Dear Parents,

We are already six weeks into our final term for 2015 and things are not slowing down here at Cowan. Since the Twilight Markets, the children have been working hard in their classes and have, this week, been completing their end of year testing. These test results make up part of their achievement levels on their reports which will be going home on Friday 11th December.

It was great to see many of our families and children in 3–6 attend the Interrelate sessions at school last Wednesday. The sessions were very informative and I am sure many discussions have been happening at home since the evening. On Monday, we were very fortunate to receive a visit from a group of Year 8 and 9 boys from Normanhurst Boys High School. They have visited the school in previous years and our children were very excited to see the boys performing again. The Year 9 Drama Class have been learning Circus tricks this Semester and put on a show for our children. The Year 8 boys had made up story books in English lessons and shared them with our students. It was a very enjoyable morning and we thank Normanhurst Boys High School for coming to visit.

On Wednesday, the school held its annual Remembrance Day Service. Due to the wet weather, the service was held in the 4/5/6 classroom and it was great to see some of our Cowan family members come along and be part of the ceremony. I must commend all the children for the way they behaved and respected the service. It is so important that our younger generations know the meaning of days like Remembrance Day and ANZAC Day.

We are down to the final couple of weeks for the Friday PSSA League Tag competition. We have seen great results from both teams over the season. Two weeks ago, the Junior team had an exciting 3–3 draw against Asquith and the senior team beat Asquith 11–9. Unfortunately, last week’s matches against Mt Colah were washed out. Today we played against Hornsby North. Two weeks ago our Years 4/5/6 children participated in a League Tag Gala Day at Foxglove Oval and had some impressive results against schools that are much bigger in size than us. Both teams had wins on the day and can be very proud of their efforts. The boys team were ably assisted by three Mt Colah boys on the day.

…..continued Page 2
Starting on Monday and continuing for the next two weeks, all students K–6 will be participating in the **Department of Education Special Swimming Scheme**. We believe it is extremely important that all children are competent swimmers by the time they reach high school. The Swim Program is this year being held at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. Our students will travel by bus each day. Permission notes have already been sent home and should already be back at school.

Year 6 will be holding their annual **Mini Fete** this year on Tuesday 1st December. Years 5&6 have started their planning for the day and a note about the day will be going home shortly. A BBQ will again be running on the day so all children can purchase a sausage sandwich for their lunch. The Mini Fete is a fundraiser that Year 6 hold to help pay for the cost of the Year 6 Farewell and also a Year 6 gift to the school. Just a reminder that the **Year 6 Farewell** is being held on Monday 7th December at Asquith Golf Club. All Year 5&6 students attend the evening. Family members are also welcome to attend the official part of the evening.

The **end of the Financial Year for school** is November 30th. This is a very busy time of year for Mrs Hope. It would be much appreciated that **all school costs owing for this year be paid by Friday 20th November** so the yearly rollover is as smooth as possible. **We still have many Term 4 invoices outstanding and, unfortunately, invoices from earlier terms!**

A reminder about our end of year events:
- **Wednesday 9th December** is the date of our end of year **Presentation Night**.
- The whole school will again be attending a **fun day** out. This year we will be going to Bobbin Head on Friday 11th December.
- **School reports** will be going home on Friday 11th December.
- Our **Platinum award winners** will be having their special day out, or trip, on Tuesday 15th December.
- The **final day of the school year** is Wednesday 16th December when a **Talent Quest** will be held.

As you can see, lots still happening at Cowan.

Until next time.
Paul McSweeney, Principal

**Adventure Writing Day…**
Wow! What a day! Cowan students went on a daring journey at Cowan’s 3rd Adventure Writing Day. The day began with anticipation as the students had no idea with whom they would be writing. They had to find their partner by locating the other half of their adventure story clue.

We were delighted to have a published author present, Mrs Rennie, to share her tips and give insight to her inspirations for her books. The students collaboratively planned and published adventure stories using information they had been given during the power stations; characterisation, figurative writing and sensory/setting writing. The students did splendidly and, as always, rose to the challenge.

**P&C SPOT**
- **Bunning BBQ**: A very big thank you to all our chefs and sellers at Bunnings last Saturday, for giving up part of your precious weekend to raise funds for our school. Between Bunnings and the Rush Hour BBQs we were able to raise approx. $1,500.
- **Next Meeting**: Thursday 26th November at 9.00am in the School Library. All welcome.

I would like to thank the mentors; Lily, Holly W, Joel, Grace, Kai and Thomas who helped guide the day, especially in the power stations. We look forward to the 4th Cowan Adventure Writing Day next year.
Miss Daly

**Intensive Swim Scheme…**
- **Monday 16th** —Thursday 19th November, and
- **Monday 23rd** —Friday 27th November.
- **NB**: No swimming Friday 20th November.
- 1.10-2.05pm
- Hornsby Swimming Pool
- Travel by bus
- Cost included in Term 4 Costing

**Term 4 Costing…**
- K–6—$130 per student
- Please make these payments at the School office by **Friday 20th November 2015**

**Outstanding Fees…**
We still have outstanding fees by some families from previous terms. **These payments should be made as soon as possible and definitely by Friday 20th November 2015**.

**School Times…**
We would like to remind students and their families that students should not be in the school grounds before 8.20am and after 3.00pm (this is a legal requirement by the DET) unless they are attending an assigned activity at school, ie. OOSH, Percussion Group, music lessons, Dance Group etc. **School supervision is not available before and after these times**, also this is a time when teachers are preparing lessons and marking and should not be disturbed by students. **Student siblings of attendees at any of the above should remain with the group or under the supervision of their parent.**

**Whooping Cough…**
We are informing our school community of a confirmed diagnosis of Whooping Cough in the school, and that those who are particularly vulnerable should be aware, ie small children and those with low immune systems. For information on Whooping Cough please go to the following Dept. of Health webpage:  http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Pertussis.aspx.
Salvo’s Christmas Appeal...
We will be collecting new toys and non-perishable food items again this year for the Salvation Army, if you would like to contribute. These can be dropped off in the collection tub in the School office foyer, and should be received by Friday 4th December. Thank you for your support.

Cake Days...
- Our next cake day is Wednesday 2nd December with the Duncan, Gocher and Bottomley families providing. Thank you to these families in advance.
- If your child forgets their cake money on cake day, we do allow IOUs, however, we ask that these be paid by the following cake day.

Student Parliament Report...
Student Parliament sat yesterday with the following motions and outcomes:
- Buy a cookie machine—Seconded and Passed to the Minister for Primary Education.
- Buy toys for the 2016 Kindys—Not Passed.
- Hold a School Record Day—Seconded and Passed to the Minister for Functions & Social Services.
- Hold a Games Day—Not Passed.
- Have class pets—Not Passed.
- Bring back having ‘clubs’ (leisure groups)—Seconded and Passed to the Minister for Functions & Social Services.
- Paint the poles outside the toilet block—Seconded and Passed to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs.
- Hold a Guide Dog Donation Day—Seconded and Passed to the Minister for Functions & Social Services.

The relevant ministers will now take these matters to the Principal for discussion.

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Positive Behaviour Focus...
Week 6: RESPONSIBILITY

**ASPIRE** : Be TIDY and look after your belongings.

Week 5: ASPIRE

**RESPECT** : Celebrate your own and others' SUCCESS

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RESPONSIBILITY—Be TIDY and look after your belongings:
It is your responsibility to look after your belongings, but you can also help everyone to keep the whole school tidy.

ASPIRE—Celebrate your own and others' SUCCESS:
Be pleased and proud of yourself when you achieve success. Be pleased for others and congratulate them when they achieve success. Also avoid boasting about your success at others’ expense, and also avoid being a ‘poor loser’ when things don’t go your way.

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**THE ATHLETE’S FOOT HORNSEBY**

REWARDS PROGRAM IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF COWAN PS

The School Rewards Program is a great fundraising opportunity with $5 from every pair of shoes purchased being donated back to your school. This applies to the whole family across our fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes. Ask one of our friendly staff in store for more details.

$5 FROM EVERY PAIR OF SHOES PURCHASED IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

LOWER GROUND FLOOR
WESTFIELD SHOPPINGTOWN

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Cowan Band

For all students in years 3-6 in 2016

Band fee is $200/term, including 10 band practices, 8 lessons and an instrument

Lessons available outside the band $150/term for K-6

Band rehearsals Tue 7.30-8.45am. Lesson times TBC.

Cowan Band

Cowan School Band
Chandler Avenue, Cowan
Tel. 9456 1065
Email: CowanSchoolBand@yahoo.com

COWAN BAND
PARENT INFO

Dear Parents

We are pleased to announce that CPS Band will be commencing 2016. We are now looking for commitment from our tutored students to enrol in the Band. Every student in the tutoring program in years 3-6 in 2016 can join. The cost is $200/term. This will provide you with an instrument to practice on, 8 lessons as you are doing now and a band rehearsal with our Band Conductor Narinder Vacearella every Tuesday morning before school. It will also include a few performances in Terms 3 & 4. Tutoring will continue as is for those who are not joining the band for $150/term. There will be new lessons starting later in the year for any new students interested in joining the program.

Please discuss this with your child and let us know what you would like to do. We hope most of our current students will join CPS Band. Please email us your decision ASAP but no later than 11.12.2015.