Concongella Primary School Newsletter

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Thursday 11th September, 2026
Term 3, Edition 15



📚 Costumes, Community & Celebrations

What a fantastic couple of weeks we have had at Concongella Primary School!

Last week, we celebrated Book Week with an incredible day of fun, books, creativity and, of course, some truly amazing costumes! It was wonderful to see the effort and imagination that went into everyone's outfits. We were lucky to be joined by our cluster friends from Great Western Primary School and Halls Gap Primary School, making it a fantastic day of shared activities, laughter and a love of reading. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day so memorable!

On Friday, we then welcomed our dads, grandads and special people to school for our Father's Day Big Breaky. It was so lovely to see so many important people in our students' lives come together to enjoy breakfast, a chat and some quality time with our students. The morning was a wonderful celebration of the special people who support, encourage and love our children.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to Justine and Brian McGrath from Tucked Away, Katie Bertram, and Baker's Delight Ararat for their incredibly generous donations that helped make our breakfast possible. We are also so grateful to Christine from IC Coffee for catering for us and keeping everyone warm with delicious hot drinks!

We are incredibly grateful for the generosity and support of our school community and local businesses. Events like these are made extra special because of the wonderful people who continue to support our students and our school.

Term 3 Dates to remember

Friday 18 September
- Footy Colours and Sportsman Day
- Learning Showcase from 1:45pm
- Last Day Term 3 early finish 2.10pm

Term 4 Dates to remember

Monday 5 October-Friday 9
- Students Start Term 4
- Tasmiana-Port Arthur Camp

Tuesday 13 October
- School Photos

Wednesday 14 October
- Black Rangers Basketball-Ararat

Tuesday 20 October
- Black Rangers Cricket-Stawell

Friday 23 October
- Grandparent Celebration Day

Monday 26 October
- Whole School Transition Day 9.00-11.00am

Tuesday 27 October
- School Council 6.00pm

Monday 2 November
- School Closure - Report Writing

Tuesday 4 November
- School Closure - Melbourne Cup Day

A Word From The Principal



Welcome to Our Team Sam!

A warm Concongella welcome to Sam Bibby, our newest Education Support staff member, who joined us this past Monday. Sam brings over 15 years of experience as a highly student-focused educator, and we are thrilled to have Sam as part of our team, both to learn from, and to learn alongside. Sam will be supporting our Waratah Grade 5-6 learning community. Please take a moment to read Sam's bio in this week's newsletter.

Major Raffle Winners

Our Major Raffle draw took place last Tuesday, with our School Council President calling out the lucky winners. Congratulations to Jodie (1st), Yvonne (2nd) and Kerry (3rd)!

Supporting local businesses is at the heart of what our raffle was all about, and we look forward to working with our winners over the coming weeks to purchase their chosen vouchers right here in Stawell. Every voucher spent locally is a direct boost to the businesses that support our school and community all year round. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and helped make this happen.

Tasmania Camp Update

The days are flying by and our Tasmania Camp is fast approaching! Thank you to all the families who attended our Camp Information Evening on Tuesday and thank you again for trusting us to help create lifetime memories with and for your children.

For students and staff staying on site while camp is away, we've put together a fantastic on site Concongella program of its own, packed with real-world, hands-on experiences, including a visit to Halls Gap Zoo, movies, cooking and art, just to name a few! It's set to be a wonderful week, and we ask that all students taking part are at school each day to enjoy everything the program has to offer.

A Word From The Principal

Parent Opinion Survey

Our annual Parent Opinion Survey is still open, and we're aiming for 100% of families to have their say. This feedback genuinely shapes our whole-school improvement. Thank you to the 21% of families who have already responded. The survey closes on 18th September, so please make sure your voice is heard before then.

Inquiry Learning Showcase & Last Day of Term

Our Inquiry Learning Showcase will take place on the last day of Term 3, Friday 18th September, at 1.45pm. This will also be our Footy/Sports Colours Day, so students are welcome to wear their favourite sports-themed attire.

A friendly reminder that this is an early finish day, with school concluding at 2.10pm.

Our students can't wait to share their Media Arts projects with you, with a huge range of creativity on display; music videos, stop motion animation and puppetry are just a taste of what's to come!

Looking Ahead to the Holidays

As Term 3 draws to a close, we hope all our families enjoy a well earned break together over the school holidays. Time to rest, recharge and make the most of the spring days ahead. We can't wait to hear all about your holiday adventures when we return for Term 4.

all about me



HEY THERE!
I'M MISS SAM!

- I am married with 3 children!
- I enjoy connecting with and helping people!
- My favourite team is Hawthorn in the AFL!

A FEW THINGS THAT TRULY MAKE ME HAPPY ARE:

- Reading
- Coffee
- Helping others
- Camping

LIFE IS ABOUT EXPERIENCES, LEARNING FROM THEM, SHARING THEM, AND CREATING MEMORIES ALONG THE WAY!





Part 5 of 5 Keeping It Safe: Our AI Guardrails

What Comes Next

The final part of our series: how we're thinking about preparing students for responsible AI use in the future.

Bringing it back to students

Across this series, we've focused on the groundwork happening behind the scenes, building staff understanding, establishing guardrails, and embedding AI use within clear policy. That groundwork exists for one reason: to eventually support our students well.

We're not there yet, and we won't rush it. Any future introduction of AI literacy for students will be age appropriate, carefully staged, and grounded in the same evidence based approach we bring to everything else from explicit instruction to structured literacy and numeracy.

What families can expect

- Clear communication before any AI tool is introduced to students, including what it's for and what safeguards are in place.
- A focus on critical thinking helps students question and evaluate information, rather than simply consuming it.
- Opportunities for families to ask questions and share views as our thinking develops.
- No surprises: students facing AI use will only begin once staff capability and safeguards are firmly established.

Thank you

Thank you for following this series with us. AI is a fast moving space, and our approach will keep evolving as staff learn more and as state and national guidance develops. We'll continue to keep you informed as things progress and we always welcome your questions along the way.

Questions or feedback?

We'd love to hear your thoughts on this series. Please reach out to the school office at any time.

Students Of The Week

Congratulations to the following students for displaying our school values of



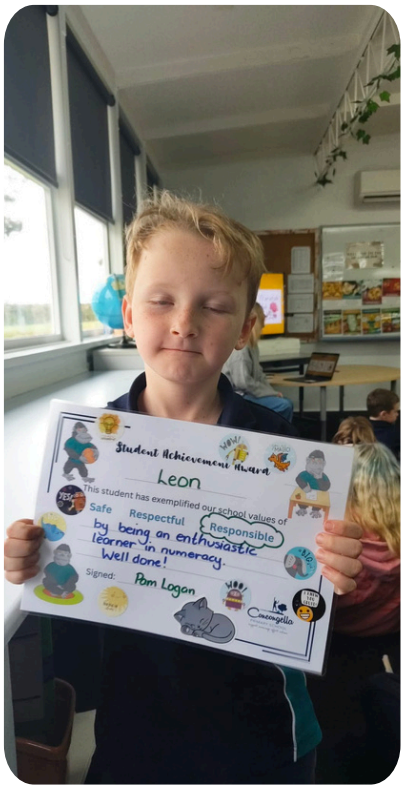




WATTLE HUB F,1,2
Leon: By being an enthusiastic learner in numeracy. Well done!

BANKSIA HUB 3-4
Ollie: For doing very well and achieving great growth in his numeracy assessment - Well done!

WARATAH HUB 5-6
Student absent





Community News





School News


FOOTY COLOURS &
SPORTSMAN DAY
Come dressed as your favourite sports man/woman or in your team footy colours.
LAST DAY OF TERM
FRIDAY 18TH
SEPTEMBER
Concongella
PRIMARY SCHOOL
support . encourage . achieve

School News

msp photography
www.msp.com.au

PHOTO DAY IS COMING ....

Tuesday

13th October 2026

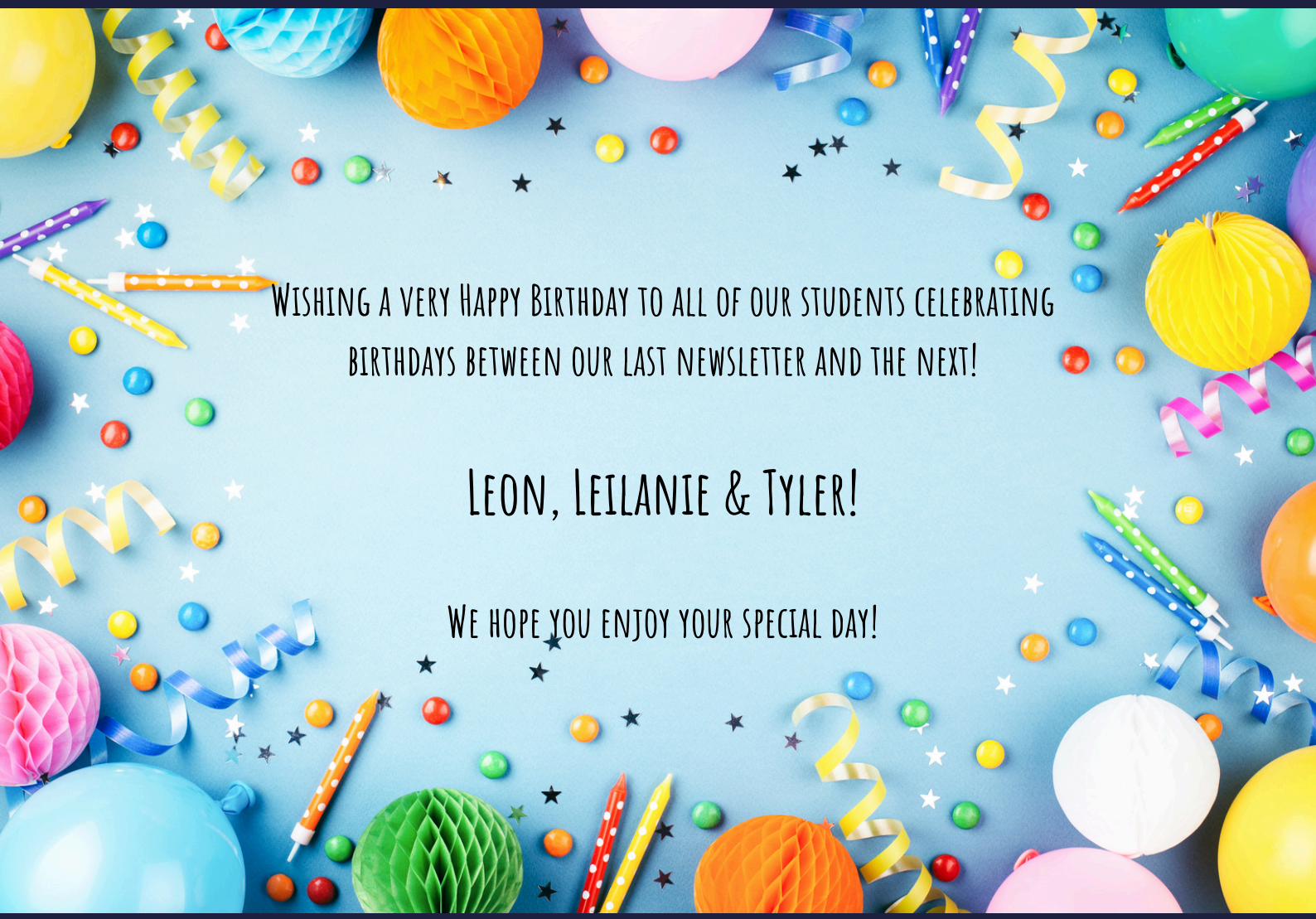
SUNSMART SCHOOL

TERM 4 HAT POLICY

As a SunSmart School, we are committed to keeping our students protected from the sun.

From the beginning of Term 4, all students are required to wear their school bucket hat whenever they are outside.

Birthday Wishes



School Assembly

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

Our next assembly is scheduled for
Friday, 13th OCT 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 4 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.

Hats:
Just a reminder that in Term 4, students are required to wear their school bucket hats when outdoors.
If you need to purchase a school bucket hat, please see Amy or Nikeeta at the front office.
Thank you for your support in keeping our students sun safe! ☀️

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	**SEP 7** Breakfast Club	**SEP 8** Chinese Somers Camp departs Camp Information Evening 6:30pm	**SEP 9** Breakfast Club SSG's (Student Support Group Meetings)	**SEP 10** Newsletter R U OK? DAY Lunch Order Day	**SEP 11** Breakfast Club
Week 10	**SEP 14** Breakfast Club	**SEP 15** Chinese	**SEP 16** Breakfast Club Somers Camp Returns	**SEP 17** Specialist Day Lunch Order Day	**SEP 18** Footy Colours and Sportsman Day Learning Showcase from 1:45pm Last Day Term 3 early finish 2.10pm
Week 1	**OCT 5** Port Arthur Camp Depart	**OCT 6** Port Arthur Camp	**OCT 7** Port Arthur Camp	**OCT 8** Port Arthur Camp Newsletter	**OCT 9** Port Arthur Camp Returns
Week 2	**OCT 12** Breakfast Club	**OCT 13** School Photo Day	**OCT 14** Breakfast Club	**OCT 15** Specialist Day Lunch Order Day	**OCT 16** Breakfast Club Assembly - 2:50pm

PROTECT
Protecting children & young people from abuse is our responsibility
THE EDUCATION STATE
VICTORIA State Government | Education and Training