

Concongella Primary School Newsletter

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Thursday 18th June, 2026
Term 2, Edition 10



BLACK RANGES WINTER SPORTS

Last Wednesday, our Grade 5/6 students travelled to North Park to take part in the Black Ranges Winter Sports soccer competition.

Although the results didn't fall our way this time, our team should be proud of the effort, enthusiasm, and teamwork they displayed throughout the day.

Students worked hard in every game, supported one another on and off the field, and showed great determination against strong opposition.

The day was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their skills, build friendships, and enjoy the spirit of competition. Most importantly, plenty of fun was had, with smiles, encouragement, and positive attitudes on display from start to finish.

We thank all students for representing our school so well and look forward to future sporting opportunities.

Term 2 Dates to remember

Friday 19th June

- Learning Showcase from 2:30pm

Monday 22nd June

- Grade 5&6 Elephant Ed Incurion

Friday 26th June

- Last Day Term early finish **2:10pm**

Term 3 Dates to remember

Monday 13th July

- School Closure - Learning Conversations

Tuesday 14th July

- Students Start Term 3

Tuesday 14-16th July

NAIDOC Week Celebration

Friday 17th July

- ACMI F-6 Excursion Melbourne

Tuesday 4th August

- School Council 6pm

Monday 16th August

- Dental Van Visit

Wednesday 19 August

- Black Rangers Volleyball

Monday 24-Wednesday 26 August

- Literacy Week-Book Fair

Friday 28 August

- Cluster Book Week Celebration Day

Tuesday 1 September

- School Council 6.00pm

Wednesday 2 September

- Black Ranges Athletics

A Word From The Principal



As we reach the end of Term 2 and the halfway point of the school year, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the growth, achievements and successes of our students over the past six months.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our students, staff and families who have worked together to make Semester One such a positive and successful period of learning. Throughout the term, our students have continued to demonstrate resilience, determination and a willingness to challenge themselves in their learning. Whether in the classroom, on the sporting field, excursions or leadership opportunities, our students have represented our school with pride.

Over the past few weeks, staff have been busy completing student assessments and analysing growth data. It has been pleasing to see the progress our students have made, particularly as a result of our whole-school focus on explicit teaching and targeted intervention. The growth we are seeing is a direct reflection of the collective effort of students, staff and families working together to support learning outcomes for every child.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff for their ongoing commitment to providing engaging learning experiences and ensuring every student feels supported, challenged and valued. Their work behind the scenes often goes unseen but makes an enormous difference to the success of our students.

To our families, thank you for your continued support and partnership. The strong connection between home and school plays a significant role in helping our students thrive, and we greatly appreciate the trust and encouragement you provide throughout the year.

As we look ahead to Term 3, we are excited for the many learning opportunities and experiences that await our students. Before then, I encourage everyone to take the holiday break to rest, recharge and enjoy quality time with family and friends.

Please note that Monday, 14 July 2026, is a School Closure Day to facilitate our Learning Conversations. Students will return to school on Tuesday, 15 July 2026.

Thank you again for a fantastic first semester. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another great term of learning.

"Success is not measured by how far we have to go, but by how far we have come."

School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our Current Focus: Be Respectful — I Listen to the Speaker

What is SWPBS?

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) is an evidence-based framework used across our school to explicitly teach and reinforce the positive behaviours we expect from all students, in all settings. SWPBS takes a proactive approach teaching students the **why**, the **what**, and the **how** of expected behaviour, just as we would teach any other curriculum area.

At Concongella P.S. our SWPBS program is driven by data. Staff review behaviour information on a three-week cycle and identify the specific skill that will be the focus for explicit teaching across the whole school. This means every student, from Foundation to Year 6, receives the same consistent message and the same high expectations and families will be kept informed of each new focus through this newsletter.

Our Current Focus: Respectful — I Listen to the Speaker

Over the past week and for the remainder of the term, every class from Foundation to Year 6 has participated in an explicit lesson focused on what it means to be a respectful listener. Here is what students were taught:

What We Are Learning to Do:

Listen respectfully to the speaker by giving our full attention, staying quiet, and following instructions.

Students learned that respectful listening looks like:

- 👁️ **Eyes** on the speaker- looking at the person when they are talking
- 😊 **Quiet** mouth- waiting for your turn before speaking
- 🙋 **Hand** up to speak- raising your hand instead of calling out
- 🪑 **Sit** ready to learn- entering the room calmly, sitting down, and getting ready quietly

✔ This IS Respectful Listening

- Looking at the person when they talk
- Waiting quietly while others are speaking
- Raising your hand to contribute
- Entering the room calmly and settling quickly
- Following instructions the first time

✘ This is NOT Respectful Listening

- Walking around or distracting others on entry
- Calling out while the teacher explains
- Talking while others have the floor
- Not following instructions when given
- Leaving the room without asking

How You Can Reinforce This at Home

Learning to listen is a life skill and the more consistently students hear and practise the same message at school and at home, the faster it becomes a habit. Here are some simple ways you can support this at home:

- When talking with your child, gently remind them: "Eyes on me, please" the same language we use at school
- Praise them specifically when you notice great listening: "I love how you stopped and looked at me when I was talking that's really respectful"
- Model it yourself- when your child speaks to you, give them your full attention
- Talk about when listening matters and why: at sport, at family gatherings, in class, during emergencies
- Ask your child: "What does respectful listening look like at school?" and let them teach you!

Coming Up — Our Next SWPBS Focus

Our school will identify the next behaviour focus based on our data review at the start of Term 3. Families will be notified of the new focus in our first newsletter back. Thank you for partnering with us!

Safe



Respectful



Responsible



Generative AI in Education

Building Our Knowledge as a School Community | Part 1 of an Ongoing Series

Following our mention of AI in previous newsletters, this edition we share where our school is at and why it matters for our whole community.

What is Generative AI?

Generative AI is a type of computer program that can create new content; text, images, audio, and more, in response to questions or instructions from a human. Tools like ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Microsoft Copilot are examples you may have already encountered. Put simply: you ask it something, and it generates a response.

The Simple Message: AI is Here to Stay

Both the Victorian Department of Education's AI in Schools Policy and the Australian Government's National AI Framework are clear on one thing: AI is not a passing trend. It is already reshaping workplaces, industries, and daily life. The advice from research and policy alike is that it is our moral obligation as educators to lean into this, not to look away, so that we can genuinely prepare our students to understand, question, and use these tools wisely.

Where We Are Right Now at Concongella P.S.

We are not yet using AI tools with students. Our first step has been to build the knowledge and confidence of our teaching staff because we believe teachers need to understand a tool deeply before they can teach with it well.

A key part of this work has been identifying the 'drudgeries' of our administrative load as educators. The repetitive, time-consuming tasks that take teachers away from what matters most: their students. AI has real potential to reduce this load, giving staff more time and energy for teaching, relationships, and learning design.

Once our staff are confident and our approach is clear, we will share how and when AI will be introduced into student learning and families will be the first to know.

Our Guiding Frameworks

Victorian Department of Education AI Policy | Australian Government National AI Framework — Both emphasise responsible, ethical, and transparent use of AI, with a clear message that AI literacy is essential for all Australians, now and into the future.

Next edition: We will share more about what AI literacy looks like and what questions families can start thinking about at home.



Students Of The Week



Congratulations to the following students for displaying our school values of



WATTLE HUB F,1,2

Solara Martin: By working hard on your writing and reading. Well done, Solara.

BANKSIA HUB 3-4

WARATAH HUB 5-6

Aubree Russell: For always putting in your best effort and persisting during writing tasks. Great job!

MULTILIT

A big congratulations to **Toby, Jordan, Jaxon,** and **Aubree** for moving up a level in the MacqLit program. This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of your hard work, dedication, and perseverance. You should all be incredibly proud of your efforts, well done!





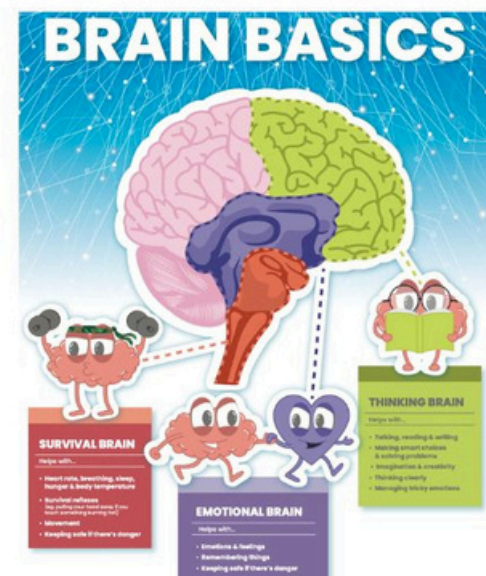
What is your mindset ?

Our brains are amazing organs. Our brains have the power to learn, think and restructure its self.

They become rewired when new connections and pathways are formed. How cool is that? The key to harnessing this power is understanding how to master your mindset. Your beliefs shape your view of reality. It influences how you think, feel, and act in given situations. There is a lot of power in knowing that your thoughts, emotions and actions are up to you. So the big question is.. what are you going to do with your choices?

For the upcoming holidays....

- Plan breaks to give yourself rest
- Let go of perfection.. progress over perfection. If it doesn't go as planned give yourself some grace
- Look for ways to unwind and have fun



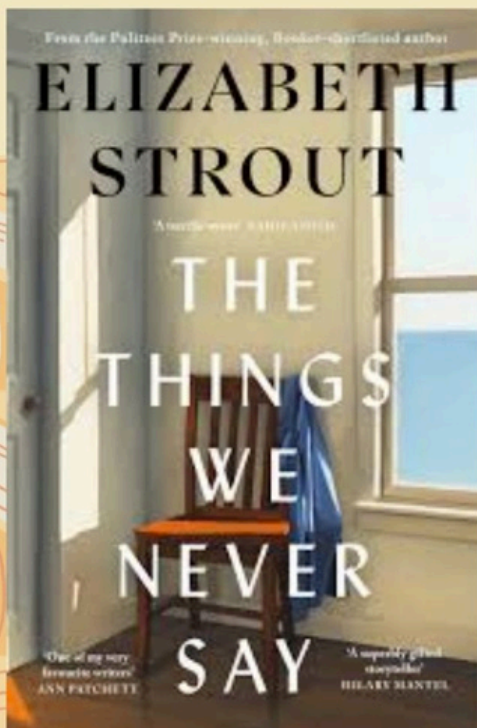
Book Club



MS. AMY'S RECOMMENDATIONS

BOOK CLUB

We all know reading is good for us! But did you know that one of the most powerful ways to support your child's literacy is simply by letting them see you read? Welcome to our Book Club—a space where we'll share great reads for grown-ups, spark conversation, and encourage reading as a shared family value. Whether it's a page-turning novel, a thought-provoking memoir, or a quiet moment with a good book, your reading habits make a lasting impression. Let's inspire the next generation—one book at a time.



Here's one for those who love stories that quietly stay with you. *The Things We Never Say* by Elizabeth Strout is a deeply thoughtful and moving novel about the parts of ourselves we keep hidden—even from the people we love most. Set in coastal Massachusetts against the backdrop of a changing world, the story follows Artie Dam, a respected history teacher whose outwardly ordinary life masks loneliness, unanswered questions, and long-buried family truths. When a life-altering secret comes to light, Artie is forced to reconsider everything he thought he knew about himself and those closest to him. Tender, reflective, and beautifully observed, this novel explores connection, silence, and the things we carry without ever saying aloud. What's more difficult—to speak an uncomfortable truth, or to keep it hidden?

THURSDAY 18/6/26

BOROBI'S MAIL

PROGRAM

TOP NEWS

BOROBI'S MAIL IS A NATIONAL SCHOOL COMPETITION INVITING STUDENTS TO CREATE BESPOKE, PERSONALISED ARTWORK AND GOOD LUCK MESSAGES FOR TEAM AUSTRALIA ATHLETES AHEAD OF GLASGOW 2026. EACH SCHOOL IS ALLOCATED SPECIFIC ATHLETES, WITH STUDENTS TASKED TO PRODUCE ONE PORTRAIT AND ONE GOOD LUCK MESSAGE PER ATHLETE. CONCONGELLA WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE ONE OF 20 SCHOOLS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM.



STUDENTS WERE EAGER TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR ATHLETE AND WRITE THEIR LETTERS TO THEM, WITH MANY STUDENTS ASKING FOR AN AUTOGRAPH!

"STUDENTS ARE ANTICIPATING THE CHANCE TO CREATE THEIR PORTRAIT ARTWORK LATER THIS WEEK, WHICH WILL THEN BE SENT OFF TO THEIR CHOSEN ATHLETE ALONG WITH THEIR LETTER. MOST EXCITINGLY, EVERY STUDENT IS GUARANTEED TO RECEIVE A PERSONAL RESPONSE AT THE START OF TERM FOUR!"

Ms. Amy



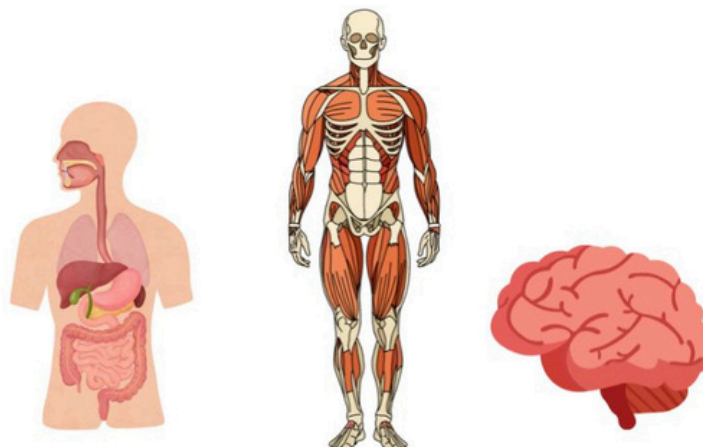


Concongella P.s Inquiry Showcase

Join us for our Inquiry Showcase on Friday, 19 June, starting from 2:30 PM.

We warmly invite families to join us for our upcoming Inquiry Showcase. This special event will celebrate and showcase the students' learning from our inquiry unit on Health, including their exploration of the digestive system, brain and the musculoskeletal system.

Come along to see the wonderful work the students have created and gain an insight into their learning journey!



Community News

THE COTTAGE



Do you know someone who is doing it tough?

If you know anyone who is doing it tough, please tell them to come to the Cottage, 20 Sloane St. Stawell, Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays, between 10:30am and 1:30pm and we will help them. For out of hours emergencies ring -0408 038 949."

MULTICULTURAL FILM FESTIVAL 2026



Halls Gap Hub
Centenary Hall

SUNDAY, JULY 5
4PM - 6PM

St Arnaud
Community Cinema

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
4.30PM - 6.30PM

FREE

PRESENTED BY



SUPPORTED BY



NATURE PLAY



Sunday 21st June 11.00am - 2.00 pm
Children 0-12 years Cost \$10

Fungi walk, damper making, cubby building, creating with clay, sand and water play, tree climbing, science table, creating with collage, an exploring nature

WAMA Foundation 4000 Ararat-Halls Gap Rd, Halls Gap

Birthday Wishes

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WILL CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY IN
THE COMING WEEKS:

SLOAN

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

School Assembly

Just a friendly reminder that our school assemblies are held every two weeks.

Our next assembly is scheduled for
Friday, 24th JULY at 2.50 PM.

These assemblies are student-led and provide a valuable opportunity for students to develop their public speaking skills in front of an authentic audience. Your presence helps create a supportive environment and makes the experience even more meaningful for our students.

If your child is receiving an award during this time, their teacher will contact you directly.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support.
We look forward to seeing you there!



Term 2 Reminders



Water Bottles:

Please ensure water bottles are sent with your child each day.

Supervision:

The school yard is supervised between 8.30am and 3.30pm each day. Our staff are often in meetings or planning prior to and after these times. Please be mindful of dropping your children outside these times as they will be unsupervised.

Lunch Orders:

Lunch Orders are available every Thursday weekly. All orders must be placed into the notes box in the office prior to 3pm on Wednesdays. These days are marked on our uEducateUs calendar, in the newsletter and on facebook. Lunch order forms and menu's are available from the office.

Voluntary Contributions:

Our Voluntary Contributions were sent home with families at the end of last year. Thank you to those families that have made contributions already, your support is greatly appreciated. These contributions go towards essential classroom consumables, subscriptions, swimming program, whole school events, first aid equipment etc. This can be paid at the office. If you wish to discuss a payment plan, please contact Amy in the office on 5358 1811 or call in to see us.

Communication - uEducateUs

uEducateUs is our main form of communication. Our newsletters, weekly updates, messages from your teachers, camps and excursions are all on this platform.

Parents and carers are able to record absences, message teachers and see the calendar on uEducateUs. If you are not logged on to uEducateUs please call the office on 5358 1811 for assistance.

Second Hand Uniforms

Second hand uniforms will be available from our uniform stall every second Friday at our school assembly for a gold coin donation per item. Any good quality second hand donations are always welcome and appreciated.



Dates to remember

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 9	JUN 15 Breakfast Club	JUN 16 Chinese Caity - Prov Psych	JUN 17 Yr 5&6 Discovery Day SSC Lunch Orders Due Auskick Last Session 3:30pm	JUN 18 Newsletter Riley Kelly Sports Lunch Order Day.	JUN 19 Breakfast Club Learning Showcase from 2:30pm
Week 10	JUN 22 Yr 5&6 Elephant Ed - Pyrenees Cluster	JUN 23 Chinese Caity - Prov Psych	JUN 24 Breakfast Club Lunch Orders Due	JUN 25 Specialist Lunch Order Day	JUN 26 Last Day Of Term 2 - 2:10pm finish
Week 1	JUL 13 Learning converstations - School Closure Day	JUL 14 Term 3 starts - Students first day back NAIDOC week celebration	JUL 15 Breakfast Club Lunch Orders Due NAIDOC week celebration	JUL 16 Newsletter Riley Kelly Sports Session Lunch Order Day	JUL 17 Breakfast Club Excursion Melbourne ACMI F-6
Week 2	JUL 20 Breakfast Club	JUL 21 Chinese Caity - Prov Psych	JUL 22 Breakfast Club Lunch Orders Due	JUL 23 Specialist Day Lunch Order Day	JUL 24 Breakfast Club

