



Congewai News

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Congewai Public School

- a proud member of the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools



Welcome to week 4, Term 2.

I do hope all our mums and grandmothers had a lovely day yesterday for Mother's Day. We mums know that every day should be Mother's Day but it is nice to be especially spoiled for a day. Our students loved spoiling mums and grans on Friday during our morning tea. They enjoyed designing wrapping paper for their gifts and making cards for you too. We'd love to thank Kiye and Clayton's mum and grandmother for sourcing the gifts for our kids to purchase. We'd also like to thank Mikey's mum for adding a voucher for mums to the gifts.

You will have noticed Mrs Dunstan's lack of locks this week after her participation in the World's Greatest Head Shave. Our students, her family and friends proudly watched the process outside Grice's Bakery on Wednesday and lots of funds were raised from the those passing by. If you haven't had the chance to support Mrs Dunstan, you still can either by giving directly to her or by donating online.

We had perfect weather for our visit to Tocal Homestead on Thursday. Joined by Kindergarten and Year One students from Mulbring, Millfield and Paxton schools, we participated in many activities, all designed to get a feel for life a century ago. Students were shown through the historic homestead, which has been wonderfully

Diary Dates:

NAPLAN Year 3 & 5 - Tuesday 12th May to Thursday 14th May

P&C Meeting - Wednesday 13th May 3:20pm

Assembly - Friday 15th May 2:30pm

Small School's Athletics Day - Tuesday May 19th

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday - Monday 8th June

Healthy Harold - Wednesday 24th June

restored featuring the original furniture and fittings kept by the family, before learning how to cart water, cook and wash. They watched the blacksmith make tools and learned more about the roles farm animals played in farming jobs. They also played children's games from the earlier era. We visited a workers cottage where they dressed in the clothing of the time and the children were amazed at the difference in housing in comparison to the family home. To finish our visit off, we got to pat the Clydesdale horses. This is a beautiful place to visit and we can certainly recommend it for a family visit.

To finish the week off, our Kitchen Garden team and parents accepted the invitation from the Lonely Goat Olive Farm to visit and pick olives. The harvest process was very interesting and the team returned with full buckets, ready to start the pickling process. Jars of olives will be available in a few months for purchase, so keep a lookout for our notices because we know they'll sell out quickly. We'd like to extend our thanks to the Halletts for their generosity and hospitality and we look forward to our growing partnership.

This week our year 3 and 5 students sit the NAPLAN tests. This test is always a nervous time for students, but we know our children will do well.

*Until next week,
Donna Stackman*

News from the classroom:

Speaking and Listening topic: "One thing I enjoyed most when we visited Tocal Homestead was..."

Home reading and homework: Reading tasks - Kindergarten and Year One: find a 'tricky word' and write three different sentences using the tricky word.

Years 2-5 Design a new book cover for one of the reading books.

Newcastle Herald Competition: We will be choosing the subject for our main feature article for our newspaper page and will be discussing the advertisement features.

Small School's Athletics Carnival: This week our students will be practicing for the upcoming Athletics Carnival.

The National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or 'domains') of:

- reading
- writing
- language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum

The test goes over three days: Tuesday- Language Conventions and writing, Wednesday- Reading, and Thursday - Numeracy. Mrs Stackman will sit with the students undertaking the testing while Mrs Beneke, Miss Naysmith and Mrs Dunstan work with the rest of the school with Miss Fitzpatrick joining us on Tuesday.

School Assembly this Friday

the 15th May, 2:30pm



here...



going...



going...

gone!!!



Small School's Athletics Carnival

Next week

Tuesday May 19th

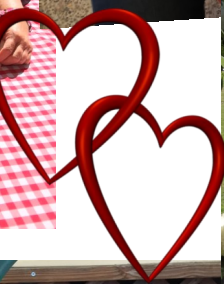
Congewai PS is running the canteen for this event, as well as being the organising school for the Athletics. Are you able to help with the canteen for the day? For an hour or two? This is a big opportunity to raise \$\$ for our school's learning programs from which all of our students benefit. Or assist on one of the events to support our kids?

Please see us at school if you can give us some time.



T
O
C
A
L





**Enjoying Mother's Day
morning tea...**



Teachers

too.....





Picking olives by hand
and with a shaker...full
crates mean lots of
yummy olives to
prepare.....



**Many thanks to the Lonely Goat
Olive Farm.....**

