

Kootingal Public School

STAR NEWSLETTER

"Caring, Learning and Achieving Together."



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Website: <https://kootingal-p.schools.nsw.gov.au> Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/kootingalpublicschool>

Term 4 Week 4

Friday 7th November 2025

Fortnightly Awards



Merit Award
Dakota Blanch and
Nevayah Donaldson



Gold Awards

Dakota Blanch, Phoebe Brinkman,
Nevayah Donaldson and Abby Hogg



Silver Awards

Isabella Walsh, Nevayah Donaldson, Benji Swinfield,
Hunter Barnett, Riley Henderson, Hudson Hillier, Audrey Maher,
Cooper Baily, Abby Hogg and Nixon James



PBL Awards - Fortnightly

Fraser Clarke, Jax Seymour, Martin Fenner, Indie McIntosh,
Ellena Maher, Clancy Eccleston, Axyle Curry,
Jackson Price, Ella Seymour, Emily Moxon, Ellie Eccleston,
Lucas Sneesby, Indi Maher, Audrey Maher, Abby Hogg and
Lucas De Vries



Uniform Awards

Patrick Smith, Lily Squires, Ari Mackay, Eshanna Brijesh,
Isabella Walsh, Isaac Bennett, Ella Flemming, Dante Smiler,
Thomas Inskip, Emily Moxon, Chayce Tulley, Lachlan Witchard,
Audrey Maher, Cooper Lewis, Annabelle Inskip, Abby Hogg and
Tyrese Austin

WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO OUR



PRESENTATION DAY

MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2025
10:00AM
SCHOOL HALL

Executive Team - Relieving Principal - Rebecah Higgins
Assistant Principal - (Kinder to Year 2) - Nicole Chegwyn
Relieving Assistant Principal (Yr 3 to 6) - Miss Bennett
Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction - Michelle Lord

P & C Executive

President: Maree Merry Vice President - Nicole Chegwyn and
Secretary: Scott Tulley Rebecca Vanella
Treasurer: Anne-Maree McGrath



Thalgarrah excursion







A Fraction Too Much Fun in 1/2W



Fortnightly Bronze Awards



Tahlia Byrnes - Her consistent effort and improved results in all areas
 Charley Moxon - Her excellent InitialLit results and her continued commitment to home reading
 Charlie Stoddart - His confidence and engagement during reading groups
 Ari Mackay - A positive and settled start in KS
 Tyrese Austin - Wonderful participation in dancing
 Tom Jamieson - For showing persistence and problem solving skills in the PAT assessment
 Theodore Dubois - His persuasive text and using strong reasons to convince the reader
 Isabelle De Vries - Concentration when writing her persuasive text
 Hunter Ryan - His patience and focus during longer learning tasks
 Matilda Butler - Always being on task and trying her best
 Phoebe Brinkman - A sensational effort in learning about 1/2, 1/4 and 1/8
 Charlee Davis - Assisting others and showing initiative
 Tom Steers - Enthusiastic participation in Gamilaraay language lessons
 Zoe Lye - Enthusiastic participation in Gamilaraay language lessons
 Abeer Malik - Demonstrating a good understanding of symmetry in Mathematical lessons
 Benji Swinfield - Engaging in drama activities with Mrs Chegwyn
 Nixon Hawke - Engaging in drama activities with Mrs Chegwyn
 Levi Hazell - Engaging in drama activities with Mrs Chegwyn
 Kalem Marchant - Engaging in drama activities with Mrs Chegwyn
 Hunter Barnett - Continued engagement in our maths lessons
 Havanah Williams - Being a great role model for our 2026 Kindergartens
 Zac Pollard - Great engagement in our clay workshop
 Cooper Lewis - Great results in his maths assessment
 Ciara Cwach - Very persuasive arguments in the recent Big Write
 Maddison Bennett - Working hard in clay workshops and music room
 Lucas De Vries - Active participation in English lessons
 Thomas Capel - Active engagement in group tasks
 Charlotte Hunt - Effort and engagement in clay workshops

Mrs Higgins Principal's Message

Hello Families and Students,
 Term 4 is well underway with many exciting events happening and coming up. Please ensure you are regularly checking Sentral, our Facebook page, and this newsletter to stay up to date on all events and important information.

Excursions

Stage 2 had a wonderful time at Thalgarrah this week. With the theme of 'teamwork,' students tackled various challenges and tasks designed to build their skills. We were lucky enough to enjoy beautiful weather, excellent behaviour, and delicious food, which made the experience truly memorable. It was a pleasure to attend this excursion, and I feel very fortunate to have shared this experience with such a great group of students.



A big thank you to Miss Booby, Mrs Diehm, and Mrs Loftus for their hard work in regard to the excursion, and to Miss Bennett for her organisation. These events would not be possible without the sacrifice and commitment of our wonderful teachers. Additionally, Miss Magann took the remaining Stage 2 students to explore the local Kootingal community, followed by lots of fun activities back at school. I hope you enjoy the recounts, one from each excursion included in this week's newsletter.



I look forward to sharing with you the Stage 3 adventures as we head off to Lake Keepit next week.

Mrs Higgins Principal's Message

CAPERS

Yesterday, our students dove into CAPERS mode! With dress rehearsals on Thursday and three performances scheduled for Friday afternoon, Friday night, and Saturday night, our Kootingal performers are ready to shine. These students have worked hard to learn routines, use the performance space effectively, and contribute to a large group production.

I am incredibly proud of each student, from our first-time performers in Kindergarten and Year 1 to our seasoned pros in Year 6. I really look forward to watching you all shine.

A huge thank you to Miss Magann for coordinating CAPERS and for all her planning and effort, as well as to Mrs Blinman, Mrs Knight, Miss Warden, and Mrs Hearn for their invaluable assistance.

Leave Update

Mrs Chegwyn is currently on 3 weeks' leave. During this time, Mr Cracknell will be relieving as the Assistant Principal for Infants.

Transition

Our 2026 Kindergarten students have been attending full days on Fridays for Transition. They have made a fantastic start to their learning journey and are absorbing school life ready for next year. We have this Friday and next remaining for Bright Stars Transition.

Our Year 6 students will soon begin their transition to high school. This is an exciting time as they prepare to take the next step in their education journey. Over the coming weeks, students will have opportunities to participate in orientation visits to their chosen high schools, where they will get familiar with the environment, meet new teachers, and learn about the expectations and routines of high school life.

Families are encouraged to attend any information sessions or open days offered by the high schools to gain a better understanding of what their child can expect. Our school will also provide support by offering transition activities and information sessions to help students and families feel confident and prepared.

Intensive Swimming

Next week, students in Years 2 and 3 will participate in our intensive swimming program. This is a vital program that teaches lifesaving skills. Please ensure students bring their swimming equipment each day.

Parent Survey

In Week 7 parents and caregivers will receive a link to complete a parent survey for the school. This replaces what was previously known as the Tell Them From Me survey. The survey will be sent out via email and Sentral portal. This survey is vital important to the school and contributes to our future directions and school plan. It will help us better understand your experiences and improve our school community. Your feedback is very important to us, and I thank you for your time and valuable input.

Take care,
Mrs Higgins

Attendance

NSW Department of Education

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Message from the front office

Parents are able to make payments online through the Sentral Parent Portal. If payments are made online, signed permission notes must still be returned to the front office.

* Voluntary contribution fees can be paid at the front office or online. They are \$50 per year per student.

Excursion Recounts

My Excursion by Ella Seymour

I went for my first overnight excursion to Thalgarrah School. We had to go on the bus to get there it was only an hour and a half. My three favourite activities were capturing the flag, holding the animals and orienteering.

Orienteering was the first activity I really liked on Tuesday. We had to go around and find trees that had a little flag with a stamp tied onto it. We had to stamp it on our paper and find numbers. I found it a little bit hot doing this but still very fun.

Holding the animals was my next favourite. We got to hold a leaf bug, a lizard and a carpet python snake. We looked at dead insects through microscopes. There were also real ones we could look at in the microscope. This activity was fun because we could also go outside and look for bugs.

Capturing the flag was another favourite of mine. We had to capture the other team's wooden object. My team was the red team, and we won twice in a row and the other team won once. This one was fun. I had an amazing time at Thalgarrah.

My excursion at school by Jackson Attard

On Tuesday we got to leave the school and go on an adventure. We went to the oval to play croquet. When we came back to school, it was time to play bowling. Then it was lunch time, after lunch we went to the Library to play with robots and read the books at the Library. Then it was second break. We watched a movie called Raya and the Last Dragon and it was great.

Birthday Buckets

Make your child's birthday special with a birthday bucket. \$20 will get a light up bucket of zooper doopers that will be delivered to your child's classroom with a helium balloon for the birthday child to take home. Please pre-order at least one week in advance at the front office along with payment. Payment can be made online to the P & C Bank Account - BSB 932-000, account number 789117 or cash. Please SMS confirmation of payment to 0461 309 495. A photo of your child receiving the Birthday Bucket can then be sent to you.

Parent Helpers

If anyone wants to help in the canteen on a Wednesday or Friday from 9am till 12pm please email the P&C email with your availability and we will add you to the roster.



Kootingal Public School P&C Canteen Menu 2025

Canteen open first break Wednesday and Friday



Hot Food

Cheese Pizza	\$ 3.00
Ham & Cheese Pizza	\$ 3.50
Chicken & Cheese Pizza w/ bbq sauce....	\$ 3.50
Sausage Roll	\$ 4.00
Meat Pie	\$ 5.00
Grilled Chicken Burger	\$ 5.00
<i>Grilled chicken fillet, lettuce, cheese & Mayo</i>	
Cheeseburger	\$ 5.00
<i>Lean Beef Pattle, cheese & tomato sauce</i>	
Fish Burger	\$ 5.00
<i>Crumbed fish fillet, lettuce & mayo</i>	
Chicken Breast Gravy Roll	\$ 5.00
Lasagne	\$ 5.00
Macaroni & Cheese	\$ 5.00
Spaghetti	\$ 5.00
Butter chicken & Rice	\$ 5.50
Fried Rice	\$ 5.00
Chicken Nuggets	\$0.80each
Ham & Cheese Toasted Sandwich	\$ 3.50
Chicken Breast & Cheese Toasted Sandw	\$ 3.50
Cheese Toasted Sandwich	\$ 3.00
Hash Brown	\$ 1.00
Corn Cob	\$ 0.50
Chicken noodles	\$ 2.00
Cheesy Garlic Bread	\$ 2.00

Drinks

Bottled Water	\$ 2.00
Assorted fruit poppers:	\$ 1.50
<i>Apple, Tropical, Orange & Apple/Blackcurrant</i>	
Chocolate & Strawberry Milk	\$ 2.50
Chill J:	\$ 3.00
<i>Raspberry, Lemonade, Apple Cola, Watermelon, Grape & Orange/Passio</i>	

Extras

Tomato Sauce	\$ 0.70
BBQ Sauce	\$ 0.70
Cheese	\$ 0.70

Sandwiches, Salads & Wraps

All salad contains - lettuce, grated cheese, grated carrot, tomato, beetroot, cucumber & mayo

Salad Tub	\$ 5.00
Chicken Breast Salad Tub	\$ 5.50
Ham Salad Tub	\$ 5.50
Chicken Tender Wrap	\$ 4.50
<i>Chicken tender, lettuce, grated cheese & mayo</i>	
Fish Wrap	\$ 4.50
<i>Crumbed fish fillet, lettuce, grated cheese & mayo</i>	
Chicken Breast Salad Wrap	\$ 5.00
Ham Salad Wrap	\$ 5.00
Salad Wrap	\$ 4.50
Salad Roll	\$ 5.00
Chicken Breast Salad Roll	\$ 5.50
Ham Salad Roll	\$ 5.50
Salad Sandwich	\$ 4.50
Chicken Breast Salad Sandwich	\$ 5.00
Ham Salad Sandwich	\$ 5.00
Chicken Breast, Lettuce & Mayo Sandw ...	\$ 4.50
Cheese Sandwich	\$ 2.50
Vegemite Sandwich	\$ 2.50
Egg, Lettuce & Mayo Sandwich	\$ 3.00

Frozen Snacks - available after lunch orders eaten

Chocolate Moosies	\$ 2.00
Frozen Juice Cups	\$ 1.00
Quelch	\$ 0.70
Frozen Yoghurt	\$ 2.50
TNT.....	\$ 1.50

Snacks - available after lunch orders eaten

Milo (cold or warm).....	\$ 2.00
Popcorn	\$ 1.00
Sunbites	\$ 1.00
Cheese Stick	\$ 1.00
Apple Slices Bag	\$ 1.00
Carrot Sticks Bag	\$ 1.00
Cucumber Sticks	\$ 1.00
Assorted Fruit	\$ 1.00



Please clearly label your child's name and class on a brown paper bag or lunch bag.



**Little Stars
playgroup**

Monday
9.30am – 11am
Kootingal School
Library
Ph 67 603 332

Our very creative friends at Playgroup today made a GIANT circle picture.

FANTASTIC!







Great Imagination kids!



Breaktimes are always fun, especially when students combine their imaginations and construct 'hammers' out of the connector shapes to play a fast, interactive game.



Very impressive boys!

Playgroup are meeting at KOOTINGAL LIBRARY for a special morning tea and we would LOVE Grandparents to join us for the morning.

NEW FAMILIES ALWAYS WELCOME

We meet in the School Library or Kootingal Library each Monday 9:30am – 11:00am. Check Facebook for updates.

Morning Tea is provided for the kids, please bring drink bottles, and tea and coffee is available for the adults.

Kootingal School 67 603 332  Kootingal School or Kootingal Playgroup



Grab & go snacks

Everyday snacks are an important part of the lunchbox.

Keep snacks bite-size and easy to eat so your kids can have lots of time to play! Here are a few ideas:

- Choose snack sized vegetables that are ready to eat like baby cucumbers, snow peas and cherry tomatoes
- Choose everyday snacks that are easy to eat like wholegrain crackers, air popped popcorn, cut up fruit or reduced-fat yoghurt tubs/pouches
- Some kids may be put off by foods that are squashed. Store easily squished items like strawberries and grapes in containers. Remember to make sure the lids are easy to open!



Cherry tomatoes



Snow peas



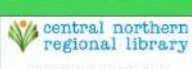
Reduced-fat yoghurt



Air popped popcorn



Fruit cup in natural juice



KOOTINGAL LIBRARY

67 67 52 36

Sunday	CLOSED
Monday	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Tuesday	10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Wednesday	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday	1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Friday	1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



GRANDPARENTS MORNING TEA 

Kootingal Library & Little Stars Playgroup would love to invite Grandparents, parents and children to a special morning tea to celebrate your beautiful families.

When: Monday 10th November
Time: 9.30am – 11.00am
Where: Kootingal Library, Denman Ave, Kootingal.



Monday
9.30am – 11am
Kootingal School Library
Ph 67 603 332

Looking forward to seeing you there.



Term 4, 2025

Please be aware dates many change due to unforeseen circumstances throughout the term.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5	Nov 6	Nov 7
Week 4	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Bronze Assembly 2:45pm	K-2 Sport Stage 2 Thalgarrah Excursion	Stage 2 Thalgarrah Excursion	3-6 Sport CAPERS Rehearsal	CAPERS Bright Stars Transition - Kindy 2026 9:30am to 3pm
	Nov 10	Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14
Week 5	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Stage 3 Lake Keepit Excursion Intensive Swimming	K-2 Sport Stage 3 Lake Keepit Excursion Intensive Swimming	Stage 3 Lake Keepit Excursion Intensive Swimming	3-6 Sport Intensive Swimming	Bright Stars Transition - Kindy 2026 9:30am to 3pm Intensive Swimming
	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21
Week 6	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Silver Assembly at 2:30pm - Host KS, item 5/6B Intensive Swimming Leadership Interviews	K-2 Sport Intensive Swimming Leadership Interviews P&C Meeting 6pm to 8pm	Leadership Interviews	3-6 Sport Oxley High Transition Day Leadership Interviews	Intensive Swimming
	Nov 24	Nov 25	Nov 26	Nov 27	Nov 28
Week 7	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Intensive Swimming	K-2 Sport Intensive Swimming		3-6 Sport	Leadership speeches and voting
	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5
Week 8	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Bronze Assembly 2:45pm	K-2 Sport High School Orientation	SRE Combined Scripture - Christmas	3-6 Sport Boys Softball State Championships	Boys Softball State Championships
	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12
Week 9	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Presentation Day Ceremony 10am	K-2 Sport		3-6 Sport Year 6 Farewell	
	Dec 15	Dec 16	Dec 17	Dec 18	Dec 19
Week 10	Playgroup 9:30am to 11am Year 6 Graduation assembly	K-2 Sport		3-6 Sport	P&C End of Year activities



NSW Department of Education

CAPEERS

Fri 7 & Sat 8 November 2025

Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre



Tickets available through
entertainmentvenues.com.au

Tapestry
Threads of talent, one masterpiece



YOUR INVITED TO CELEBRATE WITH US

International Day of
People with
Disability
3 December

LUCKY DOOR
PRIZES



LUCKY DOOR
PRIZES

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER
10AM-1.30PM

1A QUINN ST THE YOUTHIE, TAMWORTH

FREE ENTRY

FACE PAINTING

CRAFT ACTIVITIES

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

PHOTO BOOTH

GAMES

LIVE MUSIC

DUNKING MACHINE

"BRING A TOWEL & CHANGE OF CLOTHES"

RSVP - 12TH NOVEMBER

PHONE - 0421 248 244 OR

EMAIL - INFO@ENLARGELIVING.COM.AU



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HOSTED BY TAMWORTH NETWORKING GROUP

NSW Department of Education



Selective high school or opportunity class entry in 2027

Apply now if your child is currently in:

- Year 3 – for opportunity class entry in Year 5
- Year 5 – for selective high school entry in Year 7.

Applications close 20 February 2026.



Year 7, 2027 Enrolment Applications Now Open!

Do you have a son currently in Year 5 who is interested in applying at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School for Year 7, 2027?

Boarding applicants will apply for interview only, while entry as a Day Student is completed through the selective school's placement test which closes Friday 20th February, 2026.

Don't miss the chance for your son to be a part of a supportive high school that fosters character, confidence, and a sense of community!

Apply Now – visit the Farrer website or scan the QR code below for details.



AUSTRALIA'S ONLY SELECTIVE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOARDING AND DAY BOYS

585 Calala Lane Calala NSW 2340
T: 02 6764 8600 or www.farrer.nsw.gov.au

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FARRER
Memorial Agricultural High School



Oxley High 2026 Year 7 Transition Day

Save the Date

Thursday 20th November 2025

9:30am - 2:30pm

For students who have received an offer of placement at Oxley High School.

Students will get to experience a day in the life of Oxley High School. This will involve attending three classes, some fun activities & a BBQ lunch!

Please bring food for your recess & a water bottle.

Contact your primary school regarding transport arrangements.



2026 Year 7 Orientation Day

Save the Date

Tuesday 2nd December 2025



Clothing Pool will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30am to 3pm.

Please come to the office.

Enrolments now open for Kindergarten 2026

Contact 0267603332 for more information



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KOOTINGAL KIDS CLUB

YEARS
K-5

ACTIVITIES

AFTERNOON TEA,
GAMES, MUSIC AND
SINGING, BIBLE
STORIES, CRAFT
AND MORE

3.30-5.00PM

EVERY THURSDAY TERM TIME

ST ANDREWS CHURCH
CNR DENMAN AVE & GATE ST
KOOTINGAL



TO REGISTER: 6760 3361 | 0407 466 459

OFFICE@KOOTINGALMOONBIANGLICAN.COM

WWW.KOOTINGALMOONBIANGLICAN.COM

Enrolments Now Open!

Up to
90%
of Child Care costs
can be covered
by Child Care
Subsidy!

**Enrolments are now open
for families to enrol.**

Enrolments are completed online at
www.theircare.com.au and usually
takes approx. 15 to 20 minutes to
complete.

See FAQs on our website
theircare.com.au/families





PACE WORKSHOPS

PHYSICALLY ACTIVE CHILDREN IN EDUCATION

The PACE program supports classroom teachers and schools to schedule and deliver the weekly recommendation of 150 mins of physical activity. This is supported through active PE, sport, cross curricular links and daily classroom energisers across the school week.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- ✓ Face to face professional development
- ✓ Access to a range of resources on the online PACE portal
- ✓ Access to a local support officer

REGISTER NOW



WORKSHOP DATES:

- 16th December, **Wallsend Diggers** (Term 4, 2025)
- 28th January, **Wallsend Diggers** (Term 1, 2026)
- 29th January, **Online** (Term 1, 2026)



Visit the PACE portal and start accessing the free resources and modules



EVERY CHILD COUNTS.

This Christmas, help us bring joy to children and young people in foster care.



Christmas can be a tough time for children and young people in foster care.

Foster carers work hard to make the season special, but we need your help to make sure every child feels remembered, valued, and included.

Donate to our Christmas Appeal and help us raise \$50,000 to purchase gifts for the children and young people we support.



DONATE NOW.

Your donation will help provide personalised gifts and support for over 450 children across NSW.

All donations are tax-deductible.

Thank you for making every child count.

[challengecommunityservices](https://challengecommunityservices.org.au) [@challenge_services](https://www.facebook.com/challenge_services) [challenge-community-services](https://www.linkedin.com/company/challenge-community-services)



ROYAL LIFE SAVING
NSW | ACT | TAS



SWIMVAC 2026

Thanks to Project Elevate, proudly funded by the NSW Government, Royal Life Saving are bringing accessible swimming lessons to regional NSW this summer.

Get access to TWO WEEKS of FREE lessons in 2026 for preschoolers, school-aged children, and adults. Limited spots available!



12-23 January 2026

- ✓ Daily intensive swimming lessons over two weeks
- ✓ Delivered by qualified instructors
- ✓ Fee-free program participants must attend at least 8 of 10 lessons, complete pre- and post-program surveys, and keep a card on file (a \$100 fee applies for non-attendance unless a valid reason is provided)



Bookings Open

1 October 2025



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
Online

SCULLY PARK SWIMMING CLUB INTENSIVE SWIM CAMP

5th - 9th January 2026

WHO IS INVITED:

- All swimmers who need that final push to graduate learn to swim
- Competitive swimmers who want to get ready for the school swim season
- Those who want to improve their stroke

5 days - \$150 including morning tea

REGISTER NOW

www.scullypark.com



(02) 9634 3700

swimandsurvive@royalnsw.com.au

drowningprevention.org.au

