contact details. We are frequently trying to contact parents on disconnected numbers or at places that they no longer work. We also need alternative "emergency contacts" in case you cannot be contacted in an emergency. Please contact the office on 02 66722390 to notify of any changes.



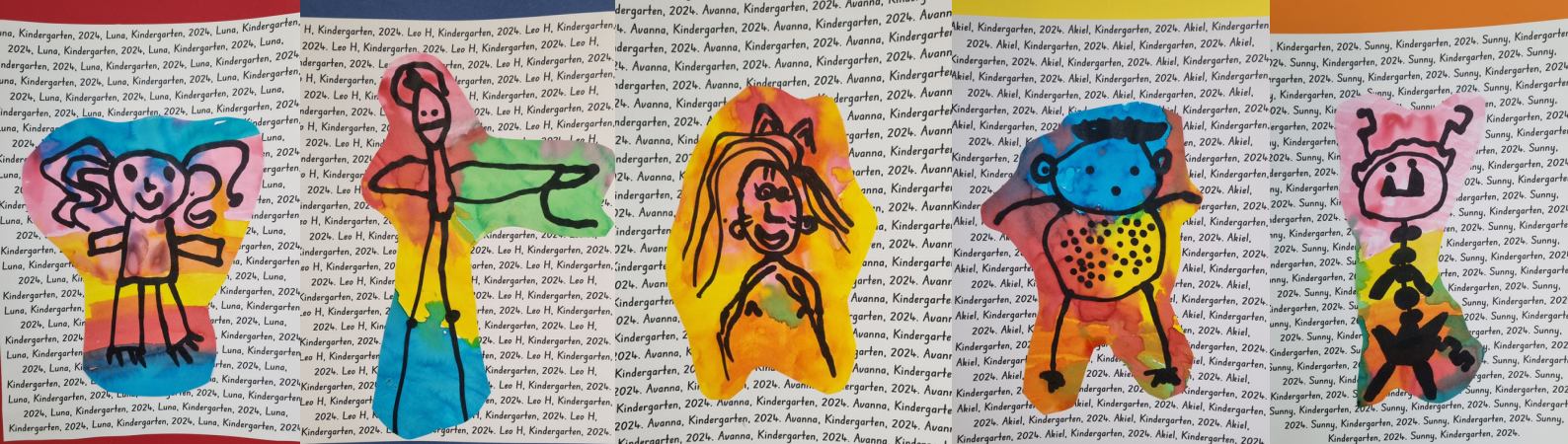
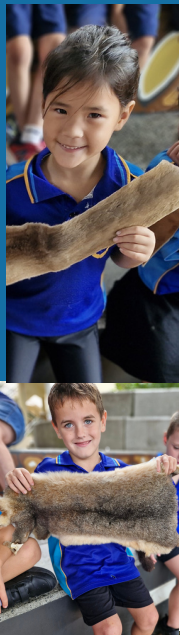
Around the Room with K/1

Kindergarten have started to settle well into their school journey and Year 1 have settled well into new routines in 2024. They have been learning to interact with stories through drama and actions. They have been recreating scenes from the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. Students have explored direction through going on a 'Principal Hunt' throughout the school.

With Mr Quinn, students have been learning nursery rhymes and songs including creating art works to match, such as 'I Can Sing a Rainbow'.

Students have been engaging in beginner readers books that are interesting and engaging, with the support of the toolkit which contains items such as torches, magnifying glasses, sound counters, reading racetrack mat or phonics phones that encourage and students to read independently and with confidence.

Students were fortunate enough to go on an excursion to StoryFest where they experienced storytelling in all its forms - oral, written, poetry, and song. I can not wait to see what the rest of the year brings! Regards, Mrs Rocket Milsom, Lynnne and Mr Quinn.



Healthy and Active Lifestyles

- Go outside and play chasing, ride bikes or throw a ball or a Frisbee.
- Negotiate a time limit on sedentary activities such as watching TV and playing computer games.
- Walking together is a good time to talk to children about their lives and yours.
- Be a good role model – be active when you're with your children. What gets children moving is what parents do, not what they say. Children learn by example!
- Encourage your child to play outside whenever possible and try and join them for some of this time.
- Encourage children to make their own obstacle course at home. They could use garden hoses as tight-ropes, chairs to crawl under, and the clothesline to run around. Include a skipping rope and some jumping. For variety, ask them to walk backwards, hop or skip through the obstacle course. You could time them to see if they are improving!
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Water is very important for good health, and our bodies need water to work properly. Drinking water every day promotes good digestion, healthy skin and healthy teeth. Water doesn't have any sugar, sweeteners or caffeine which are often found in other drinks, so water is the best choice.



Safe Bus Travel

Travelling by bus to and from school is a shared responsibility between the students, their parents, the school, the bus driver and the bus companies. If you have any concerns about bus travel behaviour, inform the bus driver, notify the bus company and contact the school.

If your child travels to or from school by bus, please speak to them about safe bus travel behaviour. Travelling by bus to school is a privilege which can be revoked by the bus company if there is evidence of student behaviour that is unsafe or contrary to the Code of Behaviour. Students must be seated and with their seat belt on. Being seated, respectful, safe and buckled up also links in with our school Positive Behaviour for Learning matrix.

Thank you to all the students who travel to school by bus, each day and who are safe, courteous and well mannered, you are wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Important road safety reminder for parents and carers these holidays

As the school holidays approach, it is important to remember when walking near roads, on footpaths, near driveways and in car parks always:

- hold your child's hand. Until they are at least 8 years old children need to hold an adult's hand. Until they are at least 10, children should be closely supervised by an adult and hold hands when crossing the road.
- talk to your child about road safety. Talk about how to be safe when near roads. Be a good role model.
- point out road safety dangers and differences in new environments. This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths and pedestrian facilities may look different in holiday areas.

The best way to keep your child safe on or near the road is to hold their hand, talk with your child daily about road safety. You can find out more at Transport for NSW.

Have a safe holiday break!

