



Congewai News

Newsletter

17 September 2020

Safety

Respect

Learning

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TERM 3 WEEK 9

- 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.

Hi Everyone,



Cross Country

Cross Country was a great success!! Students thoroughly enjoyed their little adventure at the Basin with families cheering them on. We have been working hard to develop resilience and persistence in all we do and the efforts in cross-country exemplified these traits. Thank you everyone for helping to create a wonderful vibe for this event!

Assessment

Many students from our school have been involved in academic assessments and interviews over the past few weeks. I wish to congratulate them on the way they have carried themselves and the excellence they have demonstrated. We are very proud of them all. Next week, Year 3 will participate in check-in assessments developed by the Department of Education focusing on Numeracy and Reading.

Timestables

Students are currently undertaking a timestables challenge at school. For each set of timestables they can learn and take to fluency (automatic recall), they will achieve ten Dojo points on their tally. There is a real buzz of excitement in the air! As each individual's score adds to the class overall tally, students are working extra hard to support their peers. Parents can help at home by practising these tables with their children. Please remember, this is all in fun and just supports students in being able to draw on calculations more readily, taking some of the pressure out of mathematical problem solving.

Student Reports

Reports will be distributed on Monday next week. Optional 3-way conferences will be offered next Wednesday - *see schedule attached*. If you wish to attend a conference, or if you would prefer to have Learning Support Meeting with teachers only, please contact the school during office hours. All meetings will be held outside of the classroom.

Covid Restrictions

Covid restrictions remain in place at this time. Students and families have been highly respectful of our procedures for maintaining the health and safety of everyone. We thank you for this.

Fire Drill

A fire drill was held today. We were very impressed by the way that all students managed themselves during this procedure. Our school processes have been reviewed and are working well.

Planning Cycle

As we enter phase one of our new school plan, we will be assessing the effectiveness of what is already in place in the school and seeking direction as to adjustments for strong outcomes into the future. We will be asking for your support with surveys etc. over the coming weeks. We greatly appreciate your time and support in this regard.

Education Week Virtual Assembly

Below is a link to the virtual awards assembly held across Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools during Education Week:

<https://youtu.be/9QcwZaRfleY>

Attendance

Thank you all for your support in maintaining excellent attendance at CPS over the past term. Weekly attendance percentages have been solid throughout the term and absentees are being reported and justified. Our school has had a special mention in our Director of Leadership's newsletter over the past two weeks! Well done!

Hats

Students are wearing hats consistently in the playground and applying sunscreen regularly. Please continue to encourage your children to practice sun-safety at school.

Water bottles

Most students now have water bottles at school each day, though this is something which is still of concern. We cannot allow students to use the school bubblers and have been advised not to provide cups. Cold water is available at all times for students to top up their own bottles. Bottles can be left at the school if this works for families.

School improvement

Many of our students have been working hard to improve the school grounds. Students are enjoying gardening projects and general tidying up. Special mention must go to Kiye for his work with Mr Blake to lay gravel in front of the sports shed. This is an ongoing project. Well done Kiye, and thank you!

A new fence will be constructed in the car park area over coming weeks. This is for the safety of students and staff.

New air conditioning has been installed in each of the classroom areas. This is much quieter and more efficient.

New classroom furniture has been ordered and will be installed in November. The small room affectionately known as the "green room" will be revamped as a planning room for staff, students and parents. This will provide a much-needed area for private meetings and staff breaks.

Charter???

Attached is a copy of the Community Charter. This document lays out expectations around communication with Public Schools.



Melinda Stokes
Principal

****** 2020 CAMPS – Due to Covid 19 all camps planned for 2020
have been cancelled. ******



Cross Country



Congewai Public School
wishes Hayden a very happy birthday for
29 September.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students for receiving an Award.

BRONZE: Olive, Abigail C, Gabrielle

SILVER: Olive, Abigail L, Caitlin, Laura, Kiye, Clayton & Mia



Fathers' Day



Crazy Hair Day

OFFICE NEWS

AWARDS

Please remember to send in awards to be upgraded to the next level. We have reviewed our award system and adjusted it to make them more achievable. Please see the revised award system below. This model will remain in place till the end of 2020. We will review it again in 2021.

Chris Sattler
Admin Manager



**CONGEWAI POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR
AWARD SYSTEM**

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



WRITING SAMPLES FROM OUR STUDENTS

Fruit of Remembrance

Fruit of remembrance is where Bingara Public School remembers fallen soldiers from the past . They did not hold the festival last year due to Covid, but they will do it next year. The mayor of the shire talks about the fallen soldiers and the founding fathers that planted the orange trees. When the mayor says "Ready, set, go!", the children run across the field picking juicy oranges. Some of the children look for the biggest oranges and others just pick oranges within reach.

Abi C.

BCF Country Radio

Come on! Come on! Come to Bingara for the orange Festival on Sunday. Plus you get free tickets, but only for a limited time. It ends on Sunday.

Don't pick the oranges!

Anthony

Dear Diary,

I was walking along, and I saw a tree full of shiny oranges. I picked one but a boy stopped me and said "what do you think you are doing?"

I froze! A teacher said, "Please don't pick the oranges. They are for Remembrance Day". The teacher explained that the trees were planted 60 years ago to remember the soldiers. "I'm sorry, I didn't know", I said. "I would love to help the children look after the orange trees in the future".

Cait

Dear school,

Hi! It is me Laura...you know, the new kid!

When I was walking along the park, I saw some oranges in the trees.... lots of oranges. So I took them and I gave them to the school. The oranges are a celebration.

Laura

How To Make a Nest

Supplies:

- Twigs
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Grass
- Vines
- Roots
- Bark

Steps

1. Freak out (because this is hard!)
2. Use vines to make a circle shape
3. Tie the vines to keep them together
4. Weave leaves and twigs into the vine
5. Add decorations if you want to
6. Find somewhere to put the nest where it will be safe from animals, rain and storms

Troubleshooting:

Ask a teacher for help!

Abi L.

Fruits of Remembrance

On the weekend, I went to Fruits of Remembrance at Bingara. I had to wear my school uniform there. I went with all my classmates. First we went to an area to remember the soldiers. On my way, I saw trees full of juicy oranges. When we were walking, I couldn't stop thinking about those orange spheres in the trees. When we were waiting for the Memorial to start, I still couldn't stop thinking about those juicy orange globes in the trees. Then the Memorial started. While the Memorial was on, one of the Ladies tried to pick out an orange. I went over to the Lady and I said, "Excuse me, can you please not pick the oranges just yet." "Okay" Said the Lady and I gave her the orange she tried to pick. A while later, we had a moment of silence. And after that, it was orange picking time. The Man said "Ready, Set, Go!" And we were all running to the orange trees and I was filling my bag up with lots and lots of oranges. Then the Adults went to pick the oranges. We all had a great day in Bingara.

Gabrielle

Bingara News

Welcome, welcome!!!

"Hello I'm Bill, and today I'm at Bingara, and guess what? It's orange harvesting day!!!

On this special day we're picking the so-called fruits of remembrance. They grow all the way down Finch Street and around the big oval.

These fruits are called fruits of remembrance for a reason. These orange trees were planted to commemorate the soldiers that fought in WWI, WWII and the Boar war. The kids of Bingara have been entrusted with the care of these fruit trees. The fruits have been growing for 60 years, although the festival has been going for 25.

"3,2,1...Go!" yelled the man.

Everyone except the parents and guests, scattered across the streets and oval. People were helping each other, lifting one another up to the tippy top of the trees, grabbing the biggest and juiciest oranges. As the kids were collecting, the adults, elders and guests were released from their seats. As they were all picking, the other news channels including, 7 Prime and Sunrise were doing interview after interview. Children were giving oranges to the elderly and the schools; sometimes the principals and teachers. Some oranges are big, some are small. People were eating until ... "STOP!!!!", yelled the man. Everybody froze.

"Come reunite in the middle" he yelled. "Thank you for coming and harvesting the oranges. Even though it wasn't a festival, it still looked festive, so thank you for coming out and we hope to have an orange harvest next year. Have a good day everybody" said the man.

"Hooray! Yay! Woohooo!" screamed the crowd with heaps of enthusiasm.

And that's the news from here in mid-town Bingara! I'll see you tomorrow... now on to the weather and sport news.

Clayton

Fruits of remembrance

I went to Bingara. I wanted to pick the oranges. A kid came to me and said, "No! No! Don't pick the oranges!"

I was going to eat it and I looked at the sign and I said, "Oh no, I didn't know."

I asked the kid why they had so many orange trees? He told me how they were planted to commemorate the soldiers who fought in the wars.

C-JAY



FILM BY THE VINES

Our school is participating in a film festival called Film By the Vines. This year due to Covid-19 the film festival will be held online during Term 4. We will let you know when we have confirmed a date. There may be a small cost involved for viewing.

Several small schools in our Cessnock area will be participating in the film festival. Students have been thoroughly engaged in our film making and can't wait for us to finalise our film for submission. Our film is due next Friday.

Mrs Trappel has participated in professional learning with teachers from other schools about film making.

A huge thank you to Clinton Crighton for giving us permission to use his music. Thank you also to all the parents for sending in permission notes so promptly and also for sending in clothes with your children to be used for costumes.

SPRING HOLIDAYS AT CESSNOCK CITY LIBRARY

Spring has arrived – and so have the September/October holidays! Cessnock City Library is very excited to announce a return to programming in the library these holidays with a workshop run by the amazing Gillian Hewitt from Imaginaturalists and a closer look at animals and their excretory habits with Emma Best from Newcastle Museum. Places are strictly limited, so hop online and book your spot now!

Imaginaturalists Drawing Nature Workshop – Tuesday September 29th, ages 8+, Cost \$5.00

Drawing Nature - explore our natural world through creativity in this beautiful workshop run by local artist Gillian Hewitt, founder of Imaginaturalists.

Cessnock Library 11.30am – 12.30pm

Kurri Kurri Library 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Whose Bum Is That? – Wednesday October 7th, Ages 6+, Cost \$5.00

Join Emma Best from Newcastle Museum in a guessing game with a difference – a closer look at some of our native animals and their dietary and excretory habits. Masks and latex gloves will be provided and must be worn during this workshop, in line with our COVID safe practices.

Kurri Kurri Library 11.30am – 12.30pm

Cessnock Library 2.30 – 3.30pm

Take Home Craft Pack

Take home a library craft pack – make your own mask lanyard, learn to weave on a cardboard loom, put together a mini catapult, and make a little origami jumping frog. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and Youtube channel for demonstrations of how to make your little jumping frog and weave on your cardboard loom.

Escape the Room – Online!

Some very clever librarians have been putting together excellent virtual escape rooms over the past few months, including Hogwarts, Star Wars and Dr Who escape rooms – test your skills by going to the Young People tab on the library's home page