

Concongella Primary School Newsletter

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Thursday 13 August, 2026
Term 3, Edition 13

2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF
STORIES



Halfway Through Term 3!

Can you believe we're already halfway through Term 3? The term is flying by, and there are lots of exciting things still to come!

Book Fair | 24th–26th August

Get ready to discover some fantastic new reads at our upcoming Book Fair!

Cluster Book Week | Friday 28th August

It's time to get those costumes ready! We can't wait to celebrate our love of books with our cluster schools and see everyone dressed as their favourite book characters. There's plenty happening as we head into the second half of Term 3, and we're looking forward to making more wonderful memories together!

A Toast to Your Kindness!

A huge thank you to the Nelson-Clough family for your very kind donation of a toaster to our School Breakfast Club! Your generosity will help us provide our students with a warm and welcoming breakfast each morning. We truly appreciate your support of our school community!

Term 3 Dates to remember

Monday 16th August

- Dental Van Visit

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

Friday 4 September

- Father Day Big Breakfast

Monday 7 September

- Student Support Group Meetings (SSGs)

Thursday 10 September

- R U OK Day Celebration Day

Friday 11 September

- Learning Showcase from 2.30pm

Friday 18 September

- Last Day Term 3 early finish 2.10pm

A Word From The Principal

Keeping Our Children Well

A little reminder to our families as we continue through the winter months, if your child is unwell, please keep them home to rest and recover.

We completely understand that children can have the occasional sniffle or cough. However, if your child is unwell or not feeling themselves, please keep them home to rest and recover before returning to school.

Keeping children home when they are unwell not only gives them the time they need to recover, but also helps us to protect the health and wellbeing of our wider school community. Thank you for your support and for helping us to keep our students and staff as healthy as possible.

School Review – Wednesday 19 August

Our School Review is taking place on Wednesday 19 August, and this is an important opportunity for us to reflect on our journey as a school, celebrate our progress and consider where we can continue to grow.

There is so much happening at Concongella Primary School that we are incredibly proud of. From the growth we are seeing in student achievement and our NAPLAN results, to the strength of our teaching and learning programs, the relationships we have built and the culture we continue to nurture, there is certainly plenty to celebrate.

Our review is an opportunity to reflect on where we have come from, where we are now and, most importantly, where we want to go next. I am incredibly proud of our staff and the collective commitment they show every day to ensuring our students are known, valued, supported and challenged to be their very best.

Parent Opinion Survey

Our Parent Opinion Survey will be opening shortly, and we would really love to see every family have their voice heard.

The survey link will be sent directly to families via uEducateUs, and I strongly encourage each family member to take the time to complete the survey.

We would love to achieve 100% participation from our families. Your feedback is incredibly important to us. It helps us celebrate the things we are getting right, while also giving us valuable insight into the areas where we can continue to improve.

We genuinely value the partnership we have with our families, and this is one of the important ways you can share your thoughts and experiences with us.



A Word From The Principal

Enrolments – An Exciting Time for Our School

It is such an exciting time for Concongella Primary School as we look towards 2027, and I am incredibly proud to share that we are already experiencing strong enrolment interest for next year.

We will begin our Kindergarten transition meetings this week, and it is wonderful to see the growing interest from families wanting their children to be part of our school community.

I believe our strong enrolment numbers are a reflection of what makes our school so special. We have a strong academic focus and high expectations for every student, alongside a genuinely caring approach where every child is known, valued and supported to thrive.

Our approach to learning is underpinned by a multi-tiered system of support, ensuring that every student receives the right level of teaching, intervention and extension to support their learning and growth. We are committed to knowing where each student is at and using evidence and data to ensure our teaching is targeted to what each child needs next.

We are incredibly proud of the academic growth our students are achieving, while also placing a strong emphasis on wellbeing, relationships and creating a sense of belonging. We want every child to feel that they matter, that they are capable and that they are supported to achieve their very best.

If you know a family with a child starting school in 2027, please encourage them to get in touch. We are always very happy to welcome prospective families through our gates, show them around our classrooms and have a chat about what makes Concongella Primary School such a wonderful place to learn.

Our enrolments are open, and we would love to continue growing our wonderful school community.



School Office: 5358 1811



Principal (anytime): 0402654050

With thanks,
Amy Henderson.

Part 3 of 5 What AI Literacy Looks Like

AI IN AT CONGELLA · PART 3 OF 5

AI as a Thinking Partner, Not a Shortcut

Part three: a look at how AI is supporting, NEVER REPLACING, the professional judgement of our teachers.

What we've agreed to use AI for

As a staff, we've had honest conversations about where AI can genuinely help, and we've agreed on a clear, shared set of uses.

- Curriculum and unit planning shaping the big picture of what's taught across a term.
- Extension and support activities aligned to whole class instruction
- School letters and permission forms drafting
- Newsletter items drafting
- Charts and tracking spreadsheet templates
- Lesson resources including templates, examples that support a lesson already planned by the teacher.

A shared, whole-staff approach

This isn't something individual teachers are figuring out alone. Our staff are working together on this, comparing notes, sharing what's worked, and building resources collaboratively so that every classroom benefits from the same level of care and consistency, regardless of which teacher your child has.

What AI does not replace

AI does not know your child. It cannot observe how a student is going with reading fluency, notice when a student is not ready for learning, or make the judgement calls that come from years of classroom experience. Every piece of AI assisted planning or resource passes through multiple teacher's professional eyes before it reaches a classroom.

We think of it as a drafting tool, not a decision maker. The teacher remains firmly in charge at all times.

A guiding principle

Anything that requires knowing an individual child stays firmly with the teacher, AI only ever supports the parts of the job that don't. The aim is simple: less time spent producing paperwork, more time spent actually teaching; in front of students, building relationships, and focusing on what truly matters for each child.



Students Of The Week



Congratulations to the following students for displaying our school values of

Safe



Respectful



Responsible

WATTLE HUB F,1,2 (Award recipient absent)

BANKSIA HUB 3-4

Asher: By reflecting our school values beautifully during our excursion to Melbourne - Well done.

WARATAH HUB 5-6

Livia: By demonstrating persistence and creativity to all learning areas! Great effort!

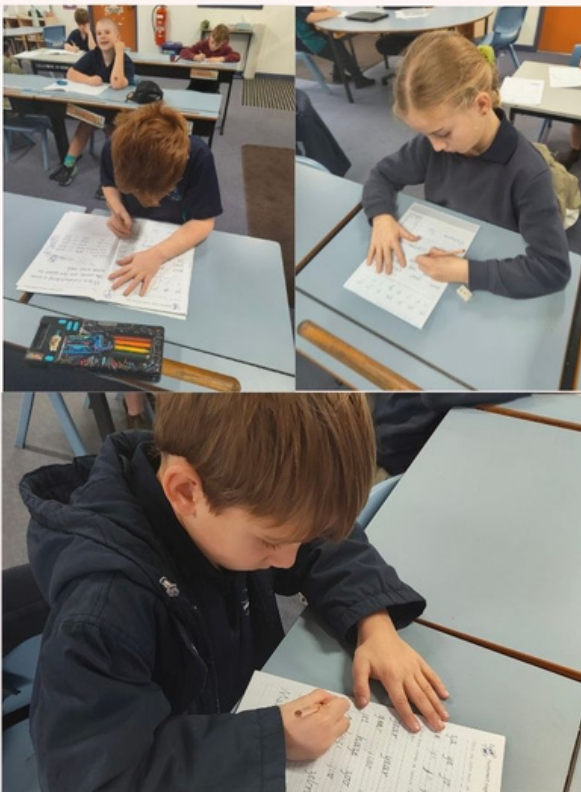
Macie: By participating enthusiastically during numeracy groups - Well done!



THE BANKSIA HUB

THURSDAY 13/8/26

*never
give
up*



TOP NEWS

HANDWRITING

STUDENTS ARE WORKING REALLY HARD IN THEIR HANDWRITING AND THEIR EFFORTS ARE PAYING OFF! I'VE SEEN MASSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN ALL STUDENTS HANDWRITING OVER THE YEAR, SINCE STARTING OUR HANDWRITING PROGRAM.

WE'VE BEEN LEARNING VICTORIAN CURSIVE SINCE TERM TWO AND STUDENTS ARE ENJOYING USING IT IN THEIR EVERYDAY WRITING.

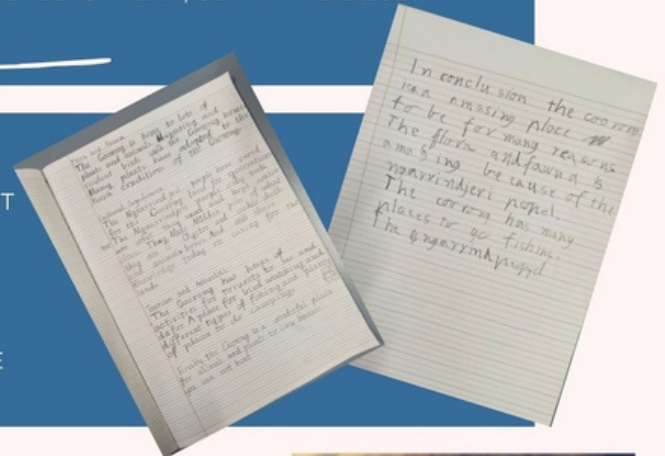
FEATURED: SAMERA, ODIAH AND DECLAN



THE COORONG

WE'VE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT THE COORONG AS PART OF OUR MENTOR TEXT, STORM BOY. DURING WRITING SESSIONS WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT INFORMATION REPORTS AND HOW THESE PIECES OF WRITING ARE STRUCTURED.

WE'VE BEEN HONING OUR PARAGRAPHING USING THE SPO- CURIOUS? ASK YOUR CHILD ABOUT WHAT IT IS!



NUMERACY

3-4 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN MASTERING MULTIPLICATION. THEY PRACTISED SKIP COUNTING AND LEARNED COMMUTATIVE FACTS, DISCOVERING THAT SWAPPING NUMBERS DOESN'T CHANGE THE ANSWER. GREAT WORK, MATHEMATICIANS!

IF YOU'RE EVER INTERESTED IN WHAT YOUR CHILD IS LEARNING, PLEASE DO DROP IN FOR A VISIT TO SEE FIRST HAND!

Ms. Amy





Mindful Pauses: How 30 Seconds Can Make a Real Difference

Meditation teacher Jon Krop developed the idea of a mindful pause: a quick, simple technique that can help children and adults find a moment of calm whenever they need it most. For children, this might be when schoolwork feels overwhelming, before a big sports game, or during any moment when emotions start to run high.

The best part! Just 30 seconds and a willingness to pause.

1. Take a deep breath

Focus on filling your lungs fully with air. Slowing and deepening your breathing sends a signal to your body that it's safe to relax.

2. Turn toward your body

Notice whatever physical sensations you're experiencing — tension in your shoulders, a tight chest, or even just the feeling of your feet on the floor. Simply noticing these sensations can help create a little distance from anxious thoughts.

3. Focus on your breath

Breathe normally, but pay close attention to it. Following each breath in and out — even for just a moment — gently draws your mind away from worry and back to the present.

4. Ease back in

Don't rush straight back into what you were doing. Take a few calm seconds to open your eyes and reorient yourself. Even at its simplest, your mindful pause will have offered some relief

Community News

Family-Friendly Karaoke!!

September 11th, 6-9PM
Stawell Entertainment Centre
BRING A FRIEND!!

Presented by GYE



BE PART OF SOMETHING BIG!

YOUNG LEADERS. REAL IMPACT. BETTER TOGETHER.

STAWELL LEO CLUB
SPONSORED BY STAWELL LIONS CLUB

LEAD. SERVE. INSPIRE.
Make friends. Build skills. Create change.

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR CLUB. YOUR FUTURE.

- MAKE FRIENDS**
Connect with like-minded young people
- BUILD LEADERSHIP**
Develop skills and confidence for life
- SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**
Create positive local impact
- BE PART OF SOMETHING GLOBAL**
Join a worldwide network of young leaders
- HAVE FUN**
Projects, events and adventures that matter

WHO CAN JOIN?
Young people aged 12-30
All are welcome!

WHAT DO WE DO?
Community projects, fundraising, leadership opportunities, events and more!

WHERE?
Stawell and surrounding communities

BE THE CHANGE STAWELL NEEDS YOUNG LEADERS LIKE YOU!
No experience needed - just a positive attitude and a willingness to help!

GET INVOLVED TODAY!
Be part of something bigger. Make a difference.
We'd love to have you!

INTERESTED? LET'S CHAT!

Contact: Marcelle
Mobile: 0488 830 883

Contact: Jen
Mobile: 0488 411 965

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A BETTER STAWELL. JOIN THE STAWELL LEO CLUB TODAY!

Real Conversation Real Healing

It's okay to need someone to talk to.

Contact Us: 0438 392855
ABSOLUTE WELLBEING MIND & BODY COUNSELLING



GREAT WESTERN FNC MARKET

SAT, OCTOBER 31, 2026 START 10:30AM - 2:30PM

Post the Lion Chase Fun Run



FOOD TRUCKS | LIVE MUSIC | LOCAL STALL HOLDERS

THOMSON COMMUNITY CENTRE OVAL, BRUNEL STREET, GREAT WESTERN VIC
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER A STALL PLEASE CONTACT
SECRETARY@GREATWESTERNFNC.COM.AU

X2 Education Support Positions – Apply Now!

5 days per week

Fixed term contract until the end of 2027

9.00am – 3.10pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

8.00am – 3.10pm Thursday

High academic expectations
Inclusive Environment
Supportive Team

Do you want to make a difference each and everyday?
Are you compassionate, caring, patient and supportive? We want YOU!

Additional training provided for medical and personal care requirements

Come and join our existing team and be apart of a fantastic school culture that genuinely care and look after one another.

Only 8 minutes from Stawell!

For further information or to discuss the role further please contact the principal Amy Henderson 0402 654 050 or 5358 1811



*Applications close 20th August.
Applicants need to apply for one position.
Scan the QR code for a direct link to apply.*

Birthday Wishes

WISHING A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS CELEBRATING
BIRTHDAYS BETWEEN OUR LAST NEWSLETTER AND THE NEXT!

CONNOR

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, 21st AUG 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 3 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 5	AUG 10 Breakfast Club	AUG 11 Chinese	AUG 12 Breakfast Club Lunch Orders Due	AUG 13 Newsletter Lunch Order Day	AUG 14 Breakfast Club
Week 6	AUG 17 Breakfast Club Dental Van Visit	AUG 18 Chinese	AUG 19 Breakfast Club Lunch Orders Due	AUG 20 Specialist Day Lunch Order Day	AUG 21 Breakfast Club Assembly - 2:50pm
Week 7	AUG 24 Breakfast Club Book Fair	AUG 25 Book Fair Chinese	AUG 26 Breakfast Club Book Fair	AUG 27 Newsletter Lunch Order Day	AUG 28 Cluster Day - Book Week Celebration 
Week 8	AUG 31 Breakfast Club	SEP 1 Chinese	SEP 2 Black Ranges Athletics	SEP 3 Specialist Day Lunch Order Day	SEP 4 Fathers Day - Big Breakfast Assembly - 2:50pm