



## Great Experience Children's Writers' Festival!

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow what a great action pack last two weeks.

We all survived our overnight excursion, and the K-2 loved the Reptile Park. I was so proud to hear all the great reports from teachers, as well as the venues, on how well the students of Cowan PS conducted themselves. Well done Cowan!

All pictures of these excursions will be uploaded and be made into a movie. I will also try and send this out soon.

On Wednesday we had our Children's Writers' Festival; it was a wonderful day. We celebrated Book Week 2020 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. I was so impressed with the children's costumes and their knowledge of the characters they were portraying. Even the staff dressed up as their favourite book character! It was great to walk around to the six different classrooms to see the children interacting with our authors and illustrators. I would like to thank Lynne Scanes for organising the day for our students and for students from our surrounding schools. Thank you to all staff who contributed to the day and made it special to all students involved. See Lynne's report on Page 2.

### Kindergarten Orientation (Kinders 2021)

Our Kindergarten transition program for 2021 Kindergarten students will be held on 11th, 18th and 25th November, 2020 at 9am to 10:30am. Parents will leave their child with us and come back at the duration of the session. The program is designed to help the children feel relaxed and comfortable about starting at school by introducing them to the teachers and to their new friends in an enjoyable and informal manner.

### Negative COVID-19 Tests

Thank you to the parents and carers who have sent us copies of their children's negative COVID-19 test results. It is in the Department of Education's guidelines that students must not return to school after a COVID-19 test until the school sights a copy of the negative test result and the student is symptom free. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is a day for Cowan teachers to celebrate and be proud. This year, despite major challenges, we have made sure education continued across K-6. It has reinforced the significant role teachers play in the lives of children and students, our families and community. Well done to all our teachers at Cowan PS.

### CALENDAR

Cowan Dance Group: **Fridays 8am**  
Instrument Tutoring: **Individual Days**  
Student Banking: **Mondays**

Kinder Orientation #1	<b>Nov</b>	11th
Remembrance Day Service		11th
PSSA League Tag		13th
Round 1 Spelling Bee		16th
Yr6 Mini Fete		17th
Kinder Orientation #2		18th
Cake Day		18th
AGHS Transition Day		19th
PSSA League Tag		20th

## Changes to School Development Days in 2021

At the commencement of 2021, there will be amendments to our School Development Days (SDD's). These amendments will impact Term 1 and 4, but will have no impact on Terms 2 and 3. As a result of the changes there will no longer be two Staff Development Days at the end of Term 4. Instead, there will be two Staff Development Days at beginning of the school year. The 2021 school year will commence with two Staff Development Days.

Therefore, for students in **Years 1-6** the first day of school for 2021 will be **Friday 29 January**. This change will mean that the first day of school for Year 1-6, will be the day of our school Swimming Carnival. Further details about this event will be communicated to you towards the end of Term 4.

Our 2021 **Kindergarten** will start on **Monday, 1st February 2021**.

**Kind Regards**  
**Tracey Darby**  
**Principal**

## 7th Cowan/Brooklyn Children's Writers' Festival 2020

Theme: ***Incredible Creatures***

Our Literature Wonderland Adventure began before first light on Wednesday with the arrival of the Dream Team who helped me to recreate a taste of celebrated children's literature in the Upper Forest at Cowan Public School on a pristine Spring morning.

The staff and children of Brooklyn Public School joined with us for an inspirational day of writing and illustration through a day of interactive workshops. We also had some core students from neighbouring schools.

Armed with specially prepared student journals, lovingly collated, the staff and children entered the life changing world of literature for an entire day.

While our special lead guest John Heffernan who has been with Cowan since 2006, wished us well from afar, we were privileged to meet and experience the multitalented and internationally celebrated cream of Australian Children's Literature—Stephen Michael King, Andrew Daddo, Tim Harris, Jacqueline Harvey, Shelly Unwin, Pip Smith and Beau Wylie.

To enhance the experience, everyone dressed as their favourite incredible creature or character and entered through the wardrobe into Narnia, The Wizard Of Oz, Roald Dahl, Where The Wild Things Are, Harry Potter and Alice In Wonderland.

*"The children then come upon an empty room with a large wardrobe, but while the others move on, Lucy, the youngest, stays behind and opens the wardrobe door. She looks in out of pure curiosity, and two moth-balls drop out. Inside, she sees a row of long fur coats. Still driven by curiosity, she climbs in and reaches past the coats, careful to leave the wardrobe door open. As she crawls further inside, surprised that she doesn't immediately encounter the back of the wardrobe, she notices that the hard floor has become mysteriously cold and soft, and that something prickly is all around her. She realizes that the prickliness comes from the branches of trees, and that the floor is covered in snow."* (an extract from The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis).



Our guests were treated to and thoroughly enjoyed a smorgasbord of culinary delights made by the Cowan staff for breakfast, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. They too felt welcome and enjoyed a wonderful day at our School.

Well done to all our parents who, not only helped their children dress up, but have already ordered their children's favourite books through the online Book Fair at the Children's Bookshop, Glebe. What a fabulous gift for your children and friends. "A Book Is A Quiet Treasure That You Can Hold In Your Hand and Remember Forever".

Beth and her staff are fully stocked and ready to help you expand your own family home library, just in time for Christmas. A percentage of all sales is returned to Cowan School.

The link again is:

[https://  
www.thechildrensbookshopspeakersagency.com.  
au/speakers/](https://www.thechildrensbookshopspeakersagency.com.au/speakers/).

Here are some of the comments from your children on their incredible experience:

- "I loved going through the wardrobe!"
- "Andrew Daddo was so funny"
- "Shelly Unwin pretended to be a police officer. She was funny"
- "I loved Stephen Michael King's drawings"
- "I learnt that he starts his drawings as a scribble".

The VIP's I wish to sincerely thank for allowing me to make my ideas come to life for Cowan:

- Marie Hope, head coordinator and all round angel; Lynette Hodder the queen of cuisine and catering; Carole Adnum, interior and exterior set designer
- Trish Kershaw retired teacher extraordinaire; Sophie Roberts (past student and teacher); Margaret Bull (retired Brooklyn Librarian and co-organiser of previous festivals)
- Cate Ruzek, Merran Husband, Vanessa Jones, Laura Carey, Gabe Bell, Greg Crowe
- Haina Magalhaes and Lindsay Scanes for their creative expertise; Carlyne McCullough for her stunning pastel illustrations; Beth from The Children's Bookshop
- Emma and Stewart Carter for the wardrobe; Tim Belcher who gave me the opportunity to create Narnia
- Last but not least our amazing school Principal, Tracey Darby, for her passion and continually making the impossible possible.

Children's Writers' Festival photos yet to come.

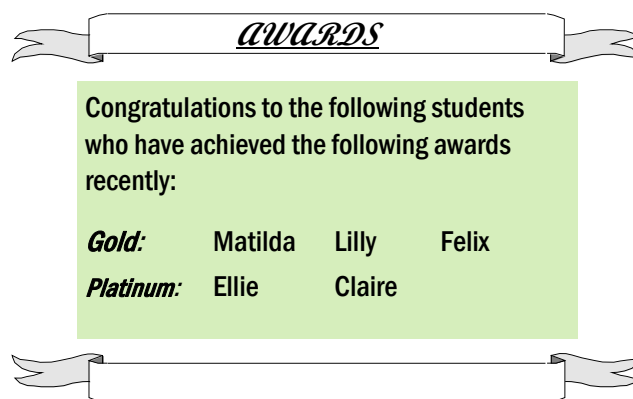
*Thank you, Lynne Scanes*

### Remembrance Day Service

- Wednesday 11th November
- 11.00am
- School only event

### Outstanding Term Fees

We ask our families to settle any outstanding term fees as soon as possible. We still have outstanding fees from Term 1. If you are unsure whether you have outstanding fees, or what they may amount to, please call or email the school office. If you would like to discuss payment options, then please see Mrs Darby, in confidence.



### Cake Days

Our Cake Days for the remainder of this term are as follows:

- Wednesday 18th November with the Brown, Willis and McPherson families providing
- Wednesday 2nd December with the Birkneh and Thomas families providing
- Thank you to all these families in advance.

If your child forgets their cake money on cake day, we do allow IOUs, however, these must be paid by the following cake day. If not paid, that student will not be able to purchase a cake.

### What Is Coming Up Later In Term 4

- Monday 23rd November—Round 2 Spelling Bee
- Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th November—Aboriginal Artist Garry Purchase
- Wednesday 25th November—Kinder Orientation
- Friday 27th November—PSSA League Tag
- Tuesday 1st December—AGHS & ABHS Orientation Day
- Wednesday 2nd December—Cake Day
- Wednesday 2nd December—Yr6 Farewell
- Tuesday 8th December—Presentation Night (still to be decided)
- Friday 25th September—Last Day of Term 3





## RESPECT—LISTEN and FOLLOW teacher's instructions :

To listen you need to look at the person speaking and focus on what they are saying. Visualise doing the task or following the steps communicated. This makes it easier to follow the instructions when needed.

## RESPONSIBILITY—Be SAFE & CAREFUL:

In the classroom—walking, pushing chairs under tables, holding scissors correctly, picking things up off the floor.

In the playground—wearing a hat, no running, no poking with sticks, taking turns with equipment, taking care of others especially when they're hurt, sitting while eating.

## Show

## RESPECT

- Show COURTESY and be POLITE to teachers, visitors and each other.
- LISTEN and follow teacher's instructions.
- CARE for people, property and the environment.
- ACCEPT differences and be KIND to all.
- Wear full school uniform and be a POSITIVE role model.



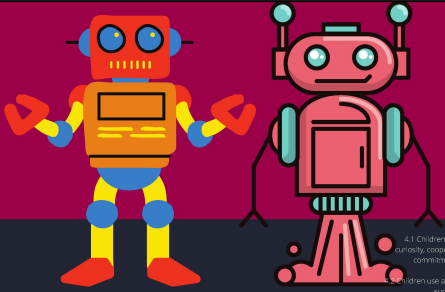
## Show

## RESPONSIBILITY

- Take PRIDE in doing the right thing.
- Be SAFE and be CAREFUL.
- Be at the RIGHT PLACE at the right time.
- Be PREPARED for work and be PUNCTUAL.
- Take OWNERSHIP of your actions.
- Be TIDY and look after your belongings.



## What's coming up in CommunityOSH this term:

TERM 4 | Fridays  
4pm - 5pm

# STEM CLUB

Week 3: Fizzing witches potions  
Week 4: Paper plane challenge  
Week 5: Lego boat challenge  
Week 6: Building catapults  
Week 7: Wind powered marble maze  
Week 8: Crystal snowflakes  
Week 9: What will happen to the candy canes?  
Week 10: Can you turn on the Christmas lights?

MTOP:  
4.1 Children develop dispositions such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.  
4.2 Children use a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating.  
4.3 Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another.  
4.4 Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials.

CommunityOSH

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TERM 4  
THURSDAYS 4PM-5PM

# 'THE ARTS' CLUB

WEEK 3: THE SKELETON DANCE  
WEEK 4: CHARADES  
WEEK 5: PROP PROMPTS  
WEEK 6: MAKING BELL SHAKERS  
WEEK 7: MUSICAL CHAIRS  
WEEK 8: LEARN A DANCE  
WEEK 9: 'MY CHRISTMAS MORNING' ACTING  
WEEK 10: GIVING SOUND EFFECTS TO TEXT

MTOP:  
1.1 Children feel safe, secure and supported.  
1.3 Children develop knowledgeable and confident self identities.  
2.2 Children respond to diversity with respect.  
5.1 Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.  
5.2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.  
5.3 Children collaborate with others, express ideas and make meaning using a range of media and communication technologies.

CommunityOSH



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MTOP:  
1.1 Children feel safe, secure and supported.  
3.2 Children take an increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing  
5.2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.



## COOKING CLUB

TERM 4 | WEDNESDAYS 4PM-5PM

CommunityOSH  
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS - CARE WITH HEART

WEEK 3: Ice-cream sandwiches  
WEEK 4: Cucumber sushi  
WEEK 5: Face biscuits  
WEEK 6: Watermelon slushies  
WEEK 7: Lego rice krispies  
WEEK 8: Christmas tree cones  
WEEK 9: Reindeer cookies  
WEEK 10: Gingerbread men

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3.2 Children take an increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing  
5.2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.

MTOP:  
1.4 Children interact in relation to others with empathy, care and respect.  
2.1 Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation.  
2.2 Children respond to diversity with respect.  
4.4 Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials.



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TERM 4 | MONDAYS 4PM-5PM

## CRAFT CLUB

- Week 3: Halloween spider webs  
Week 4: Pool noodle horses  
Week 5: Poppy wreaths  
Week 6: Paper roll dragons  
Week 7: Paper chain pythons  
Week 8: Christmas star frames  
Week 9: Wooden Christmas trees  
Week 10: Christmas stockings



## FITNESS CLUB!

TERM 4 | TUESDAYS 4PM-5PM

WEEK 3: HOPSCOTCH WITH A TWIST  
WEEK 4: POOL NOODLE HORSE RACE  
WEEK 5: UNO WORKOUT  
WEEK 6: TUG OF WAR  
WEEK 7: RING TOSS & TARGET THROWS  
WEEK 8: SHOVEL THE SNOW RACE  
WEEK 9: SECRET SANTA TAG  
WEEK 10: THE GRINCH SHUFFLE

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