

Congewai News

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Newsletter Week 4 Term 2 2014

NAPLAN is all over for another year. Well done to our year 3 and year 5 students who sat the test. You did well and gave a great effort.

We had a yummy end to the week through participating in Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Day. We made our Rainbow Wraps and joined thousands of other participants from around the world in watching Jamie Oliver and students making theirs. Keep an eye out for a feature on our school's participation in the Advertiser.

This Friday, orders will be finalised for the commemorative bricks celebrating 125 years of school life at Congewai. If your family has yet to order a brick, please send in your order form by **Friday**.

We've got a busy week coming up with the Small School's Athletics Day tomorrow. All staff will be attending therefore the school will be untended. All students are expected to be at the Carnival as it is part of our sporting program. Our school staff will be going straight to the carnival and students should do the same.

Till next time....
Donna Stackman

Please check if your child has entered the early events (800m and high jump) as the start time for these events is 8am.

Mulbring PS is operating the canteen for the day and a menu was sent home last week along with event programs for both Infants and Primary Carnivals.

Our Art lessons with Kes will be changed to Thursday this week to accommodate the Athletics Carnival. Please remember to send in a photo of your home for the children to use in their collage.

Years 5 and 6 students will be attending the GRIP



Diary Dates:

Tuesday 20/5/14	Small School's Infants Athletics Carnival - Turner Park, Cessnock
Wednesday 21/5/14	Grip Leadership conference to Newcastle—all primary students
Monday 26/5/14	Year 6 Transition to Mount View HS—mini lessons....all year 6 students welcome
Monday 2/6/14	Musica Viva at Laguna PS for all students: 10am start
Wednesday 4/6/14	DirtGirl visit to Congewai PS
Thursday 5/6/14	World Environment Day
Tuesday 24/6/14	NAIDOC performance at CPAC University Science Show—Congewai PS

Respect, Responsibility and Ready to Learn

News from the classrooms

Infants and Primary:

Literacy - This week we will be focusing on spelling, in particular the 100 most common word lists. Primary students will be focusing on correct tense in sentences and stories. All students are encouraged to read nightly at home. It's been proven that reading creates smarter kids.

Maths - We are focusing on addition and subtraction and area

Library lessons - Is on Thursday's! Don't forget your library books.

We are using a fantastic book called "Are we there yet?" by author Alison Lester to investigate our community both near and far. Last week we read the book, this week we're investigating the places mentioned in the book.

Art lessons will continue this week on Thursday....all students are asked to bring a photo of their home to use as part of the collage which will be created next week. Children may bring their photo in at any time and it will be kept safe for them until ready to use.

Picasso Cow - Included with homework this week is an outline of a cow. This is for students to draw their ideas and designs for our Picasso Cow redo. The theme for this makeover is "from paddock to plate." Parents can assist their children in developing ideas and designs and all will be put together to form an overall design which we can begin to put onto our cow. Our primary class will begin to get our cow ready this week, sanding and undercoating with our GA, Wayne, supervising and assisting.

Cooking - This week we will be making Vegetable Soup. The following students must bring in these ingredients:-

Tamsyn - 4 carrots, 2 parsnips

Madeline - 3 medium potatoes, 1 large sweet potato

Cain - 1 piece of broccoli, 4 stalks of celery

Angus - 3 large onions, 2 zucchini

Yessenia - 1 packet of vegetable stocks (enough to make 4 cups)



Family contacts

As many of our families travel to bring their children to our school, an emergency contact “phone tree” has been proposed by our P&C.

This is so you can contact another parent to collect your children should you have an emergency and can't either drop off or collect your child from school. While it is expected that this be on the rare occasion and good will not be abused, it is important to know that someone else is available should you not be able to.

*Please let Mrs Stackman know in writing if you **DO NOT WISH** to be part of this, by Friday 23rd May, 2014. If notification is not received by Friday it is assumed you are willing to be part of the emergency contact phone tree.*

Rainbow Salad Wraps

- Cabbage
- Carrot
- Beetroot
- Pear
- Feta cheese
- Yoghurt dressing

All wrapped up in a Mountain bread wrap.....

Miss Naysmith thinks it's

Yummy!



Congewai Public School P&C Association

Our P&C met last week and discussion arose regarding the viability of our P&C. The AGM is approaching and all positions will be declared vacant. Discussion regarding viability took place due to lack of participating members along with meeting times and potential alternatives. While a school does not absolutely have to have a P&C, it does play an important part in a school dynamic, particularly in a small school. Concern was raised that perhaps meetings were not attended as the P&C is seen to be just a 'fundraising' group. This is definitely not the case.

What is a P&C Association?

A Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) is a school-based organisation with membership open to parents, teachers, students and interested community members within the school zone area.

It is also:

- A forum to bring parents, community, students and teaching staff together; giving parents a chance to keep up to date with all school activities and to have a say in any issues that concern them or their child at our school.
- An opportunity to contribute to the school's resources through various fundraising projects and be involved in deciding how the money raised is spent.
- An avenue where we encourage parent and community participation in curriculum and educational policies in our School.
- An opportunity to bring parents and teachers together to share information about what is happening at our school and to develop plans for the future.

A P&C Committee works alongside the school staff to support the education of our children. And yes, P&C's do plan events and fundraising activities throughout the year along side school staff and the school Principal. At monthly meetings the P&C hear a report from the Principal; discuss current issues involving the school and also plan for future events. While at Congewai, we try to keep events at a minimum as we're a small school, they do require the volunteer services of our parents and teachers and do not come together without a lot of hard work and effort. While we understand that it is not always possible for parents to volunteer their time, the more parental support we have, the better off our school becomes and the more successful any events will be.

You are most welcome to come along and see how our P&C operates even if your child hasn't started school. Our meetings are open to everyone and new faces are always welcome. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month (except during school holidays) and begin at 6:30pm in the classroom.

A beautiful visitor to our school last week.....

