

Our new classroom pets are settling in very well.

Diary Dates:

Kindergarten Transition has commenced. Dates are on our school website.

Congewai Catch Up - Wednesday 4th November

Road Safety for Kids - Thursday 5th November

Playgroup at Congewai - Thursday 5th November

Sculpture in the Vines excursion - Thursday 19th November

Beach Days - Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th December

Report Cards Home - Monday 7th December

Carols at Congewai - Friday 11th December

School Presentation Day - Wednesday 16th December

Welcome to Week 5, of term 4.

We're almost half way through the last term of the year and are into November. How quickly it has flown. Today our 'almost Kinders' joined us again for their second full day of big school and we were amazed at how they are settling in. Last week they had their first taste of reading, exploring a book and having a go at sight words. Today they again read the same book, giving them their first look at our school's L3 program. The children are very proudly reading, giving them a good head start into loving books.

We participated in our evacuation and lock down drills last week and the children reacted very well to our 'emergency' situations. They calmly found a partner, and followed all instructions to the letter, with purposeful movement to our set areas of safety. We were very proud of the sensible behaviour of all our students.

Unfortunately we didn't get to visit Congewai Creek for our water watch lessons. Things just got in the way, we will try this week on Wednesday, for the last time and if we're unable to get down there, we will call it finished and complete our experiments on the water we collected initially.

Our second swimming session last week saw children show a big improvement in skills and confidence in the water. Even though we had to share the pool with several other children from other schools, our students fully immersed themselves in the swimming lessons, practising swim strokes, floating, pushing off

rocket style from the edge of the pool, swimming to the bottom to collect items from the bottom of the pool and managing to have lots of fun. This week our lessons will take place at the Kurri swim centre. Unfortunately I will miss out on this one as I must attend the Cessnock Great Public School's Principal meeting. Miss Naysmith, Mrs Beneke and Mrs Dunstan will continue a fantastic swimming session in my absence.

Mr Boughton has commenced guitar lessons with our children, dusting off his skills and his guitar. The kids are doing well and already are far better than all other teachers. We really have to practice more to keep up with them. It's good to see the children having so much fun.

Flies are on the rampage at school at the moment, almost carrying us away. If you'd like to send some insect repellent to school for your child to keep in their bag to use, I'm sure they'd appreciate it.

We'd like to invite all parents and community members to this Wednesday's Congewai Catch Up straight after school, for coffee, cake and a chat. We hope to see you all there.

*Until next week,
Donna Stackman*



News from the classroom:

Notes due back - *please disregard if you've returned these notes*

- ◇ Whole school: Child protection notes
- ◇ Filming permission notes for Class Movies
- ◇ Road Safety notes

Speaking and Listening topic: *What I would like to do for our school end of year party.....*

As we don't have year 6 students this year, our student council have been asked to plan our school end of year celebration. This is usually done by our year 6 students. They were asked last week to decide what they think our whole school should do to celebrate a year of hard work and interesting learning and to share their thoughts with the rest of the school during 'speaking and listening.'

Friday - Library: Don't forget library books.

Sport: Swimming will be at Kurri Pool this week. Please remember to put sunscreen on in the morning when getting dressed. We'll have to leave school by 9:20am sharp to get to the pool, ready to start lessons at 10am.

Water watch: We're going to try to go to Congewai Creek for the last time on Wednesday. Fingers crossed!

Road Safety Workshops: Our Road Safety workshops are on Thursday. All children will need to bring their bicycle helmets for the workshops. Parents are more than welcome to attend with their children and transport their own child to and from the workshops at Paxton PS.

Teachers will transport those children who are unable to go with parents. Mrs Stackman will take primary students, leaving at 8:55am.

Mrs Beneke and Miss Naysmith will take juniors at 10:05am. Please leave a car seat for your junior child if they will be traveling in teacher's vehicles.



.....it takes a lot of concentration to learn guitar.....

.....and it's lots of fun.....

Don't forget...Head Check Friday!

On Friday afternoons, check kids hair, give it a good going over because the crawlies do like to hide, and treat if necessary.



Christmas Hampers

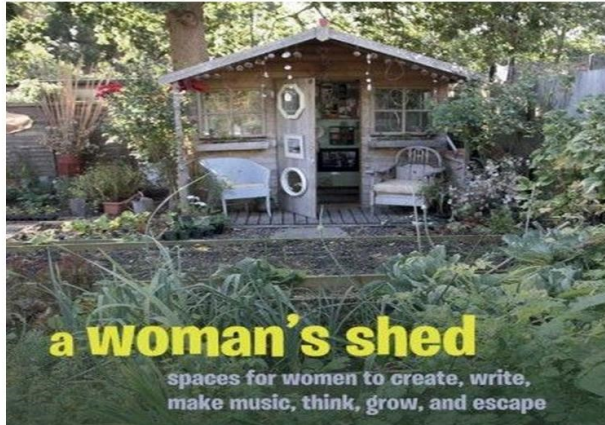
It's that time of year again already. We're collecting suitable items to make up into two fabulous Christmas Hampers for our raffles, drawn at our Carols at Congewai. The schools office is the collection point for items, please be generous, this raises a lot of funds each year for our school. Raffle tickets will come out very soon.



Cessnock Community Women's Shed

Members of Branxton Greta Community Men's Shed

Bringing Women Together



If you would like to make new friends
or get involved in a community project
Come along to
Cessnock Community Women's Shed

**Every Wednesday at 10.30 am
At the CYCOS building**

49D Aberdare Road, Cessnock

**On the second Wednesday of each
month our meeting will be held in
the D.I.Y area at Bunnings Cessnock**



For more information

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