

Congewai News

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Newsletter Week 3

Term 4 2014

Welcome to week 3. The term is already moving fast.

We started off with another visit from our next year's Kindergarten students, who had lots of learning fun participating in activities and playing with friends.

We also are half way through our intensive swimming lessons. We have two to go, on Thursday and Friday. Our students have been having a great time during the lessons, their skills are progressing really well and the swim teachers have been very impressed.

We have a couple of great days planned for next week, starting off with Grandparent's Day, next Wednesday. Students have been given invitations to pass on to their grandparents and we'd love to see lots of them join us for the morning and enjoying a morning tea with us. Parents are also welcome to join us for the fun.

It's Halloween on Friday, 31st of October and we'd like to see our students in spooky costumes for the day. We'll finish off the day with an activity filled afternoon, with lots of fun things for our students to do.

On Saturday, Mr Cagney and I joined art teachers, for the Educators Day for Sculpture in the Vines.

Our school excursion to Sculpture in the Vines is on Monday, November the 17th, where we will visit Undercliff Winery, experience the many art-works that have been installed and participate in a hands on workshop with one of the artists. We certainly had a fantastic day, meeting several of the artists, while visiting all of the wineries with installations. I encourage our parents to visit on the Picnic Day, Sunday 26th October, at Wollombi Wines. Please click on the website below for more information.

<http://www.sculptureinthevineyards.com.au/>

Till next week-

Donna Stackman



Diary Dates:

Monday 20/10/14	Ready, Set, Go : Kindergarten Transition Day 9-11:10am
Wednesday 29/10/14	Grandparent's Day
Friday 31/10/14	Halloween activity afternoon - costume day
Thursday 6/11/14	Visit by Rutherford PS's Grinning Gardeners
Friday 14/11/14	Pirate Day: Get your best pirate outfit ready



CLASSROOM NEWS

News - Our topic this week is, "What is your favourite holiday event and why?"

Maths - This week Juniors are focusing on number and mass. Primary are focusing on number and 3D space.

Students have work set for them on Studyladder and are encouraged to use this to reinforce concepts learned in class, along with Mathletics.

Literacy - This week we're looking at poetry.

Art - Unfortunately not many students bought in an empty drink container and paper towel roll last week, so we had to postpone our two art activities. Please bring them in by Wednesday so we can commence the tasks.



Enjoying swimming lessons during Intensive Swimming School.



Staff changes -

Wednesday - Mrs Stackman at a School Planning meeting. Next year sees the start of a new three year school plan. During a recent P&C meeting our new school targets were discussed and decided upon. As a community we decided that we would have three main focus areas, literacy, numeracy and creating 21st Century Learners. At Wednesday's planning workshop, I will commence putting these key areas into an operational plan.

Thursday - Mrs Stackman at ARCO training. It is mandatory that all schools have an ARCO trained person. As I am the only permanent teaching staff member, it is necessary that I undertake training for our school site.



It's National Bird Week

To celebrate National Bird Week 2014, Oct 20-26, we'll be taking part in the biggest citizen science project to hit Aussie shores! From 20-26 October, thousands of people from across the country are heading out into their backyards, local parks or favourite open spaces to take part in the first ever **Aussie Backyard Bird Count!**

For 20 minutes on Tuesday, we'll be going into our school ground and recording as many species of birds as we can. Families can also do this at home and by downloading the app on the website below, can record the species in their backyards.

<http://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>