



NEWSLETTER

kongorong
primary & cpc
knowledge • pride • success

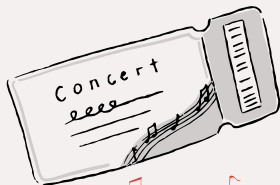
Issue 20 – 5 December 2024



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

DIARY DATES

10th December 2024
End of Year Concert &
Graduation



13th December 2024
Splash Day

Reminders

10th December 2024
Concert & Graduations

13th December 2024
Splash Day and
Last Day of school
Early Dismissal

From the Principal

Dear all,

In Term 3, our staff attended a Whole of Portfolio learning day, where we had the privilege of hearing from international keynote speakers on the importance of regular breaks in meeting the developmental needs of students and enhancing cognitive engagement. This prompted deep reflection on how we could apply this theory to benefit our school. Following this, a new timetable structure was proposed, and over the past term, we have consulted extensively with all staff, students, and the Governing Council.

I am pleased to announce that, after careful consideration and consultation, Kongorong Primary School will adopt a new timetable structure for 2025.

The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive. Students expressed excitement about the changes, offering insightful comments such as:

"We might get fitter and healthier"

"It will help us get our silly's out"

"Its good because we get more breaks" (this was a popular comment)

"If its easier to learn, we might get smarter" "We will get more exercise in the day"

Their thoughts on what could be challenging included managing heat later in the day, getting used to the new routine and it possibly feeling like a longer day with a later break.

Although not visible on the timetable template, students were happy to hear that fruit break and eating times remained the same.

As a teaching team, we have worked diligently to ensure our teaching and learning programs are structured effectively within the new 80-minute blocks. We are all excited about the potential to further enhance student engagement and learning outcomes with this change.

Further information will be sent to families regarding any implications for bus times. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,
Jamie

Principal: Jamie Ryan
UP Class: Morgan Cooper
LP Class & Kindy: Angela Jordan
Finance/Administration: Stacey Wright
SSO/Playgroup: Melissa Gibbs

NIT: Ross Mackenzie
LP: Talia Thompson
SSO: Marilyn Gordon
SSO: Micelle Schofield
SSO: Simone Block



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Japanese Visit

Last Wednesday, Sensei Rayna visited to facilitate a special whole school workshop. The session was centred around creating bento boxes, with a fun Genki theme—focusing on designing healthy and kawaii (cute) Japanese-style lunchboxes.

Students used simple ingredients to craft their bento boxes, making sure to include nutritious options while arranging them in playful and creative ways. The workshop was not only a fantastic way to explore Japanese culture but also an opportunity to learn about healthy eating habits. The students thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on experience and left with a deeper appreciation for the artistry and thoughtfulness that goes into preparing a traditional bento.

Thank you to our Sensei Rayna for sharing this wonderful cultural experience with us!



Science➔

In science classes this term the Upper Primary students have been learning about electricity. They have built battery powered circuits to light bulbs, experimented with conductivity and insulators, read about the history of electricity, and studied how solar and wind power work. In this photo they have built a solar oven to melt smores. When they discussed ways to improve the oven, magnifying glasses were experimented with to intensify the heat of the sun.



The Junior Primary class have been learning about sound and light. They have experimented with various instruments to see how sounds are created and learnt about vibrations, sound waves and how the human ear detects sounds. The students learnt how animals use echolocation. In this photo they have made shadow monsters to see how opaque objects block the light to create shadows. They have also reflected and refracted light using mirrors and water.



Brain Forest

As part of my role as the Autism Inclusion Teacher, I recently held sessions for both classes focusing on how our brains are all different. We started by reading the book "The Brain Forest" by Sandhya Menon, which explores the concepts of neuro typical and neuro diverse brains and experiences in child friendly language. The book also highlights how difference is a good thing and that the world would be a much more boring place if we were all the same. We then talked about our own brains and using set colours for different attributes, we painted a picture of our brain. Areas that we considered our strengths gained a larger patch of colour and those that were not had a smaller section. The activity was a lot of fun and also generated a lot of discussion. Our finished brains looked amazing and our own brain forest is on display in the front office. Come and check it out!

Angela Jordan



Transition Days at Kongorong Primary School

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week, Kongorong Primary School held our annual transition days, providing students with the opportunity to experience next year's class and prepare for their upcoming educational journey. It was an exciting time for all.

Our newest preschool student joined us, marking an important step in their transition into the school community. Additionally, our Year 6 students had the chance to visit their future high school for the day, experiencing a taste of what's to come as they prepare for the next chapter.

These transition days are an important part of supporting our students' growth and ensuring they feel confident and ready for the changes ahead. We look forward to seeing how these experiences help our students transition smoothly into the new year.

Breakfast Club – Call for Donations of Milo and honey

The Breakfast Club program has become a cherished routine at our school, and the students absolutely love it. We are grateful to Foodbank for their support, providing us with bread, milk, and most spreads. The only items we need to purchase are Milo and honey.

If families are able to donate these, it would be greatly appreciated.



Our school values— Working Together, Respect, Striving for Success, Honesty, Tolerance
Our school vision—We encourage a love of learning, a strong sense of self, respect for others and the desire to become good global citizens. We promote independence and responsibility as we guide our school towards a positive future.



Jamie Ryan –Principal



MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CLUB

OUT OF THIS WORLD

9 December 2024 – 19 January 2025

Sign up for Summer Reading Club and dive into an out of this world adventure for your chance to:

DISCOVER the hidden magic wand in the Library each day.

CONQUER the weekly challenge cards.

BLAST OFF to the finale party on 21 January 2025 at Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi.

4 CLUB AGE GROUPS: 0-5 / 6-9 / 10-13 / 14+

Weekly and major prizes to be won!

For more information check out our website and drop into the Library to register!

