

Cowaramup Primary School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 9

About us

Cowaramup families have a strong connection and association with Cowaramup Primary School.

Throughout the years, Cowaramup Primary School has been characterised by high quality teaching and support staff who have set high literacy and numeracy standards, resulting in excellent academic achievement and progress.

Our school prides itself on developing a positive school culture through managing behaviour in an educative, supportive way.

From the Principal's Desk

We all wish the students selected to represent our school in the Interschool Cross Country running race the very best when they compete against other schools across the Capes in Margaret River this Friday. I am sure they will all strive to perform at their very best.

On the last Friday of term, we will be holding our Buddy Group day in the morning where students will participate in a number of activities with a range of teachers in their buddy groups made up of students across different year levels.

It will also be a time where we share our school history and talk briefly about the Gracetown tragedy and the various memorials that we have within our school and at Cowaramup Bay. You may also see some



individuals placing flowers at the base of the school flag pole in the memorial garden throughout the day in memory of those that lost their lives that occurred 24 years ago.

The P&C will be providing a free sausage sizzle for all students on this day. It will be a fun way to finish Term 3!

Over the holidays work will be done on the row of trees between the Kindergarten classrooms and the car park to the north of our school. These trees have been inspected by an arborist and will be pruned to make them safer and to remove any that are deemed unsafe.

Some new flagpoles will be installed as well, so that we can fly the Australian flag, Aboriginal flag and the Western Australian flag. We thank the Hon Nola Marino for providing the Australian and Aboriginal flag and the Hon Libby Mettam for providing the West Australian flag.

The flag poles will be installed behind the school sign for all to see.

Our Year 6 students will be using the holidays to prepare and pack for their adventure camp in the first week of term 4. This camp is exceptional and will challenge each of them and develop team work. I am sure that each of them will have a magnificent time.

I hope that everyone enjoys their holiday break as we prepare for a busy but joyous term 4.

Peter Howse

Principal

Look who popped in for Pikelets with the Principal



Cowaramup Primary School becomes 'Owl Friendly'

Owl Friendly Margaret River Region is a volunteer project designed to tackle the problem of poisoning of nocturnal birdlife and other fauna by rodenticides. A parent member, Suzanne Anderson approached Cowaramup Primary School to see if we would become 'Owl Friendly' by ensuring our pest approach included the following:

- USE traps rather than baits to control rats and mice without harming wildlife.
- USE only the less harmful baits containing the active ingredient coumatetralyl (e.g. Racumin) or warfarin and carefully follow package instructions.
- DO NOT USE 'second generation anticoagulant rodenticides' with difenacoum, brodifacoum, bromadiolone or difethialone.
- Take great care with storing and placing baits so that pets and wildlife such as possums in your garden can't reach them.
- Live traps rather than lethal traps enable release of any unintended wildlife captures.



Cowaramup Primary School has eagerly embraced the opportunity to contribute to making the Augusta Margaret River Region a safe haven for owls and other wildlife from rodenticide poisoning. For more information visit www.owlfriendly.org.au .

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 3—2020

SEPTEMBER

Friday, 18 Sep

Interschool Cross Country

Years 3-6

Monday, 21 Sep

Assembly PP2

Friday, 25 Sep

Last day of Term 3

Buddy Day

TERM 4—2020

OCTOBER

Tuesday, 13 Oct

First day of Term 4

Tue 13 Oct—Fri 16 Oct

Year 6 Camp

Monday, 19 Oct

Assembly Room 3

Book Week Dress Up Parade

Celebrate Book Week with a Dress Up Parade - Mon 19 October



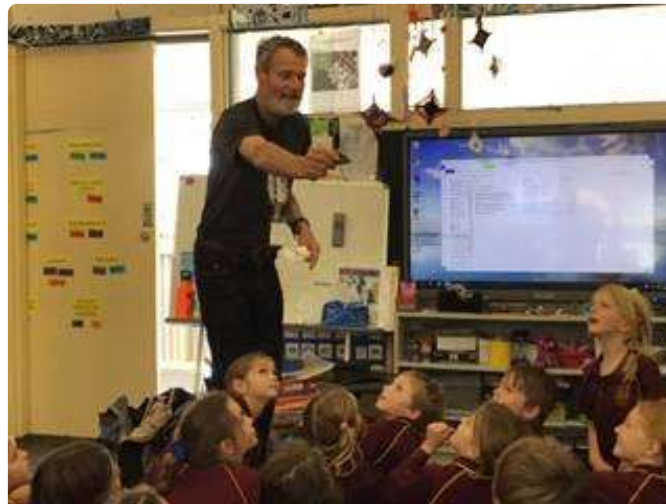
We will celebrate Book Week on Monday 19th October with a Dress Up Parade. Following the Room 4 assembly, we will parade our amazing costumes. Children are asked to dress up as a character from a book with this years' theme being "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds".

Thanks in advance to our amazing parents for helping to make this happen.



'Owl Friendly' visit to Rooms 3 and 4

Rooms 3 and 4 were lucky to have a visit from Boyd Wykes, a retired ornithologist (expert on birds). Mr Wykes is volunteering his efforts to support the Owl Friendly project and provided loads of interesting information on owls and other wildlife local to the South West area.



A day after a visit from Boyd Wykes (the 'Owl Man'), Mrs Hopkins took this glorious snap of someone who clearly knows of our "Owl Friendly" status.

Year 4 Big Adventure

The year four students from rooms five and six had an action packed three days of adventuring around the district in week six.

We learnt about sustainable farming and innovative technologies at Fair Harvest Permaculture Farm. Everyone was most interested in the compost toilet and compost shower systems.

Tuesday, we spent exploring our region underground where we discovered the realms of Lake and Mammoth caves. We learnt about the formation of the caves, the geology of the region and how the stalactites and stalagmites form. We all felt proud of ourselves after we had walked up all those stairs.

On Friday we learnt about the operations of local government when we visited the shire offices. We even took on roles of councillors and officials and held a mock meeting. Little Ninja's Fitness centre challenged us to swing and leap, including an obstacle course and a hanging competition.

By Friday afternoon we were all weary and so settled in for a movie and popcorn at school. We had a wonderful adventure. The results of the survey we gave the students showed they thoroughly recommend a big adventure to future year four students.

Thanks to the parents who came and supported us and to the children for their exemplary behaviour.



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Dam Excursion 2020

A huge thanks to all of the students, parents and grandparents that came to Duggan Dam. Thankfully, it didn't rain as predicted and the students were able to find, document and observe macroinvertebrates. After studying the various elements in the habitat, students industriously collected a wide variety of macroinvertebrate, these were logged and students were passionate in their desire to study and tally various species.

All students behaved with excellent manners and with attention to detail. Michelle, the leader from Margaret River Conservation, commented on how the students were meticulous and focused. My favourite quote from the day was, "We found a Dragonfly nymph and it breathes through its rump!"

I was really proud of the way that students from Rooms 9 and 10 conducted themselves today and they should be really pleased with their efforts. - Ms Barbara Land



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Pre-Primary enjoy new Sports Equipment

Our Pre Primary students thought that all their Christmases had come at once when a recent delivery of sports equipment was unpacked and incorporated into our daily outdoor play environment.

We would like to thank the Cowaramup P&C for the generous gift of \$500, which purchased these much needed and appreciated resources.



Year 6 Catchment Tour

Our area is in an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot with significant natural values and some good quality waterways. The natural environment underpins our lifestyle and our local industries. It does however face a number of threats that require on-going care and action.

The “Our Patch” program is a locally developed education program that connects students to the local environment and community. It builds students ecological awareness through science, activity and interaction in the environment and connection with local experts and land holders. Recently, the year 6's went on a full day local catchment tour with Michelle Keppel from Nature Conservation, Margaret River, as a major part of their learning. Thanks to the Cowaramup Lions Club for helping to fund this great program.



"Hands On" Biology

The Year 5's have been studying biology in Science. In conjunction with STEM, Rooms 7 and 11 have been making some great discoveries and enjoying the 'hands on' experience. Some of the activities were edible which made it that little bit sweeter!



School Banking

School Banking is every Thursday morning from 8.30am - 9am in the library. For more information please contact or see Sarah Porter or visit: School Banking



FROM THE LIBRARY



Scholastic Book Fair!

We are pleased to announce we will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair in Term 4, Week 2 on Friday, 23 October 2020.

Book Fair provides an opportunity for students and parents to purchase fabulous and affordable, quality range of books on the day. Book Fair will be held in our school library.

Our school receives commission from purchases which helps to supplement our library budget and enables us to purchase additional resources for our school.

If you are able to spare an hour or two on the day to help Nich in the library please contact her on 9756 5400 or Nichelle.dodd@education.wa.edu.au

We are so grateful for your support!

FROM THE OFFICE

Rapids Landing Dental Therapy Centre Closed for the School Holidays

Rapids Landing Dental Therapy Centre will be closed for both weeks of the Sept/Oct school Holidays Monday 28th September through to Friday 9th October. The Dental Clinic will re-open on Monday 12th October at 8am.

In the event of an emergency during this period please contact your local family/private dentist or phone 9754 4460 between the hours of 8am-4pm. If parents need to re-schedule an appointment during clinic closure please email RapidsLandingDTC@dental.health.wa.gov.au or phone 9757 8211 outside the closure period.

Uniform Shop opening hours during School Holidays

Due to the long weekend at the start of school holidays, Uniform Concepts in Busselton will be closed from 5pm on Friday 25th September, re-opening during week 2 of the school holidays at 8.30am on Thursday 8th October.



In addition, over the Christmas holiday break the uniform shop will be closed from 1pm Saturday 19th December 2020 and reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 8.30am.



Easy to Pay

Remember any payments can be made by Direct bank deposit, cash or EFTPOS. Cash or EFTPOS payments can be made in person at the Administration Office or over the phone. When making Direct Bank deposits please include the student name and year.



Canteen will be closed on 23 and 25 September

Please note that the canteen will be closed next week on Wednesday and Friday. It will only be open on Thursday 24 September for the last week of Term 3.

Buddy Day Sausage Sizzle

The P&C will be providing a complementary Sausage Sizzle for students on Buddy Day - Friday 25 September (last day of Term 3).

Volunteer helpers would be appreciated. Please contact the P&C via their facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cowaramupSPC> if you can help out.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Holiday Cinema @ HEART!

Tickets on sale at Box Office and at www.margaretriverheart.com.au!
Doors open an hour before each movie.

Daytime Cinema

All tickets \$8 each



100% Wolf

Tuesday 29 September - 11am



Star Wars Episode VI: Return Of The Jedi

Wednesday 30 September - 2pm



Red Shoes and the Seven Dwarves

Thursday 1 October - 11am



H is for Happiness

Tuesday 6 October - 11am



Trolls World Tour

Thursday 8 October - 11am

Friday 9 October - 2pm



Evening Cinema

Adult \$15, Child \$9, Concession \$12.50



Bill & Ted Face The Music



Friday 2 October - 7pm

PG

The Beatles: Eight Days A Week

Friday 9 October - 7pm

M

Monday 12 October - 11am

MARGARET RIVER

HEART

47 Wallcliffe Road Margaret River WA 6285

t 08 9780 5294 e contact@margaretriverheart.com.au

margaretriverheart.com.au | @margaretriverheart

The HEART will be complying with all WA Department of Health COVID-19 regulations

HEART Card Annual Membership

Become a HEART Card holder to receive discounted tickets, special offers & early bird access to pre-sale tickets for events at the Margaret River HEART!

Only
\$25.00!

What's On

September



Eight: The Shift - Photography Exhibition

Fri 7 August - Mon 5 October 10am - 4pm

David Dare Parker Film Photography Exhibition

Mon 24 August - Mon 5 October 10am - 4pm

Culture Club @ HEART: Parents & Kids Group

Every Monday 12pm-2pm, bring a rug & a smile for a relaxed get-together outside the HEART! All welcome. For more info, contact Jessie on 0432 421 841.

Cinema

Storm in a Teacup: Screening and Q&A

Fri 11 September 7pm, Bar opens 6pm

Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back

Sat 12 September 6:30pm, Bar/Kiosk opens 5:30pm

Young @ HEART: Over 60's

Mondays 10am - 12pm



Riversong Choir, Poetry by Erica Lumsden, and Recorder duo Margaret Affleck & Cecily Metcalfe

Mon 14 September from 10am



Yarning Nature Tribute Tree Meeting with Elders
Mon 21 September from 10am

Notice: Public Holiday Closure

There will be no Young @ HEART or Culture Club on Mon 28 September, as it is a public holiday and the HEART will be closed for the long weekend.

MARGARET RIVER

HEART

47 Wallcliffe Road Margaret River WA 6285

t 08 9780 5294 e contact@margaretriverheart.com.au

margaretriverheart.com.au | [@margaretriverheart](https://www.instagram.com/margaretriverheart)

The HEART will be complying with all WA Department of Health COVID-19 regulations



MARGARET RIVER TENNIS ACADEMY

Coaches: Pablo Gomez & Laura Roy
Email: mrtennisacademy@gmail.com

Contact number: 0478773520
Website: www.mrtc.org.au

We run the coaching program at the Margaret River Tennis Club and Cowaramup Tennis Club. Our goal is to bring tennis to people of all ages and levels. We aim to help people improve their skills and gain confidence on the court in a fun environment. For the younger children we use special modified equipment with smaller racquets and low compression balls to help them improve.

HOLIDAY CLINICS

1st Week - Tue 29/09 - Wed 30/09 - Thur 01/10
2nd Week - Tue 06/10 - Wed 07/10 - Thur 08/10

A fun way to enjoy the School Holidays learning how to play tennis and meeting new friends. No experience is needed to join in. We teach the basic skills of tennis and play fun games. Its for children from 6 to 14 year old and runs from 9am till 12 noon.

COST: 1 DAY - \$25 or 3 DAYS - \$70

AFTER SCHOOL LESSONS

Term 4 - 2020 - From 12th of October till 18th of December - 10 weeks				
MARGARET RIVER TENNIS CLUB				
Class	Days	Age	Times	Cost
Mini Tennis	Monday & Friday	3-5 year old	3.45pm-4.15pm	\$8 per class
Red Ball	Wed & Thur	5-7 year old	3.45pm-4.30pm	\$150 per Term
Orange Ball	Wed & Thur	7-9 year old	3.45pm-4.30pm	\$150 per Term
Green Ball	Wed & Thur	9-11 year old	4.30pm-5.30pm	\$165 per Term
Green Squad	Wed	by invitation	4.30pm-5.30pm	\$165 per Term
High School	Thurs	+12 year old	5.30pm-6.30pm	\$165 per Term
Yellow Squad	Wed	by invitation	5.30pm-7.00pm	\$200 per Term
COWARAMUP TENNIS CLUB				
Red Ball	Tuesday	5-7 year old	3.45pm-4.30pm	\$150 per Term
Orange Ball	Tuesday	7-9 year old	3.45pm-4.30pm	\$150 per Term
Green Ball	Tuesday	9-11 year old	4.30pm-5.30pm	\$165 per Term
Yellow Ball	Tuesday	+12 year old	4.30pm-5.30pm	\$165 per Term

- We offer a **FREE** trial lesson in a group for all new players in the After School Lessons (excluding MiniTennis).
- If lessons are rained out we will reschedule before the end of the Term or you can get credit for next term.
- For families we offer 10% discount for second child and 50% discount for third child, on group After School Program.

PAYMENT:

- **DIRECT DEBIT** : PABLO GOMEZ PUJALTE **BSB**: 062-514 **ACC NO**: 1034 8882
- **CASUAL**: We accept cash payment on the day with the requirement that **you inform us with as much notice as possible if your child cannot attend that week.**
- To **enrol or more info** visit www.mrtc.org.au or send an email to mrtennisacademy@gmail.com

LAMP OUTREACH

AUGUSTA CIVIC PARK (NEAR
LIBRARY)

MONDAYS 3.30 - 4.30PM



COWARAMUP HALL OR SKATE
PARK

WEDNESDAYS 3.30PM-5.30PM



**FREE SNACKS AND FUN
ACTIVITIES**

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH
AND FAMILY SUPPORT

...JOIN IN THE FUN...



Swooping Magpies during Breeding Season

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions would like to remind you the magpie breeding season is approaching. It is not uncommon for magpies to defend their nests and young during spring, by swooping intruders. The season may last for six to eight weeks during late August to December.

The information following contains precautionary steps that can be taken to avoid the swooping behaviour of magpies and other swooping birds which may be a very frightening experience for young children.

Enrol your children in VacSwim now at education.wa.edu.au/vacswim



Magpies – Swooping and Safety Issues

Identification and Distribution

The Australian magpie *Cracticus tibicen* (or *Gymnorhina tibicen*) is a large butcherbird with a black head, body, wing tips and tail tip with patches of white. The bill is blue-grey in colour, the legs are black and the eyes are brown. Males have a white nape, whereas females have a grey nape. Magpies are characterised by strong, rich and varied carolling.

The Australian magpie occurs throughout much of Australia, including bushland, farmland towns and other urban areas. Two of Australia's five sub-species occur in Western Australia: the western magpie *Cracticus tibicen dorsalis* occurs in the south-west and the black-backed magpie *Cracticus tibicen tibicen* is found in the central and northern regions. These two subspecies interbreed where their ranges meet. Refer to www.naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au to find further information on the species distribution.



Photo. P. Courtis/DBCA

Behaviour

The diet of the Australian magpie includes some plant material, but consists mainly of small animals that are found on the ground, including beetles, ants, spiders, lizards, frogs and carrion. They have very good hearing which allows them to locate lawn beetle larvae. They also eat other garden and farm pests and are valued as natural pest control agents.

Magpies breed between August and October and at least 2-3 ha (0.02-0.03km²) of territory is needed for pairs to successfully raise young. The female selects the nest site, which is usually in a tall tree, and constructs the nest from sticks lined with grass, roots and other fibres. Up to 6 eggs are laid and a new clutch may be laid if the first brood fails. The female incubates the eggs for about three weeks and feeds the chicks for about four weeks. Young magpies are forced to leave the territory by their parents within two years. They then join another group or take over a territory as part of an adult breeding pair. The young are vulnerable and many die within the first months of independence due to poor weather conditions, lack of food, road hazards and natural predators.

Magpies have a complex social structure and form tribes and flocks. Tribes consist of 2-10 birds of both sexes, which defend a territory of up to 8 ha (0.08km²). They vigorously defend this territory against other magpies because this is the area in which they obtain their food, build nests and rear their young. Flocks consist of birds that are young or too old to breed and are unable to form a tribe or gain access to a territory. These birds live in areas that do not contain sufficient water, feeding or nesting resources. The flock is nomadic as it moves from place to place in search of food.

Environmental Law

All fauna native to Australia, including fauna that naturally migrates to Australia, are afforded protection under both State and Commonwealth legislation.

Depending on the type of fauna-related activity, a licence issued by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions may be required. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, trade, keep or move them unless authorised by a permit. To obtain a licence, the applicant needs to demonstrate that all reasonable non-lethal methods have been attempted and environmental impacts have been assessed. Further information is available on the Department's website.

Magpie-Human Interactions

Magpies swoop to protect eggs and young from potential predators during the nesting season. They rely largely on intimidation to deter human intruders by flying low and fast, often clacking their bill as they pass overhead. The sound of their wings whistling past and the movement of air can be alarming, but is usually just a bluff.

If you find a sick or injured magpie contact the [Wildcare Helpline](#) on (08) 9474 9055 for information on registered wildlife rehabilitators and centres who can assist you with your enquiry.

Reducing the risk from swooping magpies

If you have problems with a swooping magpie, several avenues of action are open to you. Keep in mind that the birds swoop only during the nesting and rearing period (from August to October) and each bird generally only swoops for a few weeks during this time. If we can understand the catalysts and the patterns of magpie behaviour, we can greatly reduce the risk.

Living safely with magpies

The following steps can be followed to avoid or reduce the impact of a swooping magpie:

- Never deliberately provoke or harass a magpie. Throwing sticks or stones usually makes them more defensive. Magpies have good memories and they may continuously swoop a potential aggressor.
- Avoid areas where magpies are known to swoop. Remember, magpie hostility lasts only a few weeks and they usually only defend a small area of about 100m radius around their nest.
- Locate the bird and keep watching it when entering its territory. If it swoops, don't crouch in fear or stop: move on quickly but don't run.
- If you are riding a bike make sure you wear a helmet, and dismount and walk through nesting magpie territory.
- Wear a hat and sunglasses or carry an umbrella for protection. Magpies initially attack from behind but can swoop back around.
- Adopt a confident stance as this can have a strong deterrent effect.

Remember that the magpies are just trying to protect their young. Learning to live alongside wildlife is an important step towards building a better living environment, and observing and listening to magpies can be an enjoyable experience.

Taking a bird or nest from the wild is illegal without a permit and while such actions may temporarily stop attacks, it is not uncommon for another nesting bird to move in. It is better to avoid the area or live with the swooping bird for six to eight weeks until the chicks learn to fly and the problem ceases.

Citation

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. (2017). *Fauna notes: Magpies – Swooping and Safety Issues*. Retrieved from <http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/>

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For more information see the department's website www.dbca.wa.gov.au



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions