

Cowell Area School

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Term 3, Week 7

4th September 2024

Newsletter



Principal's News

We are already into Week 7 and there is plenty of great learning opportunities occurring for students across the year levels. We celebrated book week, the MFS visited yesterday to talk to us about fire safety and we have SMG here Thursday and Friday for talks on Failure Matters and Friendship Matters.

On the last student free day, staff continued on the learning journey of monitoring and measuring student progress utilising a range of teaching strategies, such as, learning intentions and success criteria, heat maps, rubrics and know and show charts. I also shared the student interview data showing students are knowing what they are learning, why they are learning the topic and how do they use the success criteria to help them. It was great to hear the students being able to articulate what they are learning and why with a deeper understanding of the purpose and the relevance of the learning taking place.

We are embarking on this area as part of the Departments Strategic Plan and the 4 Areas of Impact. One of these is Learner Agency and at Cowell Area School we want our students to be able to self-assess and monitor their work and the important role that feedback plays to assist them with this.

Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT)

The Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) are online reading comprehension and maths assessments aligned to the Australian Curriculum that provide teachers with information about their students' learning strengths and needs.

The PAT 4-week window began this week with the assessment being mandatory for Year 3 to Year 10 students. Our Year 1 and Year 2 students will also be experiencing the test platform as we look to expose them to the types of questions and online assessment to be experienced in the coming years.

PAT is one of many ways we gather valuable information on the progress of our students and helps to inform our curriculum future actions.

2024 Annual Parent Survey

The annual parent survey is underway and closes midnight Sunday 8 September. For more information please visit the [department's website](#).

This survey aims to get your views on:

- what we're doing well
- where we can improve
- what's important to you as a parent/carer.

Your answers won't identify you or your child and only collated feedback is provided to our school.

You should have already received a link to the survey via email or SMS. Reminder emails are currently being sent to you unless you have completed a survey or have unsubscribed.

Please take the time to complete the survey, this is valuable information for our school. If you cannot find the previously sent link, then please use this one:

<https://survey.education.sa.gov.au/sc/t5KqYWZiNziapHIW2R9udA2>



DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 3

WEEK 7

- 3/9 - MFS Visit Years R-12
- 5/9 - Yr 10 Field Trip
- Religious Education Yrs 3-6
- 6/9 - Religious Education Yrs 7-12

WEEK 8

- 9-11/9 - SAPSASA Hockey, Adelaide

WEEK 9

- 16/9 - SAPSASA Athletics, Adelaide
- 16-20/9 - Yr 4/5 Camp

WEEK 10

- 23/0 - Red Ball Tennis
- 24-26/9 - Stage 1 PE Camp
- 25/9 - SAPSASA Tennis @ Lock
- 26/9 - Yr 3/4 Sleepover
- 27/9 - Last Day of Term 3, school finishes @ 2:20pm

TERM 4

WEEK 1

- 14/10 - School Resumes
- 16/10 - CEP Yr 5/6 Cricket Carnival @ Lock



SEPTEMBER

8/9—Mia Franklin

9/9—Zoe Yates Rehn

15/9—Lila Biacsi

17/9—Kane Fiegert

17/9—Haden frost

17/9—Maxwell Williams

"A positive & collaborative community of resilient learners, prepared for future challenges"



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

School News

Playground Update

Finally the new playground has been installed, the fill has been put in and the Year 3-6 students are thoroughly enjoying their new play space. There are just a couple of sensory play items to be installed around the yard to complete the playground work.



STEM Aboriginal Congress

Last Wednesday to Friday I had the opportunity to take 5 of our Aboriginal Students to Adelaide to engage with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics learning and industry experiences to inspire them to realise their aspirations and take on challenging subjects at school and in future learning. The Congress is designed to connect students to their cultural identity and explore other cultural identities with Aboriginal STEM knowledge to unlock future STEM pathways. They were part of 850 students from over 186 schools being represented.

Over the two days we engaged with young Aboriginal People and listened to them and their journey. Key note speakers were Tiahni Adamson with is currently working for CH4 Global on the Asparagopsis and is the current 2024 Young Australian of the Year for South Australia. The other speaker was Arthur Ah Chee who has created his own First Nations gaming and visualisation studio in Adelaide and has worked on games such as Call of Duty – Modern Warfare and complete visualisations for various museums and Government Agencies.

Along with this we experienced an orienteering session at the Adelaide Zoo, were shown a drone footage of their reenactment of the dreamtime story of the Seven Sisters as well as being taught basket Weaving by the Amata Anangu School and then learnt how Aboriginal people built fish traps with the Deadly Science team from Sydney.



Respect

Success

Learning

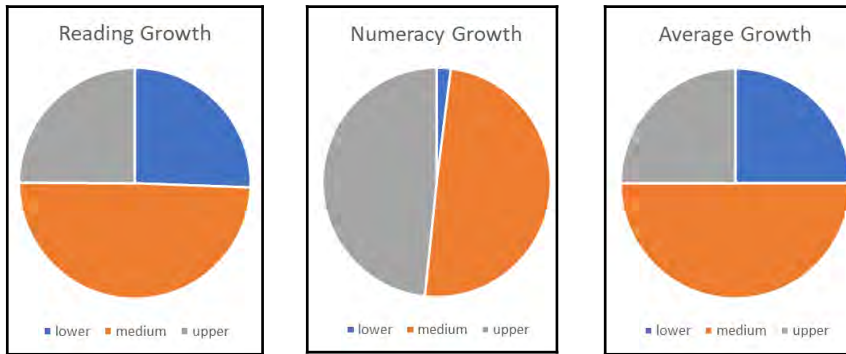
Responsibility

School News

2024 NAPLAN HIGHLIGHTS

- 65 Cowell Area School students sat NAPLAN in 2024
- Our students were Strong in 19 out of the 20 assessed areas.
- 48% of Year 5, 7 and 9 students registered Upper Level Growth (compared to a national average of 25%)
- 98% of Year 5, 7 and 9 students were in the medium or upper areas of growth for Numeracy.
- Staff will use NAPLAN, in conjunction with many other assessment strategies, to continue to support growth in Literacy and Numeracy for Cowell Area Schools.

Figures 1, 2 & 3: Categories of Individual Student Growth - NAPLAN 2024



Headlines are often more shocking than substantial, but here at Cowell Area School the NAPLAN news is positive.

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, and is the only nationwide assessment that all Australian children undertake.

The program tests students' ability in three domains of Literacy—reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)—and in Numeracy. Schools in all states and territories have administered NAPLAN in the first half of every year since 2008.

NAPLAN undertook a major overhaul in 2023.

New proficiency standards with four levels of achievement - Needs Additional Support, Developing, Strong and Exceeding - have replaced the previous 10-band structure.

The data in our second year of the new system shows us that (on average) Cowell Area School students are Strong in 19 out of 20 of the assessment areas.

This is a great result!

The school's ongoing focus of improvement for every student in every classroom has manifested in the data as 48% of Year 5, 7 and 9 students registering Upper Level Growth as compared to a national average of 25%. (Year 3s do not have comparative figures as they are the earliest grade to undertake NAPLAN each year.)

Numeracy improvement was a standout result, with 98% of Year 5, 7 and 9 students in the medium or upper areas of growth.

The new proficiency standards include a baseline benchmark to identify students who are likely to need additional support.

"These important changes mark a reset for NAPLAN that makes use of the online adaptive tests to deliver better information for parents, carers and teachers," said ACARA CEO, David de Carvalho.

"The standard for proficiency is set at a challenging but reasonable level. If your child is in the Strong or Exceeding category, it means they have demonstrated proficiency and that their Literacy or Numeracy skills are where they should be at this stage of their schooling.

"If your child has not yet achieved proficiency, then they will either be in the Developing category or the Needs Additional Support category.

"This is powerful information in the hands of parents/carers and teachers, and will enable much more meaningful conversations between them about how our children and young people are developing the foundational skills they need," Mr de Carvalho said.

NAPLAN is just one of many continual data collection points in a child's educational journey at Cowell Area School, all of which are compared and studied to inform better teaching and better learning for our students.

Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to discuss their NAPLAN results and better understand their learning journey at Cowell Area School.

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Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Here we go again! Operation Christmas Child!

Most families here in Australia are fortunate enough to be able to give gifts to our family and friends regularly. But overseas, it's a different story! These shoebox gifts that we can put together could be the only gift these children receive for their entire childhood. We don't know exactly where they will be sent, however it is possible to send a letter with the box and hope for a reply, or tracking labels can be purchased online at operationchristmaschild.org.au.

Ways you can help this year:

1. Collect a box from school to fill up – I will provide a list of items that can and cannot go in and labels to go on the box.
2. Donate items to go into a box; each one needs to have the following – Items must be NEW:
 - Something to wear: shirt, shoes, cap, beanie, sandals, shorts
 - Something to love: teddy, doll, soft toy
 - Something special: carry bag, sunnies, bangles, stickers, necklaces, craft kits, wind-up torch, personal note, photo of yourself
 - Something for school: exercise book, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser, chalk etc
 - Something to play with: tennis ball, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument, yo-yo, slinky, finger puppets etc
 - Something for personal hygiene: soap and face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, scrunchie, hair clips etc
3. Donate your time to help put the boxes together. Wednesday September 25th, we will put the boxes together at school.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact me at the school, or let your child know they can pick up a box from me at school to bring home.

Donated items can be given to the front office by Monday 23rd of September.

Many thanks for your support.

Jess

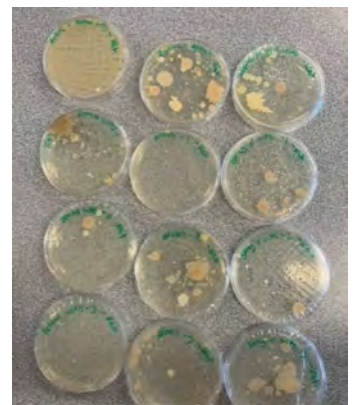


SENIOR SCIENCE & MATHS

Year 10s are taking measurements of Barbie and applying a scale factor to convert her to a life-size 2D drawing.

Year 11 Biology - making a working model of our lungs. Showing how the diaphragm is essential in drawing air into the lungs.

Year 11s have been testing antibacterial products and found that none are 100% effective in removing all bacteria. They swabbed door handles around the school and tested the time of washing hands and the temperature of the soap on the effectiveness of the products. The results were inconclusive, but we did find out that the surfaces around the school, including our keyboards and mobile phones are covered in germs.



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OPERATION FLINDERS PEER MENTOR SCHEME

Year 11 Danielle Churchett returns back to school this month after an exciting challenge as part of the Operation Flinders Peer Mentor scheme.

Danielle, who undertook Operation Flinders as a Year 10 student in 2023, was invited back this year as part of the organisation's mentoring program, helping to lead a school group from Yorketown Area School through the Flinders, sharing her own experiences and learning with a new group of students.

"We had to set everything up for the exercise, plan navigation before the event, teach the participants about their roles and responsibilities, and encourage them through the challenges," Danielle said.

"Part of my role was to demonstrate how to do things that they hadn't done before. But my main role was to encourage, help and support and talk to them so that they didn't give up and they went home feeling positive and accomplished.

"When I did Operation Flinders I enjoyed learning about myself, better understanding my capabilities and overcoming challenges."

Through Operation Flinders, Danielle is also undertaking a series of environmental camps, a Certificate II in Outdoor Education, and will be recognised for her involvement in the program through the Duke of Edinburgh.

This week, Danielle was one of a group of Year 11s who spoke to our Year 10s about their upcoming Operation Flinders campaign in Term 4.

Danielle would encourage upcoming Year 10s to join Operation Flinders and not underestimate their ability to overcome physical and mental challenges.



Is your child an Asthma Sufferer?



If so, please ensure that they have their reliever medication and spacer in their school bags.

Ensure that the reliever is not out of date or empty and that you have provided the school with a current Asthma Care Plan,

completed with your General Practitioner;

https://asthma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/About_Asthma/Schools/AACPED2018-Care-Plan-for-Schools-A4_2019.pdf

Reminder to parents/caregivers

With some viruses circulating, please remember, the spread of certain infectious diseases can be reduced by excluding a person, known to be infectious, from contact with others who are at risk of catching the infection.



If your child is unwell with a virus please do not send them to school and keep them at home until they have been well for at least 24 hours. This is the guidelines given to the Department for Education by SA Health.

Keep up to date with the latest school news and upcoming events by liking us on Facebook.



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Important Information for Parents/Caregivers

Medication in Schools



Authority to administer

Medication can't be administered in an education or care service without written advice on a medication agreement (agreement forms available from the school) (with the exception of emergency medication for anaphylaxis and asthma). Medication can't be administered by education and care staff where:

- a medication agreement has been modified, overwritten or is illegible
- any medication rights are in doubt.

All sections of the 'medication instructions' must be completed and match the pharmacy label on the medication.

All requirements listed in the 'authorisation and release' section must be checked and parent or guardian details entered.

The 'agreement' section must be completed by a treating health professional where the medication is:

- a controlled drug
- oxygen
- pain relief (ie paracetamol, ibuprofen) that is needed regularly or administered for more than 72 hours (3 days) in a week.

Who is responsible for providing medication to the education and care service?

The parent or guardian is responsible for providing all medication and administration equipment. They should be encouraged to give and collect any medication in person where possible. Where this is not possible, the education and care staff, in consultation with the parent or guardian, should discuss and agree on safe methods of transport and transfer.

All medications must be provided in an original pharmacy container and have a pharmacy label with:

- child or young person's name
- date of dispensing
- name of medication
- strength of medication
- dose (how much to give)
- when the dose should be given
- other administration instructions (ie to be taken with food)
- expiry date (where there is no expiry date the medication must have been dispensed within the last 6 months).

First dose

Children and young people should not be given a first dose of a new medication at an education or care service. Due to the dangers of an adverse reaction the first dose must be supervised by a parent, guardian or health professional. An exception to this is emergency medications, including Ventolin or adrenaline, and midazolam (where this has been prescribed).

Three times a day administration

Generally, medication that requires administration three times per day can be administered outside of school hours. At home in the morning, after school and in the evening.

Medication 'to be taken as required', 'as directed', or 'PRN'

Medication that is labelled 'to be taken as required', 'as directed', 'PRN' (or similar) doesn't provide enough information and can't be administered by the education staff.

The medication agreement must say the time of administration. Education and care staff can't make a clinical decision about when to give medication based on a child or young person's symptoms or behaviour. An exception to this is where there is an:

- emergency medication management plan to administer midazolam for seizures
- ASCIA action plan for anaphylaxis or allergy that includes adrenaline or antihistamine on the plan
- asthma care plan that includes Ventolin on the plan.

General use emergency response medicines

Education and care services can store and administer the following general use medications for emergency response (does not apply in family day care or respite care program):

- adrenaline autoinjector (EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr or Anapen®) for emergency treatment of anaphylaxis
- reliever puffer for example salbutamol (Ventolin®) for emergency treatment of asthma.
- Pain relief such as paracetamol or ibuprofen are not permitted in education and care services as medication for first aid. They can mask signs and symptoms or serious illness or injury.

Controlled drugs

Controlled drugs (also known as drugs of dependence or Schedule 8 drugs) are prescription medicines that have a higher potential for misuse, abuse and dependence. The use of drugs of dependence are regulated by the Controlled Substances Act 1984 and the Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011 and monitored by the Drugs of Dependence Unit (DDU).

Controlled drugs that may be prescribed to children and young people and administered in an education and care service include psychostimulant medication for the management of ADHD, for example methylphenidate (Ritalin®) or dexamphetamine

Schedule 8 (controlled drugs)

- Schedule 8 (controlled drugs) have high potential for abuse and addiction. The possession of these medications without authority is an offence. The doctor must have a permit to prescribe schedule 8 medications. The possession of these medications without authority is an offence.
- Medication agreement must be completed by a health professional.
- Authorisation to administer controlled medicines must be completed by principal or director and authorised staff member.



Unscheduled medications

Medications that are sold in other retail outlets (ie supermarkets) in addition to pharmacies (ie. antacids (e.g. Mylanta®, Gaviscon®), throat lozenges, paracetamol, aspirin, ibuprofen must be accompanied by a Medication agreement form completed by the parent or guardian unless it is for pain relief medications that are required to be administered more than 72 hours in a week, the 'agreement' section must be completed by health professional.

This information is provided by the Department for Education, Medication Management Procedure, March 2024.

All medication and care plan forms are available from the front office of the school.

For further information or clarification in regards to medication management, please contact the front office on 8629 2150.



WE ARE HOLDING A JOLLY SOLES FUNDRAISER!



Year 4/5 Fundraiser

Pick up your order form or see samples at
Library or Front Office

Thank you for supporting our cause!



Jolly Socks Family Business that provides socks to raise funds for your group



Please complete the order form below if you wish to order and share with your family and friends if they would like to support our wonderful group!

All orders in by: **26/09/2024** to: Office or Mr Rode or email to: malcolm.rogers514@schools.sa.edu.au

Price each pair **\$6.00**

Samples are displayed at: **CAS Library and Front Office**

NAME: Style	CONTACT NUMBER:				XL Men AUS 10-14	Total Pairs	Total \$
	XS Kids 4-6 yrs AUS 9-10	S Kids 8-11 yrs AUS 12-5	M Girls 10th, Teens & Women AUS 14-5	L Women & Men AUS 8-10			
Sharks							
Jellyfish							
Sheep							
Cats							
Lobster							
Seagulls							
Fox							
Jellybeans							
Icecreams							
Sushi							
Coffee/Cocktails							
Donuts							
Crabs							
Odd Socks Purple/Blue							
Odd Socks Purple/Orange							
Odd Socks Black/Green							
Odd Socks Blue/Black							
Bacon & Eggs							
Basketball							
Soccer							
Horse Riding							
Swimming							
Tennis							
Bikes							
Bees							
Avocado							
Hamburgers							
Apples							
Total pairs/coast							

Scan QR code to view designs

Account Name: **Cowell Area School** Account Number: **105-105** Account Number: **390001940**

Amount: \$ exp cvc

PAYMENT OPTIONS

While we endeavour to always deliver socks ordered, if we run out of a particular design, we will replace with something similar in the same size.



WHISPERINGS

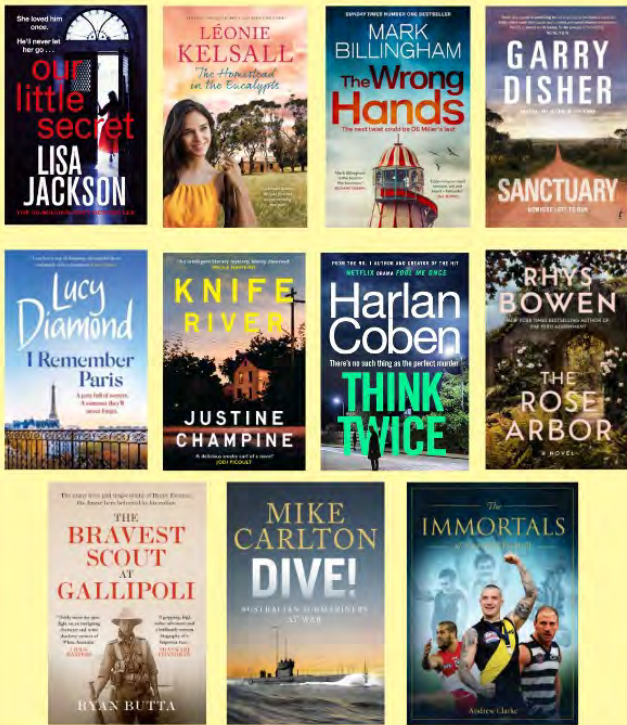


Libraries SA

from Cowell School Community Library

Week 7

NEW RELEASES



Join us Friday night for a Girls' Night In with Kylie & Larie.

Curious which jeans flatter your shape? Want some tips on slimming your silhouette?

Grab a friend and join us for a fun night in.



GIRLS' NIGHT IN

Friday 6th September
6.30pm @ Cowell Library

Nibbles provided
BYO Drinks
RSVP Preferred

\$50 voucher up for grabs



CHAIR YOGA



After much success with our Firstival - Try your first armchair yoga class, Lynda is now starting regular classes.

Classes will be held on alternate Tuesdays, starting 10th September at the Uniting Church Hall. Sessions are \$10 per class and run from 11am - 11.45am.

For more information contact Lynda on 0428 191 962.

Save the date
Tuesday Oct 17th @ 2pm
Family History Class
with Di Woods

Storytime & Baby Bounce - Canceled

Tuesday 10th September

Scholastic Book Club order forms are due back to the library by **Friday 6th September**. Orders can also be placed online through the Scholastic Loop App.

Book Club



P: 8629 2320

E: cowell.library@libraries.sa.gov.au