



Congewai News

Newsletter

1 September 2020

Safety

Respect

Learning

605 Congewai Road CONGEWAI NSW 2325 PH: 024998 1366 Email: congewai-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

TERM 3 WEEK 7

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

Diary Dates

Term 3

Week 7

1 September

Cross Country

2 September

Mt View HS

Enrichment Class Test

Week 8

9 September

Disco/Crazy Hair & Sock Day

11 September

Imaginaturalists Incursion

Week 9

18 September

Imaginaturalists Incursion

Week 10

25 September

Imaginaturalists Incursion

Last Day Term 3

Staff Meeting: Wednesday

8:45-9:15a.m.



Library: Thursday

Please return books on arrival to school.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

Book Parade

A big thank you to everyone who helped make our 2020 "drive-in" Book Parade such a big hit. It was great to see our students all dressed up as their favourite characters and so many parents in attendance, even if it was with restrictions in place.

Congratulations to all students

on their beautiful poetry recitals. We thank you for supporting us in maintaining a safe celebration. Students were surveyed the following day and they were unanimous in their enthusiasm, all agreeing that the event had been a hit. (I have since found the microphone volume knob for the speaker which will be great for future events!)



School Planning

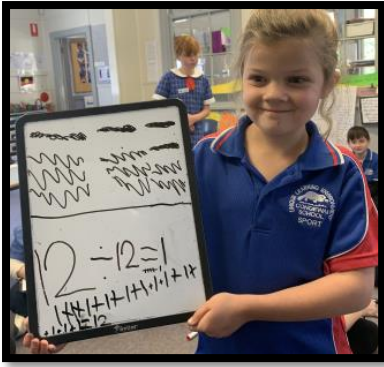
Last week, we completed External Validation for our school. This is a very important feature of our planning processes and whilst we, as a staff, are relieved to have it behind us, we found it to be a very valuable experience. We are now heading into a new four-year planning cycle. As such, over coming weeks, we will be asking students,

parents, and community for feedback on what is working and what could be improved. We value all constructive feedback and will use this to shape our School Improvement Plan. We really look forward to working with our school community to create positive pathways for the future.



Maths Bootcamp

Students are enjoying the opportunity to combine physical fitness with numeracy each morning in Maths Bootcamp sessions. The students rotate around various math-based activities and perform exercises which support engagement, motor skills, core strength and fitness. This has been a lovely way to start each day with the weather warming.



Number Talks

We are really excited about the progress students are showing with their number sense and their ability to share their thinking in a variety of ways. Students are provided with an open-ended number problem and are asked to think about how they could solve this and show their thinking. We have a heavy reliance on whiteboards – students are more willing to take a risk when it can be rubbed away quickly, and they can have another go. We are working hard to strengthen resilience and persistence.

Karaoke Lunch-breaks

Our new microphone and speaker have been getting a work-out during lunch-breaks with students enjoying karaoke style sing-alongs. This has been most entertaining!

Kokedama

On Friday we made kokedamas. These are a traditional way of growing plants in Japan, where the plant is wrapped in moss (or hessian). Don't forget to give them a regular soak in a bucket!

Imaginaturalist

Fridays are extra exciting this term with the introduction of Imaginaturalist. Students have enjoyed participating in a range of science-based art activities as they learn about animal adaptations with a particular focus on birds. They are gradually developing a portfolio of work samples which they are looking forward to sharing with you upon completion of the unit. After surveying, students, we have decided to continue our Imaginaturalist sessions into next term also.

These eggsperts balanced over 8kg of books on three chicken eggs!



Year 5 Check-in Assessments

As we will not be doing NAPLAN this year, we have opted into a Year 5/Year 3 check-in through the Department of Education. This will involve short online assessments in reading and numeracy. Year 5 will participate in their assessments this week and Year 3 will participate later in the term. These snapshot assessments provide us with valuable information for planning so that we can best meet the needs of our students. We will ensure that this is not a stressful situation for students and there is no need for them to study.

Hats and Water Bottles

Please ensure that students have hats and water bottles for school. We will be encouraging students who do not have hats to play under the shelter.

Melinda Stokes
Principal



CONGEWAI YARNING CIRCLE

On Thursday 13 August students enjoyed sitting around a campfire and sharing stories and artefacts about the past schooling experiences of their parents. Staff also shared some personal artefacts from their past. Some of the items the students shared were old photographs, artworks, cuddle toys, school merit awards and school work books. Mrs Sattler shared an old school report from when she was in Year 6. Ms Stokes shared an old 'port' (schoolbag), a skipping rope and some books she used to learn to read. Mrs Trappel shared a newspaper article which she had published when she was in high school on work experience and some story writing examples from her primary and high school books. What a blast from the past!!



TEMPERATURE CHECKS

As previously advised a school decision was made to check the temperature of everyone entering our school to protect all onsite.

This includes students, staff & visitors.

If this is something you are uncomfortable with please contact the school.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students for receiving a Bronze Award.

Mia, Gabrielle, Abigail L, Hayden, Clayton



OFFICE NEWS

ABSENCE EXPLANATION

Please help us to continue our 100% in recording absences. At the moment we have no unexplained absences for students this term.

If your child is absent please remember to advise the school via skooloop, email, phone or send in a note when they return.

We are obligated to chase these up and have seven days to do so.

Chris Sattler
Admin Manager



Congewai Public School

wishes Anthony a very happy birthday for 3 September.



CONGEWAI POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AWARD SYSTEM

4 CLASS AWARDS	=	BRONZE AWARD
4 BRONZE AWARDS	=	SILVER AWARD
4 SILVER AWARDS	=	GOLD AWARD
4 GOLD AWARDS	=	PRINCIPAL AWARD
2 PRINCIPAL AWARDS	=	MEDALLION