Dear Parents,

A wonderful contingent of Cowan students headed off to Canberra last week to learn about the Australian Government and also experience some other fun activities that Canberra has to offer. All of our Years 4, 5 and 6 students travelled to Canberra and were great ambassadors for our school. Wherever we went, comments were made about what a lovely, polite group of students Cowan were. We visited Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, National Museum, Questacon, Institute of Sport, National Archives and other areas of Canberra. We were even able to fit in a couple of games of Laser Tag! I feel that was the one part of the trip the children did not enjoy. Miss Daly and myself were very proud of all the students who attended. Our annual Campers of the Year were chosen from this excursion and they were Jessica and James. They will be presented with their awards on Presentation Night.

There was great excitement all day on Wednesday as the children were counting down the hours to the Cowan Disco held on Wednesday afternoon at the Community Hall. It was great to see so many of the children attend and enjoying themselves with their peers. The teachers and I were very impressed with the dancing ability on show and the manners of the children when it was time to eat and drink. A big thank you to all the helpers, especially Jan Carroll and her family for putting it all together. What a fun afternoon!

The Summer PSSA League Tag competition resumed today and both our teams played extremely well. All games are played at Foxglove Oval and the teams are the same as who played in Term1. For today and next Friday the games are played in the afternoon with the children leaving at 12.30pm. Just a reminder that all PSSA games will revert back to morning time in Term 4.

The NAPLAN results have arrived at school and all children in Years 3 and 5 who sat the tests were given their result letters last week to take home. Our overall results were very good. As I mentioned earlier in the year, at Cowan Public School we don’t “teach to the test”. As educators we have a far more holistic approach to the schooling of your children. Parents should be aware that a quality report by a professional teacher encompassing a range of measures over time, accompanied by a face-to-face discussion, is a far better indicator of student capabilities than a NAPLAN report.

Saturday 25th October. Remember the date. This is the day that we are celebrating Cowan Public School’s 75th Anniversary. It is now only 6 weeks away. There is still lots that needs to be done to make this the best day we have had at Cowan for many, many years. The rest of this newsletter details important information about the 75th Anniversary.

Until next time.
Paul McSweeney
Principal
Here’s What’s Happening On The Day...

12.30—4.30pm:
On our oval: Jumping Castles, Activities for Children (Sand Art, Balloon Art, Face Painting, Pluck-a-Duck, and more to come) and RFS Activities.
On our tarmac areas: Stalls (Jewellery, Plants, Candles, Homemade Soaps, Showbags, Student Parliament stall running kids activities, and more to come). There’s food stalls too: Naturally Juicy & Nachos & Crepes, Berry Melt Ice-creams, Cheese Makers, Fresh Fruit & Veg, and more.
There’ll be raffles and silent auctions.
The P&C will be running their famous BBQ fare all day.

We’ll have entertainment too, in the COLA: Turramurra School Band, Mr Rowland’s band, Hornsby Pipe Band, Gary the Postman, and some local home-grown talent.
The Art/Maths room will be transformed into a Classroom Museum.
The Computer Room, the school’s original building, will be opened at specific times for any former students etc. to have a look at how it’s changed.

Last but not least, The Narnia Bookshop Café in the 4/5/6 classroom...please see article below.

5.00pm:
Official Ceremony consisting of speeches, cake cutting and culminating with a performance by our very own Cowan Dance Group.

6.00—8.00pm:
Cowan Bush Dance with Mrs Kershaw’s band and all our favourite dances.

Phew! It is going to be a very busy but fun-filled day. Our students are very excited about the day and having an active part in enjoying, but also helping out on, the day.

Of course the day cannot take place successfully without the dedication and effort by staff, students and our families. We will need our families’ help. Stay tuned, as we will be asking all our families to give little pockets of their time throughout the day to help out at various activities; whether to man the jumping castle, or help out in the café etc. for 30-minutes at a time. Of course, the P&C BBQ will also need volunteers.

We know that you want the day to be a success too, so we look forward to you enjoying the day and also giving a hand.

The Narnia Bookshop Café
The 4/5/6 classroom is going to be transformed. This venue will be a sensational café serving, coffee, tea etc. and delicious cakes during the day.

Within the café there will be a Children’s Book Fair courtesy of Central Books. All book sales will benefit our school.

Donations of the following items to assist in the success of our café will be gratefully received. Please record your name and donated items in our 75th book at the school office.
- Cakes, slices and biscuits
- White, light blue and silver balloons
- Large sheets of white plastic and or white sheets (these will be used to drape over the walls)
- Silver, white and snow spray paint
- Christmas trees in green, white or silver (for our Narnia winter wonderland theme)
- Silver tinsel
- Epsom salts
- Handmade craft items to sell
- Donations of chocolate products for one of our raffles.

P&C SPOT
- Working Bee: Sunday 19th October from 9am. Please register your interest with Jo Young. Many hands make light work, and we want our school to look sparkling for its big day!
- BBQ Volunteers for 75th: The BBQ will be operating for the entire celebrations, so we will need volunteers to cook, serve and sell. A signup sheet will be available shortly.
- Next Meeting: Thursday 16th October at 9am.

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Staff:
- Principal: Mr Paul McSweeney
- Srn Admin Manager: Mrs Marie Hope
- Classroom Teachers: Mrs Cate Ruzek, Mrs Mary-Lynne Jansons, Miss Clare Daly
- Library, Class & Visual Arts Teacher: Mrs Lynne Scanes, Mrs Carina McSweeney
- Learning/Support Teacher: Mr Tim Rowland
- Technology Lessons: Mrs Lynette Hodder
- School Admin Officer: Mrs Carole Adnum
- Teacher’s Aide: Mr Mark Janssens

Cowan Public School … a vibrant and caring learning community