It is important to acknowledge their achievements and efforts and think about ways they could improve together. If your child will not be here on the day, you can arrange for a sibling to collect or they will be available at the front office on that day and for the next week.

**Staffing**

We have managed to fill some more vacancies since last week. Congratulations to Malcolm Rogers who has been appointed to the R-6 Coordinator position and Michelle Ottens who has been appointed to the Primary Counsellor position. We look forward to having both Malcolm and Michelle as part of the Leadership team in 2017. Congratulations also to the following SSO’s who have been reappointed to contract positions for 2017 – Maria Papilo, Michelle Beinke, Deb Carlaw, Ruth Tonkin and Nicole Turner. Jodi Gregory has won a position at Rural Care and we welcome Rajesh Khanduri to our school. We are also excited to welcome Jack Burton to our staff, many of you will know Jack as a former Cowell resident – we’re sure he’ll enjoy his time here.

**Instrumental Music**

Unfortunately Jane Smith will not be continuing her private music lessons in 2017, we would like to thank Jane for the work that she has done with our students in instrumental music. We are currently in negotiations with a replacement instructor. If you would like your child to continue with piano, please speak with Jane. If your child would like to commence instrumental music in 2017, please contact the school.

**Parent Opinion Survey**

It’s that time of the year when we ask parents to give us their opinion on the work that we have been doing to support student learning at school. Included below is a link to the survey but we also have hard copies available from the front office, if you would rather. The office will be open next week if you wish to collect a hard copy. Can you please take the time to fill it in – one survey per child (don’t try to answer for all of your children, as their experiences are different). We really appreciate your input into what we do.


A big thank you to the entire school community for all of the support that has been shown to the students and the school over the year. Without all of our parents, families and volunteers, we would not be able to achieve the things we do. Have a safe and happy holiday break with your friends and family and we will see you in the new year!
Catch up with a Cowell kid by Mac Cotter & Lachlan Harding

This week Lachlan Harding and I caught up with some of the students from reception to Year 2/3 and we talked about what they’re enjoying at school and what could be improved. The students we caught up with were Haylee Magnay, Jai Gregory, Madison Lewis-Couzner, Ava Walsh, Quintin Fisher and Lincoln Fisher.

One of the questions was “If you could go to any school in the world where would you go?” Madison Lewis-Couzner said she would stay at this school because you make good friends, Ava Walsh said Port Lincoln because it has a bigger playground and last but not least Lincoln said Isabella State school because it has a cafeteria and a big playground and that’s where he used to go.

Another question we asked was what do you want to be when you grow up. Haylee Magnay said she wanted to be a hairdresser when she leaves school because she thinks it will be fun. Jai Gregory said he wants to be a policeman so he can put people in jail. Ava wants to be a professional netball player because she likes playing netball and finally, Lincoln said he would be a zookeeper because he likes animals.

We also found out what the students enjoy about our school. Quintin said he likes lunchtime because it is a break from working. Jai says he loves written language because he can write stories. Madison said she liked science because doing experiments is really fun.

Another question was what do you think could be improved at school. Haylee said she would like to do more science experiments with the older kids because she loves doing practical experiments. Quintin said we could do more writing of stories and we could bring electronics into the school to play games and things. Jai thinks we could have more playtime and do less working at the school.

The one last question we asked was how do you think we could make our school more welcoming. The kids did find that a bit difficult to answer but Lincoln did say we could put a big welcome sign out the front.

A big thanks to the students for answering all our questions.

THANKYOU

I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to everyone who has helped me this year. It’s been a huge learning experience and I’ve enjoyed my year as Deputy. I hope everyone has a peaceful and happy Christmas season - I’m looking forward to working with you again in 2017.

Colleen Peters
Deputy Principal

2016 School Magazine Orders

Please note that the Magazine will not be ready for collection until Wednesday 21st December. The front office will be open between 8:30am and 4pm up until Friday 23rd December, if you would like to call in & collect your Magazine before then please do so.

DECEMBER
15/12—Lily Gregory
17/12—Imogen Kuhn
18/12—Joel Jackson
19/12—Grace Chopin
24/12—Ruby Cook
30/12—Jamie Magnay

JANUARY
3/1—Hamish Russell
9/1—Emily Walker
13/1—Thomas White
14/1—Charli Barrett
16/1—Taj Crettenden
17/1—Ruby Crettenden
20/1—Zac Crettenden
22/1—Ella Fiegert
24/1—Cameron Smith
25/1—Travis True
27/1—Lilliana Crettenden
30/1—Zoe Flavel

COWELL AREA SCHOOL
2017 BOOK COLLECTION

• Invoices will be forwarded to families early 2017 for the 2017 School Materials and Services Charge.

• We ask that you present this invoice/s for payment on collection of your books on:

Tuesday, 24th & Wednesday, 25th January 2017 from 11.00am – 3.00pm

• Books will be dispatched from the Library (next to the Front Office).

• Payment can be made via:
CASH / CHEQUE / CREDIT CARD/EFT

(Please make cheques payable to Cowell Area School)

• If you wish to discuss payment options, we ask that when you collect your child’s books you make an appointment to see our Finance Officer.

• Term 1 2017 commencement date for students is Monday, 30th January 2017.
Duke of Edinburgh Award

Last weekend Luci McFarlane, Tori Hanold, Tahlia Zanet, Callum Guidera and Jamie Smith ventured to Mambray Creek to complete the Adventurous Journey component of the Bronze Award. Participants planned the journey, organizing and cooking their own meals and equipment and making decisions together. They camped two nights in tents or swags. Meals were cooked on trangia as fires weren’t allowed. Participants completed two walks – Hidden Gorge (18km) and Mt Cavern (12km). They enjoyed the wildlife which included 5 goannas, 1 snake, 1 particular ‘drunken and majestic’ emu, various kangaroos, some very loud and hungry kookaburras and a few eagles. Everyone had a turn at leading the group – this required some map reading and use of a compass. The warm weather on Sunday meant for an early start, we were on the track by 6.15am – with the bus packed and campsite cleared!

The students displayed great qualities such as team work, perseverance, hard work and respect. It was a pleasure to be with them. They all enjoyed the experience, particularly relaxing under the trees in the campgrounds.

Overall, ten students from the Cowell Area School were involved in the Duke of Ed Award in 2016. Laura Walker is completing her Gold Level; Lexi Williams the Silver Level; Tayla Bastiaens, Mikaela Harding, Katarina Zanet, Tahlia Zanet, Tori Hanold, Jamie Smith, Callum Guidera and Luci McFarlane were all participating at the Bronze Level.

The Duke of Ed Award recognises team work, initiative, service to community, being active, learning new skills and being adventurous. Thanks to all our volunteers in the community who have helped lead the Duke of Ed participants through various sports/activities, services and learn new skills in 2016.

Colleen Peters
Year 6-9 Youth Voice Group Report

During term 3, a group of students from Years 6-9 started meeting on a regular basis. The group of students were put together as a result of a resilience survey that all students in Years 6-10 participated in earlier in the year. These students were tasked to look over some of the data from the surveys and then come up with some ways that we could aim to improve the data.

The group came up with mentoring as a theme. There are many benefits to mentoring. Some benefits of mentoring include the promotion of healthy and positive relationships, literacy skills, self-esteem, confidence and social skills. Mentoring supports practices that are said to build resiliency.

As well as games that the students have participated in at lunch time, older students have worked with younger students in Years 2-6. Some students have cooked, others have demonstrated science experiments and some have joined together in sporting activities.

Library News

New this Week!

**Adult Non-Fiction**
- Try Hard by Em Rusciano
- Resilient by Mitchell Johnson
- Seriously you have to laugh by Peter Fitzsimons
- Songs of a War Boy by Deng Thialk Adut

**Adult Fiction**
- Nest by Terry Goodkind
- The Games by James Patterson

**Teen Fiction**
- Barefoot on the wind by Zoe Marriott

**Children’s Fiction**
- Coco Caramel by Cathy Cassidy
- Fortune Cookie by Cathy Cassidy

**Children’s Picture Fiction**
- The Crayon’s Book of Numbers by Drew Daywalt

School Holiday Library Times

Tuesday—Thursday
8.30am—4pm
Closed
30th Dec—9th January
& Public holidays

School Holiday Program

Wednesday 11th January
Recycled craft 10am-12pm

Wednesday 18th January
Angry Birds Movie, 1pm-3pm Rating PG

For teenagers:
- Girls afternoon with sewing and beauty
- Ghostbusters Movie Rating M

Follow us on Facebook to find details of when teen events will be held.

Keep up to date with the latest school news and upcoming events by liking us on Facebook.
**FAMILY CHURCH**
The last family service for the year will be held this Sunday 18th December at 4:00pm at the Lutheran Church. The children will be performing their annual Christmas play interspersed with an excellent selection of Christmas carols. At the conclusion of the evening we will have a BBQ tea so please bring meat, salad and drinks to share! Merry Christmas to all from the Cowell Lutheran Sunday School.

**RA’NA DANCE STUDIO**
We will be putting a float in the pageant this year, if your little or big dancer would like to be part of it, please let Miss Jasmin know 0427527646.

**COMMERCIAL HOTEL—BAND ‘FUNNY BUSINESS’**
Come and enjoy an evening of music from ‘Funny Business’, with Leo, John, Rob Beinke & Dan Guidera at the Commercial Hotel on Friday 23rd December from 9pm onwards.

**VACSWIM AT COWELL POOL**
Vacswim will run at the Cowell pool from 9th to 13th January, with an onsite enrolment day on Friday 6th January from 10am to 1pm or you have the option to enrol your child/children online at: vacswimsa.com.au

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**CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES—ALL WELCOME**
Christmas “Eve” service, 23rd December after pageant at 8:30pm. Christmas day, Catholic church 9am, Gospel Hall Breaking of Bread 9am, Lutheran Church (Cleve) 10am & Uniting Church 9am.

**SAVE THE DATE**

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**COWELL LIONS XMAS PAGEANT**
**FRIDAY 23RD, DECEMBER 2016**
ASSEMBLE AT COWELL BOWLING CLUB FROM 6pm
PAGEANT COMMENCES 6.45pm

EXCELLENT PRIZES FOR BESTFLOATS, DECORATEDBIKES & WALKING GROUPS
INCENTIVE PRIZES FOR ALL CHILDREN

FATHER XMAS WILL DISTRIBUTESWEETS, STOCKINGS & DRINKS IN THE INSTITUTE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PAGEANT

RAFFLE TICKETS TO SUPPORT THE EVENT AVAILABLE IN FRONT OF IGA ON THURSDAY’S 1st, 9th, 15th & FRIDAY 23rd.

ONLY $1 A TICKET

COWELL LIONS THANKS ALL WHO HAVE MADE GENEROUS DONATIONS OF MONEY & GOODS

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**WHYALLA DENTAL CARE**
Dr Mark Paneras and Dr Nicholas Wood have extended Whyalla Dental Care to Cowell, located at Dr Ochrock’s Medical Practice every Wednesday.

- Whyalla Dental Care is a family practice offering all aspects of dentistry.
- If your child is eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Scheme (Medicare) their appointments will be bulk billed.
- Private health insurance cards for Hicaps claims as well as Eftpos facilities are available.

Please phone the Whyalla Practice on 86441111 for all appointments.
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Friday 2:30pm to 4:00pm
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Phil Cook 0428 158 282

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Cowell
0427 296 000

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Regarding your connection
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Michael Whinford Lic: PGE 1007

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Learn Boat Handling,
Radio Procedure, Navigation
Training—Monday—1700-1900hrs
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Commodore: Dale Bailey
0429 054 969
Vice Commodore: Malcolm Brine
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Wishing all of our customers merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

James Airconditioning & Refrigeration
0428 884 281

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