

# Congewai News

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Newsletter Week 5

Term 3 2014

I'd like to start by congratulating our Public Speakers for their courage and determination in participating in the Public Speaking last week. Kim, Gabby and Ben all spoke very well in spite of nerves and represented our school strongly and proudly. They all tell us they're impressed by the efforts of the other students who spoke and have something to strive toward next year. Well done, we're all proud of you.

Our senior students were invited to the Student Leader's Breakfast on Wednesday where they were mesmerised by motivational speaker, Mr Sam Cawthorn. Mr Cawthorn lost his arm and the use of his leg in a horrific accident some years ago, but refused to let that be a focus of his life, instead using it to move forward and focus on his future. Our students came back to school highly motivated in looking at the positives in their lives and their surroundings and are busily looking at ways of bettering themselves and their communities. Mr Cawthorn has many social media outlets and we've added his FaceBook page to our own, please check it out when you get a chance, we've linked to it on our own page. One fragment of his talk, gave our students a moment to ponder...."Be surrounded by the people who you want to be and the future is there to be created..."

We're very happy to announce that Gabrielle Miller, Benjamin Miller and Yessenia Smith will be Kullaburra Award recipients this year. The presentation ceremony

will be held at Kurri Kurri HS on Wednesday 20th August. Congratulations to you all.

*Till next week -*

*Donna Stackman*



## Diary Dates:

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Friday 15/8/14                 | Book week visit from Cessnock Library to our school, 12-1pm                         |
| Wednesday 20/8/14              | Kullaburra Awards - Kurri Kurri High School ...4pm for a 4:30 start                 |
| Friday 22/8/14                 | Book Week - Book Fair 9:30am ....come dressed in costume "Connect To Reading" theme |
| Wednesday 27/8/14              | Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition - all primary students                        |
| Thursday 4/9/14                | K-2 Excursion to Reptile Park   |
| Tuesday to Thursday 16-18/9/14 | Canberra Excursion for years 5&6  |



## CLASSROOM NEWS

**Home Reading** - Our students are doing really well on their home reading....the more they read the better they will become at writing, spelling and discussing. Research consistently shows that reading is the most important component to learning.

**Maths** - This week our sub-strand for Infants is Volume and Capacity, for Primary it is Patterns and Algebra.

**Science Infants class**— Using Uno's Garden as the basis of our science unit, we will be investigating the differences in creatures. This will be studied over the next few weeks and we will be looking at reptiles, insects, mammals and all the natural world. We will link that to the creatures in the book and will finish by designing our own creature.

**Morning News**— Our topic for this week is "Our Community." Our students are encouraged to look at their local community and the people who play a part in their community.

**Great websites for learning:** This website is based on the new Australian Curriculum and has lots of interactive "game" type activities for learning all aspects of the curriculum, most are according to grade level.

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

**Changes to routine:** Mrs Stackman will be attending the local Principal's meeting on Friday, Mr Cagney will be replacing her.

## Library borrowing on Thursday and lessons on Friday.



Last week our Kitchen Garden team made pizza from scratch, making the base and the sauce using fresh ingredients, many from our own garden.

This follows the ethos of the kitchen garden, planning meals based on what is growing, not what can be bought in the supermarket. All food should be seasonal.



### Book Fair!

Friday the 22nd of August to celebrate Book Week.  
This year's theme is "Connect to Reading" and we'd like to encourage our kids to join our school staff and come dressed in costume with that theme.

Our PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) focus is on

## RESPECT

*Respect, Responsibility and Ready to Learn*