Ardlethan Central School



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 17 WEEK 4 TERM 4

6 November 2025



Last Friday was World Teachers Day. We celebrated a little early at ACS with a beautiful surprise morning tea on Tuesday organised by students and SASS staff. Thank you teachers for everything you do. What a special team we have.





From the Principal...

Dear Families,

This term our secondary students have started their HPGE groups. These groups are designed to allow students to explore learning areas that are slightly outside the classroom and provide them with the chance to focus on building their skills and knowledge in a targeted area. The three areas that have been selected for Term 4 are fitness, coding, and dance. Miss Chen took the coding group to Wagga Wagga last week to experience a virtual world. School covered the cost of this trip as part of their learning journey, and the feedback was positive all around.

HPGE stands for High Performance Gifted Education and through this stream in learning students will be given opportunities to persevere, challenge themselves, and work towards a common goal with a variety of different people in an area supported through sports, the arts, and STEM. We will continue to explore different ways that we can enhance learning opportunities for all our students as we move into 2026.

We have been very lucky to welcome Laura Kitto to the school as she completed her placement with Miss Chen in Secondary Mathematics. As a local member of the community she has supported the learning of all her students with amazing grace and demonstrated all the things we cherish in teachers in the public system. We wish her well as she completes her qualifications and hope to see her back here in front of our students in the not-too-distant future.

Mrs Lord and I are headed to Orange next week to participate in three days of rigorous professional learning as part of the Rock and Water Program. We then head to Sydney in Week 7 where we are presenting on all the amazing things that have happened in ACS in supporting students explore career options in the rural and remote area that we all live in and love. I would like to publicly thank Mrs Lord for the countless hours she has committed to career exploration for our students. Her passion for the students at ACS is something to be proud of.

School Upgrades

We are in the process of having our lights upgraded in the school through the assets team as well as upgrades of some of our timber buildings. School is funding an upgrade to other areas including the wet weather shed in K-6. This space will be transformed into an outdoor learning area for Primary and allow them to have a place to leave half finished projects. Primary students are planning the murals to be painted on the walls as part of their Visual Arts lesson, and we have asked some of our school leaders to support them as their make their ideas a reality.

I have spoken with several secondary students about the next spaces to update and I know that Mr Osborne is going to be very busy getting the undercoats done, ready for painting to occur over this term and through into the new year.

We are in the planning stages of looking at how we can have the irrigation upgraded in the school agricultural area and all the external fences replaced. These items are completed through assets, and I am waiting for approval to move ahead with these big ticket items.

Kinder 2026

On Monday morning it was great to see our newest members of school already participating with all the other K-6 students in the morning fitness and social skills program, Play is the Way. Without prompting, older students supported our new students as they began to learn the skills needed to jump rope. Kinder 2026 then moved into the classroom and joined in with Year 1 in morning routines. If you know of someone who should be starting school and has not yet enrolled, please let us know and we will reach out. Also, if your child is coming to school next year, don't forget to bring them along to transition. There are four weeks of transition left with the 17th and 24th being full days of learning.

Wellbeing and Mental Health

As we move towards the end of the year it is a good time to remember the importance of taking care of our mental health and wellbeing. Through classes students are learning about resilience and taking responsibility for their actions. We know that as a community we face the extra challenge of having limited access to support services and as a school we are working tirelessly to find different ways to support the community.

There are some families who we have reached out to, and others we will be reaching out to in the coming weeks, as we work together to find ways to support all students in school. Thank you to all the families who maintain connections with school. We cannot be part of the solutions if we do not have a strong working relationship. Please let us know if you would like letters from school with our observations in supporting you to seek additional help.

Attendance

Below is a snapshot of our attendance as a school. The area I would like to investigate is the fact that we currently have less than 50% of students who are attending more than nine days in a fortnight. This is something that we are wanting to try and work out the 'why'. We know there are lots of different reasons and we will be digging a bit deeper to help plan for 2026 and plan better support for your families.

5 9
Students Enrolled

This includes all students that were enrolled in the period selected, including those that left during the period. Only the days enrolled are

86.6%
Attendance Rate

87.8%
83.6%
80.2%
Doe State
Network
SSSG

45.8%
Students Attending >=90% of the time

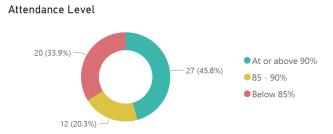
60.3% 59.3% 48.5%

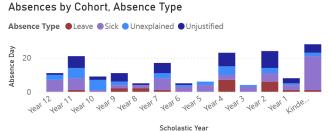
DOE State Network SSSG

100.0%

Attendance Data Completeness

School Attendance Level





~ Mrs Taylor



School Community **Charter**

Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.



We work in partnership to learning.



We treat each other with respect



We communicate in a positive and constructive manner.



We all play a part

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel safe and respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities

Unacceptable behaviour:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obsceniities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication



School Community Charter

Will your child be in year 7 or 10 next year?

Provide consent for your child's routine school vaccinations online.

At the beginning of the school year, your child's school will share the link to complete the online consent form.



More information on the school vaccination program: health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination

November 2023 @ NSW Health, SHPN (WPTD) 230834.

NSW Health

Ardlethan Central School One Off Canteen



10th of November @ Lunch Time Cash Only

Pre Orders to be at school by 9am

Pita Bread Pizza (Supreme, BBQ Meatlover or Cheese)	\$4
Meat Pie	\$4
Meatball Sub	\$5
Chicken Burger (with Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo and Cheese)	\$6
Flame Grilled Fillets	\$1
Toasties (Ham, Ham and Cheese, Cheese, Cheese and Tomato)	\$3
Milkshake(Choc,Strawberry,Vanilla, Caramel)	\$3
Juice Bombs	\$2
Nippy's (Choc or Strawberry)	\$2
Aloe Vera Juice	\$2
Iced Black Tea w/ Raspberry	\$2
ced Black Tea w/Peach	\$2

No App Orders, Cash ONLY!



Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS)

'All children should have a dental check-up by the time their first tooth appears or by their first birthday and be regularly seen by a dentist from that age onwards.' (Australian Dental Association)

Who is eligible?

You don't need to apply or register for the CDBS. If your child is eligible, you will automatically receive a letter in the post or through myGov to let you know. Eligibility is assessed annually and is valid for that calendar year.

To access the CDBS, your child must be all of the following:

- √ 0-17 years old for at least one day that
- 0-17 years old for at least one day that calendar year Eligible for Medicare at the time of service Receive an eligible payment from Services Australia at least once a year, or have a parent, carer, guardian who receives an eligible payment from Services Australia at least once a year

Check if your child is eligible

- You can check to see if your child is eligible for the CDBS this year by: checking your **Medicare online account**
- through MyGov at mv.gov.au, select 'History and statements,' then 'Child Dental Benefits
- calling Medicare on 132 011

Find out more about the eligibility criteria at servicesaustralia.gov.au/childdental

What is covered?

Eligible children can access a capped amount of services over 2 calendar years.

The services covered include:

- ✓ dental check-ups
- ✓ cleaning
- ✓ x-rays
- fissure sealing
- fillings
- ✓ extractions

At your appointment check what each service will cost and if the CDBS covers the full cost of those services.

The CDBS does not cover

- orthodontics
- cosmetic dental work
 any dental services in a hospital

Remembrance Day

Students will be participating in the Remembrance Day Service at the Hall on Tuesday 11th November, 10:30am.

lest we forget





ACS have entered the Litterarty Competition. We have to make Marine Creatures from 'Litter':

| Ring pulls | Egg cartons | Used bubble wrap | String/wool/netting off veges/fruit | | Plastic/foam cups/paper cups | Cardboard rolls from glad wrap/foil/baking paper | | Corks | Plastic straws | Plastic lids—any size

If you have any to spare, please drop it in to school—please don't buy anything specially for us! With thanks,

~ Ms Crosswell, Art Teacher

On Wednesday the 5th of November, primary school students from ACS went to Lake Cowal Conservation Centre. Students spent time exploring the edges of the massive lake and learning about the vegetation and wildlife that surround this seasonal wetland. Our activities included a guided bushwalk spent searching for footprints and other signs of wildlife, bird spotting and identifying, modelling creative insects from clay, and catching and observing tiny water creatures under the microscope.

Some highlights included the close up sighting of a wallaby, the discovery of some massive pelican feathers, and the sighting of the nesting whistling kite, the area's largest bird of prey.

Thanks must go to Mrs Minchin for organising the trip and to Sally Russell from the LCCC for running the day, everyone enjoyed their trip immensely. ~ Mr Thornton





PRIMARY
EXCURSION TO
LAKE COWAL
CONSERVATION
CENTRE

































Eli, Cailin, Autumn and I went to a VR escape room in Wagga. It was cyberpunk themed and Eli did most of the work (lol). There was a lot of climbing and coding involved. There was a giant white glowing tree where we all got lost. It was very fun and entertaining. My favourite thing was the climbing and the glowing tree

It was enjoyable =)

- Autumn

- Charlie

First, we came to school and hopped on the bus. It was me and Charles, Cailin, and Autumn, plus Ms Chen. We started to head to Wagga to get ready for our VR experience. It took a while, but we amused ourselves by making jokes and having fun.

We got there and we had a little snack before playing some VR. We walked there and it's a bookstore, but it had a secret room for the VR. It was behind a bookcase, so we walked in, and we got ready. Most of us were ready but it didn't work for others so we had to restart a couple of times. Then it worked so we started to play the game. It was cyberpunk themed and it is my favourite theme, of course.

We start and we had to go through a door, but we had to find out how to open it. Of course, it didn't take too long, and we had some powers to help us, so we used them, and we were able to get past some, but we got stuck.

So we looked everywhere but we found the button to get out and it was obvious. We got past more and harder challenges, but I did most of the work and helped everyone reach the end. It was very hard, but we were able to do it. So we finished and headed home just in time. We started to write for our last lesson, and then we headed home with heads hurting after all that hard work

We'd like to thank Mrs Taylor and Ms Chen for making this possible and letting us have a fun day.

- Eli





Year 7 and 8 have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen with Mrs Speirs.

We are following the FEAST program (Food Education and Sustainability Training) run by Oz Harvest. With fun and interactive cooking activities, FEAST allows school kids to understand the role food plays in our everyday lives and how to stop good food going to waste.

So far we have made:

- Spaghetti Bolognaise;
- Fast Veggie Fritters (plus optional bacon);
- Spanish Pan Omelette (plus optional bacon and cheese); and
- Taco Salad.

I have included the recipes so everyone can cook them at home. Enjoy!

~ Mrs Speirs

SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE



A great way to add vegetables and lentils

into an old favourite!



WHY WE LOVE THIS RECIPE





FOOD WASTE TIP

EQUIPMENT

Knife

Tongs

Colander

· Medium saucepan

Chopping board

Can opener Wooden spoon

Measuring spoonsMeasuring cups

Electric frypan

Leftover sauce can be eaten in a burrito or on a potato the next day.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1/4 pkt wholemeal pasta
- 1/2 onion, diced 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup diced/grated mixed
- vegetables (frozen, fresh, or tinned)
- 125g lean beef mince
- 1/2 tin lentils, drained & washed 1 tin diced tomatoes
- 1/2 tbsp dried mixed herbs
- ½ tsp pepper
 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar

- To serve: 2 tbsp low-fat tasty cheese, grated
 To serve: 1 small bunch fresh parsley or basil, chopped

Tip: to make this recipe a vegetarian option remove the lean beef mince



Add pasta to a large pot of boiling water. Stir through with a wooden spoon to prevent sticking and cook to 10-15 minutes, or until tender. Drain and set



Heat the olive oil in a large saucepan on a medium-high heat. Add diced onion stirring for 5 minutes



Add the garlic, dried mixed herbs, pepper and mince, stirring until mince is brown.



vegetables and lentils and stir well.



tomatoes and balsamic vinegar to the boil.



Serve the bolognaise sauce with pasta and a sprinkle of low-fat, tasty cheese and chopped basil or



STEPS

0

O

Place the flour into a

large mixing bowl and gradually add the milk

using a whisk or wooden spoon to combine

FAST VEGGIE **FRITTERS**











WHY WE LOVE THIS RECIPE

Wholemeal flour has more protein and a lot more fibre than white flour varieties!

FOOD WASTE TIP

A quick and easy way to use up leftover vegetables.

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup wholemeal SR flour
- 3/4 cup low fat milk
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp dried mixed herbs or spices
- (paprika, turmeric, coriander, chilli) 2 cup mixed vegetables, chopped or grated (fresh or frozen)
 ½ cup low fat crumbled feta or
- grated tasty cheese
 ¼ cup chopped fresh herbs
 (coriander, spring onion or parsley)
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Salt & pepper

Optional:

To serve: Low-fat Greek yoghurt or

Safety Tip: Be very careful when cooking with hot oil to avoid burns.

EQUIPMENT

- Wooden spoon
- Measuring spoons
- Measuring cups Large mixing bowl Small mixing bowl
- Chopping board Knife

- Fork
- Spoon
- Egg flip Medium baking dish
- Grater
- Stove top or electric frypan

Add 2 tablespoons of

Mix together with a

until well combined.

mixture for each fritter. Repeating to make about 2-4 fritters at a





Add the eggs.



Add the dried herbs or spices and season with salt and pepper.



wooden spoon or fork



Add in the vegetables, cheese and fresh herbs and stir together with a wooden spoon.



Place a large frypan on a medium-high heat and add olive oil.





When bubbles start to form on top, flip each fritter and cook for a further 2-3 minutes



Transfer cooked fritters to a warm plate and repeat steps 6-8 until the mixture is finished. Serve with low-fat Greek yoghurt or guacamole.

SPANISH PAN OMELETTE





WHY WE LOVE THIS RECIPE Eggs are a source of protein and contain lots of vitamins (A, D, B) and minerals.



FOOD WASTE TIP

No need to peel the potatoes, keep the skins on for a waste free meal.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 onion, diced
- 1 medium potato
- 1½ capsicum, thinly sliced ¾ cup green olives, pitted and
- chopped 3 eggs
- 1½ tsp smoked paprika ½ tbsp dried mixed herbs
- ½ tsp pepper 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp dried oregano 1/4 cup low fat milk Salt & pepper

- EQUIPMENT
- Medium saucepan
- Electric frypan
- Fork
- Wooden spoon
- Measuring spoons Measuring cups
- Knife
- Chopping board
- Mixing bowl

STEPS



Preheat the oven to 210°C. Put potatoes in a small saucepan and cover with just enough water. Place on high heat until potatoes are



Pour the onion mixture over the sliced potato and mix well. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Transfer back to frypan.



Remove the potato from the water and carefully slice. Place in a large bowl and set aside





In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs and milk together.



Pour egg mixture over potato mixture in the frypan and bake for 15 minutes or until cooked through.





CHEF TRAV'S TACO SALAD













WHY WE LOVE THIS RECIPE

Substitute the beef for an extra can of lentils for a meat-free meal.

FOOD WASTE TIP

Shop with a list to avoid buying food you won't eat.

INGREDIENTS

- ½ tbsp olive oil
- 125g lean beef mince
- 1/4 tin lentils, drained & washed 2 tbsp water
- 2 tsp taco seasoning (see side panel recipe to make your own)
- 1/2 tin corn kernels, drained 1/2 head (4 cup) iceberg lettuce,
- shredded
- 1/2 tomato, diced
- ¼ pkt (50g) corn chipsSalt & pepper

Optional

- To serve: 2 lemon wedges
- To serve: 2 lemon wedge:
 To serve: 2 Tbsp light sour
 To serve: 2 Tbsp light sour cream or guacamole

EQUIPMENT

- Electric frypan
- Wooden spoon
- Can opener
 Measuring spoons
- Measuring cups
- Knife
- Chopping board
 Mixing bowl
- Spoon

STEPS



Heat the olive oil in a large pan over medium heat. Add beef mince.



Mix well and cook for 5 minutes until thickened.



Stir the mince with a wooden spoon. breaking up the mince for 5 minutes or until it



Chop tomatoes and shred lettuce.



Add the lentils, taco seasoning and water



Place lettuce, tomatoes, corn and mince in a bowl and mix well. Serve with corn chips, sour cream or guacamole and a lemon wedge.

HOMEMADE TACO SEASONING (SERVES 4)

- 1 tbsp chili powder
- 1/2 tsp garlic powder
- ¼ tsp onion powder
 ½ tsp dried oregano
- ½ tsp paprika
- 1½ tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp salt1 tsp black pepper





LET'S FIGHT FOOD WASTE!







For sources head to: ozharvest.org/feast

GOOD NEWS!

WE ARE ALL PART OF THE SOLUTION, DO YOUR BIT AND LOVE YOUR FOOD!

Sign up to FEAST so your school can join the fight against food waste.

OZHARVEST.ORG/FEAST















It's Easy to Get Organised, Call us today!

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- New homes
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Email: office@felixjoinery.com.au | 5 Market Road, Leeton



TUESDAY IITH NOVEMBER

TODAY WE HONOUR THEM

Join Lions Club of Ardlethan on the IIth November for unveiling of the Andrew Whitehead Statue that honours those soldiers in our district that never returned home.

Service starts at IO:30am unveiling of Statue, followed by Morning Tea in the Soldiers Memorial Hall

For catering purposes please book with Kerri (0435 77I 887) or pop into Ariah 62

FOODWORKS Liquor



ARDLETHAN FOODWORKS

(02) 69782171

34, Ariah Street, Ardlethan

Groceries ~ Weekly Catalog Specials | Liquor Specials

BBQ Chicken | Deli Range | Fresh Fruit & Veg | NSW Lotteries

Meat sourced from Coolamon Butchery | Newspapers

Pies & Sausage Rolls (Ganmain)

TRADING HOURS

Mon - Fri 8:30am - 5:30pm

Sat 8:30am - 12:00pm

Sun 9:00am - 11:00pm

Attention Community Advertisers: If you do not wish your articles/advertisements or name, phone number, etc to be published on the school website please contact the school by telephone or email.





Drawn: 16th December 20 Tickets: \$5 each **Tickets available from Ardlethan** Central School Families or via the School Office. LIST OF DONATIONS MUSIKADEMY - MUSIC LESSONS X 4 VOUCHERS ARDLETHAN BISTRO BOWLING CLUB - VOUCHER LONDON HOTEL - VOUCHER RUSTIC RIDGE COUNTRY OUTFITTERS - GIFT VOUCHER. CAPITAL CHEMIST - GIFT BASKET - RICK FIRMAN'S MENSWEAR - WALLET NEW WAVE HAIR & BEAUTY - GIFT BOX ALICIA SEEDMAN - HAMPER & \$150 FLIP OUT VOUCHER ANNE COOPER PHOTOGRAPHY - FAMILY PHOTO SESSION SHELL TEMORA - BOX MIXED CHOCOLATES BECKOM ROADHOUSE - 5X \$25 FUEL VOUCHERS & 5 X HAMBURGER/CHICKEN BURGER, CHIPS & DRINK VOUCHER SRC BEARINGS AND HOSES - GIFT BOX REINHOLD'S BUTCHERY - XMAS HAM - ARIAH 62 - \$150 GIFT BASKET JJ & JORDY - GIFT HAMPER - GRUNT PORK - CHRISTMAS HAM DONNA & PAUL HORAN - POOL SEASON PASS ATHLETE'S FOOT- \$50 VOUCHER + SOCKS - BROOMES - \$50 VOUCHER SUPERCHEAP AUTO - DETAILING PACK - BCF - CAMPING CHAIRS WORKLOCKER GRIFFITH - OVERNIGHT BAG ODEMO MACHINERY - RIDE ON TRACTOR - BUNNINGS - \$50 VOUCHER VITAL AG SUPPLIES- \$150 VOUCHER

ARDLETHAN BRANCH HOSPITAL AUXILIARY of NSW

MARKETS START: 4:30PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS: 7:30PM

TO BOOK STALLS CONTACT SUE MOB 0429 968 967

CHRISTMAS STOCKING RAFFLE

\$2-00 per TICKET

LOTS OF PRIZES

TICKETS ON SALE IN THE MAIN STREET

NEAR SUPERMARKET on the

14th NOVEMBER

28th NOVEMBER

5th DECEMBER

DRAWN FRIDAY the 5TH

OF DECEMBER

TICKETS ON SALE AT

ARDLETHAN POST OFFICE

ARIAH 62 COFFEE SHOP

ARDLETHAN OP SHOP

ARDLETHAN PHARMACY

McDERMOTT ELECTRICS

Nutrition Snippet

LOVELY LEGUMES.

Legumes (chickpeas, beans and lentils) are nutritious, affordable and versatile making them an excellent addition to your family's meals.





Discover how you can incorporate them into your meals from breakfast to dinner.

Check out our top tips and FREE delicious recipes at healthymadetasty.com.au/blog/3-easy-ways-to-add-

legumes-to-your-meals/

healthymadetasty.com.au





Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia proudly presents International Entertainment Australia's...

2025 World Festival of Magic

The World Festival of Magic features world-class acts performing astonishing illusions, interactive magic, and comedy. Providing relaxed theatre performances for children, young adults and families in the Riverina Region.

Enjoy the "live performance" experience with a casual attitude to audience noise and movement in an accessible and inclusive environment, where you are welcomed and free to be yourself without restriction or judgement.

One hour shows. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory-friendly).
- who are facing hardship.
- are without access or opportunity to live theatre.
- *Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.

<u>ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY</u>, including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

*Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.



To book tickets, please email your name, preferred showtime/s and ticket numbers to...

meredithnewman@showintent.com.au or call / text 0404-367-782



Scan the QR Code to



LOGGED OUT (-

Skills for confidently navigating Australia's teen social media ban

Learn practical strategies for auditing current use and communities, backing up digital memories, and supporting vulnerable teens who rely on social media for connection.

Skills explored in the session include:

- managing conflict around compliance & circumvention
- dealing with sibling dynamics and age differences
- understanding the justification for the changes and preparing for the summer
- creating technology use agreements for all platforms (and family members!)



Former teacher with a Masters of Cyberpsychology





Registration is free, but required



What's Happening—November 2025

6 November Logged Out free webinar, online at 7:30pm

8 November Riverina Development Academy Netball program, Barellan Sportsground. 9:30am

Riverina Development Academy AFL program, Barellan Sportsground. 9:30am

11 November Remembrance Day Service and ANZAC Statue unveiling,

Ariah Street, Ardlethan, 10:30am

CWA Monthly Meeting, 12:30pm in the CWA Rooms

14 November Hospital Auxiliary Christmas Stocking Raffle tickets on sale in the Main Street

RRL Mobile Library in Ardlethan 9:00am—12:45pm

19 November 2025 World Festival of Magic, Charles Sturt University, North Wagga Wagga, 6pm

27 November West Wyalong Community Transport Bus to Wagga

28 November Hospital Auxiliary Christmas Stocking Raffle tickets on sale in the Main Street

RRL Mobile Library in Ardlethan 9:00am—12:45pm

29 November CWA Handicraft Day, 2-5pm in the CWA Rooms, \$2 per attendee



Do you want to receive these Newsletters by Email?

If you do, send an email to the school at: **ardlethan-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au** with your email address and it will be emailed to you every fortnight

Please forward advertisements/articles for the Ardlethan Central School Newsletter and the Kelpie's Bark to: ardlethan-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au Please type Newsletter Article in Subject Line. Closing time for advertisements/articles is 3pm Monday. Remaining Term 4 closing dates are 17 November, and 1 & 15 December 2025. Late articles will go in the following newsletter if still relevant.

