Dear Parents /Caregivers,

The school plays an important role in supporting our local community. There are often pressures on families and community members in relation to employment, family situations and finance. We all contribute to the fabric of the community and as such the school would like to hold a FREE BBQ and ICE CREAM for students, parents and volunteers (school and kindy) as a way of showing our appreciation for all the times you help us out. This event will be held NEXT THURSDAY 14th May at 1:05pm. This event is being put on by the SRC, Parents and Friends and the Inter Church Council. Please come along and help celebrate the great community we have in Cowell.

NAPLAN

Just a reminder that students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 will be sitting the annual NAPLAN tests next Tue – Thur 10th-12th May. Students will complete testing in reading comprehension, writing, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy.

Congratulations

I would like to acknowledge the following students who have excelled in both academic and sporting pursuits in recent weeks. It is wonderful to see students striving to do their best and work towards our goal of higher standards of achievement. Well Done.

ABC Young Writers Award – Callum Guidera, Tori Hanold, Oscar White

SAPSASA Football/Netball – Dale Franklin, Callum Guidera, Oscar White, Abbey Mills, Ruby Cook and Mikayla Flavel.

Thank you to Tanya Williams, Matt Franklin, Steve Magnay, Sharmain Turner and Tracy Mills who supported the students by providing transport, umpiring and team management at the trials.

Road Parking Changes

I would like to inform parents, carers and community about the recent changes to parking in front of the school, kindy and community library. Whilst the pedestrian crossings have been completed by council, parking arrangements are still progressing. Please note the cordoned off areas where parking will no longer be permitted between the crossings. There will be increased 90 degree parking along the kerb in front of the school to compensate and increased hard parking where staff currently park. Please be patient and continue to exercise care as this is a high traffic area, particularly at the end of the school day.

Please note;
- 25kms (both crossings and between)
- Please do NOT drive through the school oval area (West Tce – Story St). This is out of bounds to all non-authorised vehicles.

Environmental Sustainability Award

The Cowell Lions Club president, Mr Geoff Turner has presented a shield to the school as a memorial award to the late Mr Jim West. Mr West made a significant contribution to the Cowell community in relation to agricultural practices and environmental sustainability. The memorial shield will be awarded to a student/s who demonstrate a worthwhile contribution to the local environment. This award will be presented together with a $250 bursary at the presentation evening.

Thank You

Thank you to Milton and Gaye Napper who have made the kind offer to donate all money raised through recycling of the Cowell Foreshore Caravan Park bottles and cans until the end of the year, to the Middle School Camp fundraising effort. This is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,
Jan Burton

Mid Year Exams

In line with the school’s Site Improvement Plan and support for our senior students to achieve greater success in their studies there will be mid-year examinations held for Years 9 -12 students. The examination timetable will be set for week 7 beginning Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June and the examinations will be held over three days. Further details for parents / caregivers will be sent home via students at a later date.

Work Experience

The Work Experience programme for the Year 11 students will be held in week 8, from Monday 15th June to Friday 19th June of Term 2. The work placement forms will be sent home this week with students for parents/caregivers to complete.

Bob Combes
Acting Deputy Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 2

WEEK 3 12-14/6 - NAPLAN
14/5 - FREE Sausage Sizzle & Ice Cream
   All Welcome

WEEK 4 19/5 - Yr 7 Excursion & Sleepover
20/5 - Yr 8 Immunisations
21/5 - Yr 7-12 Motivational Media
      Presentation

WEEK 5 25-29/5 - SAPSASA Football/Netball in Adelaide

WEEK 6 2/6 - School Photo Day

WEEK 7 8/6 - Public Holiday
9-12/6 - Mid Year Exams Yrs 9 to 12

WEEK 8 15-19/6 - Yr 11 Work Experience
19/6 - End of Semester 1

WEEK 9 22/6 - Start of Semester 2
NAPLAN 2015

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are scheduled to sit the NAPLAN tests from Tuesday the 12th May until Thursday the 14th of May (week 3, term 2) at Cowell Area School.

Students’ abilities in literacy and numeracy will be assessed. Literacy is assessed through reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar. Numeracy is assessed through number, algebra, measurement, chance and data, and space.

Parents/Carers whose children are due to sit these test should have received a green coloured letter with more information from the school through your eldest child. If you did not receive a letter, please make contact with the school through your child's class teacher or through the front office and we will issue another.

CANBERRA CAMP FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Parents/caregivers of students who are currently in Years 6, 7 & 8 should have received a letter home in regards to the Middle School Canberra Camp scheduled to happen next year. If you did not receive one of these letters please contact the front office who can arrange to send a copy home for you.

This camp is creeping up on us & if we are to keep costs for families to a minimum then we need to do some serious fundraising.

If you are willing & able to help out with fundraising then please come to a meeting on Wednesday 3rd June at 3:30pm in the Library.

The more helpers we get the more money we can raise & the less effort each individual person has to put in.

Australian Mathematics Competition 2015

The Australian Mathematics Competition is open to all students in years 3-12. Students participate in various categories based on age and there are some great prizes up for grabs!

Last Year, we had in excess of 30 participants and 90% of students attained a proficiency or higher certificate. This is a record for our school and schools in our state.

This year the competition will be held on Thursday 30th July.

If you would like your child to enter please fill out the slip below and return to myself via the box in the school office by Friday 29th May. There is no cost to you for your child entering this competition.

Dylan Milton
Senior School Maths/Science Teacher

Japanese Visitors

On Wednesday 29th April we had a group of Japanese business people, from Nakatsu City, visit our school. The purpose of the visit was to look at the school’s aquaculture training centre and our oyster lease. The group consisted of Mr Masakatsu Shinkai the Mayor of Nakatsu City, Mr Kenichi Hirotsu the Director of Fisheries Promotion in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Department, Mr Yohei Ogawa from the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Department, Ms Izumi Yanagida from the Oita prefecture Fisheries Cooperative and Mr Masafumi Nozaki Director of Nazaki Co. Ltd. BST Japan. Mr Geoff Turner showed the group around the school and took them on a tour around the harbour to look at the different oyster leases.

The visitors showed a great interest in how we deliver both Vocational Education Training and mainstream academic subjects in the school’s aquaculture programme. They listened intently when it was explained to them about the history and success of the course, in supporting the local aquaculture industry, and how many students have used the qualifications gained to be successfully employed in the aquaculture industry or gone on to further tertiary study.

Although the visit was short it was an excellent opportunity for Cowell Area School to share its unique aquaculture course with the overseas visitors, who will take the information given to them and share it with the wider aquaculture industry in and around Nakatsu City.

Bob Combes
Three Year 7’s Win ABC Radio Story Competition

At the end of last term the Year 7s entered the ABC North and West Radio story writing competition. They had to write a story 500 words or less, with the theme “imagination”, which needed to feature a local icon or landmark. Out of over 60 entries, there was one winner and a runner-up and 10 Highly commended entries. Three students from our class were in the highly commended list, they were Callum Guidera, Tori Hanold & Oscar White.

We were very excited to have so many winners. The radio said they thought all of our entries were great and very creative. Only 6 schools were winners.

The winners were announced on ABC radio last Friday morning. The students will read their stories out on radio (at a date to be advised)

Judges were from the SA Writer’s Centre, Meg’s Bookshop in Port Pirie and Radio 891.

Well done Tori, Oscar & Callum—we are very proud!

Local Legends

CRACK! “Bloody hell, nearly split the barrel with that one Rob,” explained Lionel with a grin on his face almost as bright as the clouds. Lionel was a talkative fella, but a cracker of a shot, could shoot any deer between the eyes, hence his name Lionel Deer.

“Don’t stand there yapping like a constipated galah, shoot that roo!” yelled Rob. CRACK! “Sorry old Skippy boy, but your T.V days are over,” said Rob looking smug. Rob McFarlane was a hard bloke but quick smart, he was a Vietnam Vet. Some say he had a sixth sense. Old Lionel always thought that was bull’s dust.

“Sure is peaceful out here in the scrub, no tourists, no roads, no problems!” said Lionel whispering to himself.

“Alright Lionel, let’s get home before the missus gives us a tanning!” exclaimed Rob.

“You could use a tanning, you’re as white as my great aunt’s hair!” Lionel laughed. Rob swerved on the road, trying not to hit the pack of skinny camels.

“Pull over yah fool! Those are sick camels out there, we got to help them. Something sparked in Lionel that day, something about those camels. He took them home and fed them.

Three days later... BANG!

“What the hell was that!” yelled Lionel. They raced back to Cowell in Lionel’s ute, kicking up dust and barely saying a word. Rob looked very stern at this point, however Lionel was singing Mission Impossible quietly to himself.

“What the hell is that?” yelled Lionel. They were both staring at a huge plasma dome. That terrorists had put up to keep everyone in the town inside. It was madness. Rob had been in a war but nothing like this. People in black suits, armed to the teeth holding everyone hostage shooting at their friends and family.

“You know what we have to do... back in Vietnam we ran a base takeover, except we used the local life to help us. They stampeded them while we disarmed them, and barely any deaths... we need to use your camels to help us!” said Rob with a sympathetic look in his eye.

“No! They’re still sick, they’re of no use to you!” yelled Lionel.

“No! We need them!” yelled Rob. Trying to force a smile. They grabbed the camels and headed to the dome.

“Righto fellas we can go through the generator, but we can’t come back out. There’s no retreating” said Lionel. “Well it’s now or never lads, charge!”

They sprinted to the generator with the camels trampling all the terrorists.

“Get em Betsy. Smash their power generator,” encouraged Lionel, galloping on the back of one of the camels.

“Bloody well done! Betsy” growled Rob.

“Huh it turns out that the terrorists attacked Cowell to try and barter us off to some Poms, like some common sheep!” scoffed Lionel. “Fools,” snorted Rob.

“All in a day’s work?” laughed Lionel.

“Indeed, feels good being a local legend doesn’t it?”

“It sure does old friend... it sure does....”

By Callum Guidera
An opportunity has arisen for students to learn either a Brass or a Woodwind Instrument via the videoconferencing facilities at Cleve & Cowell Area Schools in 2015 with Mrs Anna Davidson from Kimba Area School.

Lessons are offered on Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet and Trombone to students in Year 5 and above. Students will attend a ½ hour lesson once a week grouped according to ability / experience and/or instrument. These lessons will occur at the same time each week. Once or twice a term Anna will come to visit students and have a face-to-face lesson. Students are expected to develop a routine of home practice to reinforce skills learnt.

Students can choose to hire or buy instruments as appropriate. The school hires its’ own instruments or, if they are not available from within our resources, from Musicorp in Adelaide. Prices for 2015 are as follows:

- Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone: $219/year
- Alto Saxophones: $360/year

Learning an instrument has so many scientifically proven benefits to children and adults, particularly development of fine motor skills, aural awareness, memory and literacy and numeracy skills.

Interest in this innovative music programme can be registered by contacting the front office staff for further details.

Mr Bob Combes
COMMUNITY NEWS

COWELL BOOK CLUB – CHANGE OF DATE
The next meeting of the social book club will now be on Thursday 7th May at 6 p.m. in the Commercial Hotel to discuss the current book, *The Chimney Sweeper’s Boy*, by Barbara Vine. New members are always welcome to attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Is back for term 2 this Sunday 10th May at 10:00am. This Sunday is Kids Church and all children of all ages and denominations are welcome, as well as their families and friends. There will be a cuppa and cake on afterwards so bring along something yummy to share!! See you all there (9:50 if possible) Meagan Franklin.

SA Excellence in Public Education Awards
*Share Celebrate Reward*
Nominations are now open for the 2015 SA Excellence in Public Education Awards.
The Awards recognise and reward the outstanding contributions made by teachers, leaders and support staff from across the state.
Don’t miss your chance to nominate an outstanding education professional within DECD to recognise and reward their dedicated and inspirational contribution to young South Australians.
For more information and to nominate an employee at your school or preschool go to: [www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/awards).
Like us on facebook and follow the progress of the Awards: [www.facebook.com/SATeachingAwards](http://www.facebook.com/SATeachingAwards).
Nominations close 5pm, 3 July 2015
For further information contact the Awards team on 08 8226 3079 or email DECD.Recognition@sa.gov.au

COWELL FOOTBALL NETBALL CATERING
The Football/Netball Canteen is a major source on income for both the football and netball clubs, please support the canteen and bar by working your shift or by finding a replacement if you are unable to do it.

**THURSDAY 7TH MAY**

**Kitchen Roster**
6-8pm
Rod Crettenden, Karen Grigg, Terrie Williams, Chlo Walker & Brad Wiseman
8pm—Clean Up
Nikki Hackshaw, Laura Walker, Ethan Grigg & Nick Kirby

**Bar Roster**
6-7:30pm 7:30pm-9pm 9pm—Close
Mark Grigg Alex Todd Buzz Fiegert
Spike Wiseman

Mother’s Day
Cowell Golf Club
Mixed Ambross Sunday 10th May @ 11.30am
Presentations followed with a raffle and Roast tea of chicken & beef with roast vegetables and a assortment of homemade sweets

Adults $15.00 ahead
Children $5.00 ahead

RSVP Wednesday 6th May
Di Hanson 040708442
Donna Roberts 0427292322

The Commercial
THE WEDDING IS OFF!!
The Grooms are being left at the alter but the Party must go on!
COMMERCIAL HOTEL COWELL
SATURDAY MAY 23RD
6PM

2 Course Dinner
ENTERTAINMENT BY GAVIN CHANDLER
LIVE AUCTION
TICKETS $45 EACH TABLES OF 10 AVAILABLE
DOOR PRIZES

PROUDLY FUNDRAISING FOR VARIETY THE CHILDREN’S CHARITY
WEAR WHAT YOU WOULD TO A WEDDING
KAYLEEN TURNBULL, Dip. Nat.

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