

# Concongella Primary School Newsletter

61 Concongella School Road, Concongella 3384

**Phone:** 5358 1811

**Email:** [concongella.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:concongella.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.concongellaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.concongellaps.vic.edu.au)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/Concongella-Primary-School](https://facebook.com/Concongella-Primary-School)



Thursday 4th December, 2025  
Term 4, Edition 19

## Sports Carnival

On Tuesday the 25th of November, students took part in an exciting whole-school sports carnival. The day was filled with team-building puzzles, tug-of-war challenges, and a range of races that brought out everyone's competitive spirit. Students from all year levels joined in a series of fun, engaging events, working together in mixed-age groups to celebrate teamwork, resilience, and school community.



## Term 4 Dates to remember

**Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th, Friday 5th of December**

- F-6 Swimming Program- Parents to pick up students from Stawell 3.10pm

**Tuesday 9 December**

- Statewide Transition Day F-6.  
9:00am-3:10

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

- Whole School Adventure Park  
Excursion Geelong

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

- Grade 6 Graduation

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

- End of Year Concert and Picnic Lunch starting at 12.00pm
- Last Day Term 4-2.10pm finish

**Thursday 18 & Friday 19 December**

- School Closure Staff PD

# A Word From The Principal

## **School Council Thank You**

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our School Council for their dedication, leadership, and ongoing commitment throughout the year. Dana Woltjen (President), Brian McGrath (Vice President), Amanda Kingsley, Shannan Martin, Eleisha Clementson, Pam Logan, Amy McColl, Llewelyn Clark and Katie Bertram thank you. The School Council plays a vital role in shaping the direction of our school, supporting strategic planning, strengthening community partnerships, and ensuring our students have the best possible learning environment. We deeply appreciate the time, energy, and expertise each member has contributed, and we are grateful for their continued support of our school community.



## **2026 Staffing Profile**

As communicated to families last week, our staffing profile for 2026 has now been finalised and is featured in this fortnight's newsletter. We are extremely fortunate to have a team of dedicated, experienced, and passionate staff whose commitment to our school values and student learning remains unwavering. Our structures for next year have been carefully designed to ensure we meet the needs of all students, 100% of students, 100% of the time. We thank our families for trusting us with their child's educational journey and look forward to another strong and successful year ahead.

## **End of Year Celebrations**

We are excited to finish the year with several whole school celebrations that reflect the spirit and achievements of our students. Our End of Year Celebration Day at Adventure Park Geelong promises to be a fun and memorable experience for all. We also look forward to acknowledging our senior students at the Grade 6 Graduation Dinner at North Park, a special evening to celebrate their accomplishments and the beginning of their next chapter. Finally, we invite all families to join us on the last day of term for our End of Year Christmas Concert and BBQ, a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate a fantastic year.

## **2026 Learning Conversations School Closure: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

To start our school year in 2026 each family and student will be invited to meet their 2026 teacher, set learning goals and expectations collaboratively together on Wednesday 28th January. This day will be a school closure day to ensure all teaching staff are able to meet with each family and their child. An invitation through uEducateus will be sent by the end of the school year, to book in your preferred time.

As this is our final newsletter for the year, we would like to wish all of our students, staff and families a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. We hope the holiday season is filled with family, friends, joy and love. Wishing each of you a relaxing and refreshing break, and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Thursday 29th January.

With thanks,  
Amy Henderson.

# 2026 STAFFING PROFILE



## OUR WATTLE HUB TEAM

Wattle Meaning:  
Resilience and  
New Beginnings

Pamela Logan



**Classroom  
Teacher &  
MHIPS Leader**

Michael Crowe



**Classroom  
Teacher &  
Health and PE  
Teacher**

Lauryne Strafeh

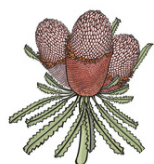


**Learning  
Enhancement**

Ebony Miller



**Education  
Support**



## OUR BANKSIA HUB TEAM

Banksia  
Meaning:  
Resilience and  
Endurance

Amy McColl



**Classroom  
Teacher &  
Art Teacher**

Amy Henderson



**Classroom  
Teacher**

Nikeeta Mullane



**Learning  
Enhancement**

Merryn Baxter



**Learning  
Enhancement**



## OUR WARATAH HUB TEAM

Waratah  
Meaning:  
Resilience ,  
Courage and  
Strength

Felicia Dunford



**Classroom  
Teacher**

Annabelle Barton



**Classroom  
Teacher**

Merryn Baxter



**Education  
Support**

Amy Millar



**Education  
Support**





# Inquiry Showcase Term 4

**Thursday 11th December  
From 2.30pm**

**Come and see our amazing learning in  
Inquiry this term!**

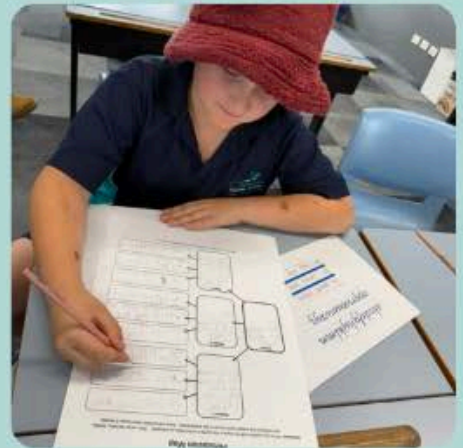
**Students will be sharing their work with an  
authentic audience – you!**

**We can't wait to show you what we've been  
learning!**

# MIDDLE ROOM NEWS

## PERSUASIVE LETTER OF CHANGE

Our Middles have been working hard to plan and write a persuasive letter to the principal as part of their final writing assessment. It has been wonderful to see them confidently use persuasive devices and language while writing about topics they are passionate about. We hope you enjoy reading their letters, Miss Henderson!



# Wellbeing

## Social Media Minimum Age Coming 10 December



### How to support your child under 16 with the new social media age restrictions

From 10 December 2025, the Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024 will require social media platforms to:

- prevent children and young people under 16 from having a social media account
- deactivate or freeze existing accounts held by people under 16.

Delaying access to social media protects the health and wellbeing of young people and gives them extra time to build real world connections and digital literacy skills.

The responsibility will be on the social media platforms, not parents, carers, children or schools, to implement these new restrictions.

Most popular social media platforms will be age restricted. These include Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), Reddit and YouTube.

Messaging services and online games, as well as apps and platforms that support health and education, can still be used.

### How to help under 16s prepare for the change

Parents and carers play an important role in supporting their children to be safe online.

To help get under 16s ready for the social media minimum age requirements, you can go to the **eSafety website** to learn more about the social media age restrictions and find tips on how to talk about social media age restrictions with young people.

### What the change means for our school

At our school, all age-restricted social media platforms are blocked for student use on the school network.

*To keep up to date about the new social media age restrictions, **visit the eSafety website** and subscribe to their newsletter.*



# Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students for displaying the values of



Respectful



Responsible

Safe



## Foundation, 1 & 2 - Juniors

**Jackson:** For showing respect in the classroom and playground

**Hudson:** For your outstanding efforts during our writing lessons

## Year 3 & 4 - Middles

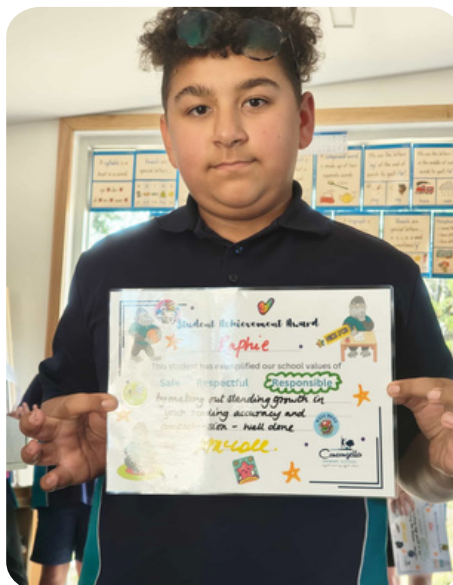
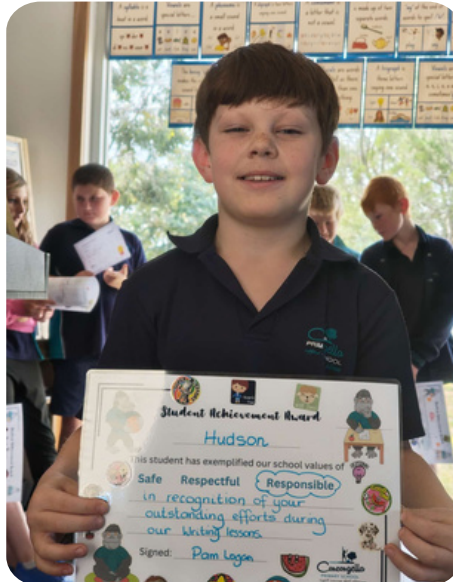
**Ava:** For displaying persistence and determination when taking on challenging assessments.

**Aubree:** For always being an encouraging classmate to her peers and setting a good example.

## Year 5 & 6 - Seniors -

**Raphie:** For making outstanding growth in your reading accuracy and comprehension .

**Kai:** For making huge growth in your reading this semester.



# Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students for receiving awards for their progress and accomplishments in the MacqLit Program.

Tyler McGrath  
Ted Dean





PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

# ROCK 'N' ROLL *Christmas Concert*

DECEMBER

WEDNESDAY **17** 12:00PM

AT THE CONCONGELLA HALL

FOLLOWED BY A PICNIC LUNCH AT SCHOOL





# School News



## Concongella Primary School **COME & TRY**

ENROLMENTS  
NOW OPEN

Would you like to see what Concongella Primary School has to offer your family? Would your child like to try an hour, a morning or a whole day at Concongella Primary School? We are opening our doors to all new prospective families to see what our small school has to offer.



**Any date throughout Term 4, 2025**

To arrange a day or time that suits you or to find out more information

Please call Ms Henderson  
on 5358 1811 or email  
[Concongella.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Concongella.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Don't miss this chance to be a part of our school community and take the first step towards your child's brighter future!



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## 2025 WHOLE SCHOOL TRANSITION DATES

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October F-6  
9.15am - 11.00am

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November F-6  
9.15am - 12.30pm

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November F-6  
9.15am - 1.30pm

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December F-6  
9.00am - 3.10pm

**CONTACT US**



5358 1811



# SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS PROGRAM BREAKFAST CLUB

8:30-8:50am  
Mon, Wed, Fri





# 2025 Sports Carnival







**WEEK 9:  
1ST-5<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER**

# WHOLE SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAM

**Parents to pick up students  
from Stawell at 3.10pm**



# Birthday Wishes

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE CELEBRATED A BIRTHDAY  
SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER

KAI RINGIN  
LEMUEL ISSACHAR

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

## School Assembly

Just a friendly reminder that our school assemblies will now be held every two weeks.

*Our next assembly is scheduled for December 17th*

This will be our end of Year Concert and Picnic Lunch starting at 12.00pm.  
It will be the Last Day Term 4 with a -2.10pm finish

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.



# 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.



Set on the German-occupied island of Jersey during World War II, *The Wartime Book Club* by Kate Thompson is a powerful story about courage, community, and the quiet ways people resist. When librarian Grace La Motée is ordered to destroy banned books, she refuses—hiding them instead. From these hidden treasures, she creates a secret book club that becomes a lifeline for the islanders: a place of hope, escape, and shared strength in the darkest of times. But as their acts of defiance grow riskier, Grace and her fellow readers must decide how far they are willing to go to protect the stories—and the people—they love.



# Community News



**SKATE  
INTO  
SUMMER**

12TH - 14TH DECEMBER

**ARARAT TOWN HALL**

THE COOLEST WAY TO BEAT THE HEAT!

Illustration of Santa Claus, a koala, and a platypus ice skating.



**Stawell  
COMMUNITY CAROLS**

**Stawell Entertainment Centre**  
**Friday 13th December, 2024**

**6pm-9:30pm**

**Family Event**

smoke, vaping, drug  
and alcohol free  
event

**Visit From  
Santa**



**Friday, 12 December 2025 | 06:00 PM to 09:00 PM**

## THE COTTAGE



IF YOU, OR ANYONE THAT YOU KNOW, NEEDS  
HELP THIS CHRISTMAS, CAN YOU PLEASE COME  
TO THE STAWELL INTER CHURCH COUNCIL'S  
"COTTAGE" AT 20 SLOANE STREET STAWELL ON  
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, OR FRIDAYS, BETWEEN  
10:30AM AND 12:30PM DURING NOVEMBER TO  
APPLY.

OUR DISTRIBUTION WILL BE ON TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER BUT WE NEED THE APPLICATIONS TO  
BE INTO THE COTTAGE BY THE END OF  
NOVEMBER.

THANK YOU!






# Win a \$150 voucher at any localbusiness of your choosing!



## How to enter

- 1 Simply scan the QR code to **download the CommunityConnect mobile app**
- 2 **Create new account** by clicking on the icon on the top right-hand corner 
- 3 That's it, you're all done!

**People who sign-up before November 30, 2025** automatically go into the draw to win a \$150\* voucher at any local business of your choice within Northern Grampians Shire.



*\*The winner will be randomly selected on December 1, 2025 and notified via email. The winner can then advise of the local business they wish to redeem their voucher at so council can arrange it. This initiative is supported by Northern Grampians Shire Council Bushfire Recovery Funding. Offer applicable to all new and existing account holders.*

Stay connected with:  Notices  Directory  Events



*This is a Northern Grampians Shire Council supported initiative*





# Cave Hill Creek Summer Camps 2026



LIVE THE OUTDOORS

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

TECH FREE FUN

MEET NEW FRIENDS & MAKE

MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME.....



**Book Now: [www.cavehillcreek.com.au](http://www.cavehillcreek.com.au)**



**Four great programs  
for 8-15 year olds!  
January 2026**



**Camp #35: 7-9 Jan  
Camp #36 & Camp OUT:  
12-16 Jan  
Camp #37: 19-23 Jan**



# 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.

## **Bakery Lunch:**

Bakery lunches are available every 2nd Friday. All orders must be placed into the notes box in the office prior to 3pm on Thursdays. These days are marked on our uEducateUs calendar, in the newsletter and on facebook. Lunch order forms are available from the office.

## **Hats:**

Please ensure your child brings a wide brimmed school bucket hat to school.

This is compulsory in term 1 & 4

School hats are available to purchase for \$15 from the front 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, ICT devices, 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

Our wellbeing team have organised a second hand uniform stall. Uniforms will be available every second Friday at our school assembly for a gold coin donation per item. We are welcoming any good quality second hand donations as well.

# Dates to remember

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>DEC 1</b>  SWIMMING PROGRAM Breakfast club 8:30am	<b>DEC 2</b>  SWIMMING PROGRAM  <b>Specialist Day</b>	<b>DEC 3</b>  SWIMMING PROGRAM Breakfast club 8:30am	<b>DEC 4</b>  SWIMMING PROGRAM	<b>DEC 5</b>  SWIMMING PROGRAM  Breakfast club 8:30am
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>DEC 8</b>  Breakfast club 8:30am	<b>DEC 9</b> <b>STATE WIDE TRANSITION DAY- 9:00-3:10PM</b> <b>Specialist Day</b>	<b>DEC 10</b>  Breakfast Club 8.30am	<b>DEC 11</b>	<b>DEC 12</b> WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION - ADVENTURE PARK GEELONG
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>DEC 15</b>  Breakfast club 8:30am	<b>DEC 16</b>  <b>Grade 6 Graduation</b>	<b>DEC 17</b> End of Year Concert and Picnic Lunch starting at 12.00pm Last Day Term 4- 2.10pm finish  Breakfast Club 8.30am	<b>DEC 18</b>  School Closure Staff PD	<b>DEC 19</b>  School Closure Staff PD
<b>Week 1 Term 1 2026</b>			<b>JAN 28</b>  Learning Conversation School Closure	<b>JAN 29</b>  <b>Students Return</b>	

# PROTECT

Protecting children & young people from abuse is our responsibility



Education and Training