COASTHILL NEWS

THE IKPS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL- BEN SOUMILAS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - MEL MCRAE
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - KATHY JONES

Contact Our Office: (03)5674 1253
inverloch.ps@education.vic.gov.au
kongwak.ps@education.vic.gov.au

EVERYWHERE, ALL THE TIME

Active Learners, Safe and Respectful

Edition 1 - 3rd February 2025

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 4th February	House Swimming Sports - Korumburra Wear house colours
Tuesday 11th February	IPS School Photos
Tuesday 11th February	Kongwak PS Welcome Afternoon Tea 2 - 3.20pm
Wednesday 19th February	District Swimming Sports - Korumburra
Thursday 20th February	KPS School Photos
Friday 28th February	Division Swimming Sports - Korumburra
Monday 10th March	Labour Day Holiday - No School

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Conveyance Allowance is available for children who are attending their nearest government school (or in some circumstances your next nearest government school) and live 4.8km or more from the school. If you think this applies to you please collect an application form from the office. **These forms must be returned to school by Wed 19th March**. Parents who already receive this allowance do not need to reapply, but if your circumstances have changed you need to notify the office. If you have another child who has just started school, you will need to complete an application form for them.

Principals Message

WEEK 2/10 TERM 1, 2025

It didn't take long to get back to business at our two schools. The start to the year has been an overwhelming success and it is an absolute credit to the teachers, education support staff and families for the way they have conducted the transition programs, prepared children and supported everyone to take the courageous steps to stretch out of their comfort zone.

COMMUNICATION

This year we've restored the combined newsletter that has been known as the 'Coasthill' News. You can expect a copy to be sent out every fortnight and it will include news and updates from both schools. We've received much feedback from our parents about how to improve communication and we've worked hard on it. We'll keep pushing out calendar updates on the alternate weeks so that it's easy to organise your week and ensure you don't miss any important dates. We're also changing the format for our assemblies. We've listened to our student leaders and they'll be making some adjustments. Whole school assemblies will now be fortnightly and on the alternate week the students will meet in their cohorts.
Even weeks of the term = newsletter and whole school assemblies on Fridays.
Odd weeks = calendar updates and no whole school assembly.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PEOPLE.....

NEW STAFF

We've got a few new (might I add amazing) people that have joined the team this year. Check out the pictures on the next page to see who they are and make sure you go out of your way to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome. Let me tell you.... When you walk your child through our front doors, hand them over to us and have to trust us to give them the care they deserve, you'll be glad we've added these new staff to our crew. They're wonderful teachers and they care about children. Be sure to get to know them.

PREPS

Welcome to our gorgeous new Preps. It's such a thrill for teachers, students, leaders and families to see our new Preps starting their learning journey at Inverloch and Kongwak Primary Schools. Of course, every year is different but the familiar sight of curious faces, brand new uniforms, clean shoes and eyes full of wonder puts a big smile on our faces here at IKPS. We had 61 new preps make their start at Inverloch PS and a crew of 5 begin at Kongwak PS. Of course there were a few nerves, plenty of excitement, some people needed extra encouragement and many just waltzed on in like they have been doing it for years. Another fabulous feature has been the support from our Gr 6 student leaders and our Grade 5 buddies who have shown great commitment to their role of supporting our Preps to settle in. Now the fun begins, making new friends, building up some work stamina and enjoying all the opportunities that are available at our two schools.

STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

We encourage all of our families to invest time in connecting with our passionate classroom teachers and ES staff. A strong relationship between home and school is a key component in ensuring the experience is a success for our students.

A reminder to our school communities that our two schools are now led by a Principal team of three. We have our speciality areas, but of course our individual work certainly crosses over with each other. Each of us is committed to improving learning and wellbeing outcomes for the students in our care so please feel welcome to connect with either of us if you require support.

Principal
Ben Soumilas

AP Junior school Prep-2 & Specialist
Mel McRae

AP Senior school 3-6 & Kongwak PS
Kathy Jones

SCHOOL SAVING BONUS AND PARENT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Many of our families have been able to access their School Saving Bonus. Families can choose how they allocate and spend the funds which may include: camps/excursions, swimming and sporting programs and uniforms.

The School Saving Bonus cannot be allocated to the school in the form of a Parent Voluntary Contribution. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. In 2025, the Voluntary school contribution is $300. The ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. The voluntary contributions allow us to provide high quality programs and specific subject materials and equipment for English, Mathematics, STEM, Art, Music, Performing Arts, Auslan and to also maintain and develop the school grounds. In 2024, we had 47% of families at Inverloch PS make a contribution and 81% of families at Kongwak PS make the contribution. If you would like to make a financial contribution, there are a variety of ways it can be done. You can pay on Compass under 'course confirmation', make a direct deposit or pay via EFTPOS at our office.

Please contact our office if you would like assistance with the School Saving Bonus or Parent Voluntary Financial Contribution payment.

THE HEAT

Over the summer we installed 6 new split system air conditioners and we plan to keep adding more each year until every single one of our rooms can be cooled down. However, it'll be pretty hard to avoid getting as this week looks particularly hot and uncomfortable. Please be prepared, drink bottles need to be full, hats and sunglasses on heads, sunscreen applied and reminders to relax in the shade are imperative. Check out the 'Being sunsmart in Victoria' flyer in our newsletter for more advice.

Here's to a fabulous year ahead.

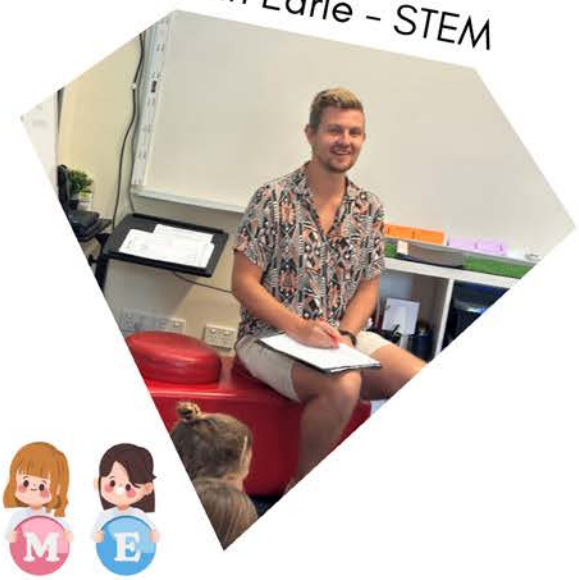
Kind regards

Soum
Ben.soumilas@education.vic.gov.au
Mobile 0427 118 609

Welcome Our New Staff

Nick Hillam - 5/6H

Dan Earle - STEM



Chloe Stephens - 1/2C

Nick Carver - Music

James Forrester - 1 day a week in our Prep area.

Inclusion News

Hi, I'm Tash Bird and I am the Inclusion Learning Specialist at IKPS. I'm sure some of you have heard this word and wondered what it means. Well, according to the Department of Education, "Inclusive Education means that all members of every school community are valued and supported to fully participate, learn, develop and succeed within an inclusive school culture."

As the Inclusion Learning Specialist, I am responsible for leading a range of schoolwide programs. Some of my responsibilities include:
-Overseeing whole school implementation of Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS), Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Respectful Relationships (RR), Mental Health in Schools Program (MHiPS), Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
-Supporting teachers and Education Support staff to create Individual Education Plans to meet specific student needs.
-Providing small group and 1:1 interventions to support social and emotional wellbeing.

I am so excited about what the year ahead will bring!

Tash Bird

Continued over page.....

SWPBS

INVERLOCH AND KONGWAK PRIMARY SCHOOL
EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS

Be Respectful	• We wait for our turn to talk • We follow instructions • We think of others and treat them how they want to be treated • We include others • We seek help when needed • We care for equipment and return it to the area it belongs to when finished
Be Safe	• We are upstanders • We keep our bodies and other people's bodies safe • We help others • Seek help when we see something or someone being unsafe • We give people who are dysregulated some space
Be an Active Learner	• We learn with a growth mindset • We give our best effort • We let others learn • We listen and think • We encourage others

Acknowledging Outstanding Behaviour
When staff notice children demonstrating our expected behaviours, they are awarded a raffle ticket. At assembly, we pull out 6 tickets and the winners get to choose a prize. The remaining tickets go back into the pool for the major end of term raffle.

Term One Inclusion Overview
Our main objective in Term One is to create a safe and positive environment across the school. In weeks 1-3, every grade will become familiar with our 'Everywhere All The Time' expected behaviours. Each class will co-create expected behaviours for their own classroom and establish protocols for 'Circle Time'. On the 11th of February, we will celebrate Safer Internet Day in the classroom to learn about how to apply our schoolwide expected behaviours to the digital world.

In week 3, we will observe the Anniversary of the Apology in our classrooms. After learning about the importance of reconciliation, every class will create their own Acknowledgement of Country to show respect for Country and the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people who are the traditional custodians of the land that we learn and play on.

In weeks 5-8, we will have a whole school focus on bullying. Children will learn a universal definition of bullying, and how this differs from conflict and unkindness. In week 8, we will celebrate the National Day of Action Against Violence and Bullying in our multi age groups to consolidate this learning. We meet in multiage groups once a term to help foster relationships between students and teachers across the school.

Throughout Term One, we will have a schoolwide focus on emotional literacy through RRRR Topic 1 and The Zones of Regulation.

Natasha Bird (she/her)
Learning Specialist (Inclusion)
Inverloch & Kongwak Primary Schools

Kongwak NEWS

It has been wonderful to welcome everybody back for 2025!

A special welcome to:

Our 5 new preps - Andie, Koa, William, Percy & Calla

Hunter - Year 3

Jordan - Year 6

and their families.

Also, a big welcome to Mrs Jones who will be teaching in the junior room every Friday.

NEW NEWSLETTER

At IKPS we will no longer be having 2 separate newsletters. Our "new look" Coasthill newsletter will contain both Kongwak News and Inverloch News!

We will be having our school photos taken Thursday 20th February at KPS.

SWPBS

WEEKLY WINNERS WEEK 1

No Winners Drawn This week as No Assembly

WEEKLY WINNERS WEEK 2

Congratulations to these students who had their SWBPS tickets drawn in todays raffle. It was wonderful to see the number of tickets and so many students being identified as Active Learners, Keeping Others Safe and Respectful. Week 2 winners will be announced in next newsletter.....Stay Tuned

Artist

of the Week

Inverloch

Our Artists of the week will start in the next newsletter so watch this space!

Kongwak

Our Artists of the week will start in the next newsletter so watch this space!

Community News

Leongatha Little Aths

The GCR Junior Carnival (U6-U8's) will be held on Saturday 15th February 2025 at Edwin Flack Reserve Berwick. This is a great opportunity for our junior athletes to compete on a synthetic track in a fun environment in preparation for under 9's, where they are old enough to compete at region level.

There will be NO club meet at Leongatha that weekend. Please click the below link for all information and registration portal.

Please note that registration is the parent's responsibility.

https://events.mygameday.app/event/2025gcrjuniorcarnival?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1OFadoysK00B2wfa-GSAbZB95YdXYUn-mWcSZblF1OjO9xXnhuLuLv7Ac_aem_Fzok1yT50DCvXFrikZJtYg

GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
VICTORIA

An international volunteer organization for girls and young women

Girls aged over 6 years are invited to *Come and Try* girl guides

– 3 free sessions

At Wonthaggi Scout Hall, corner Parkes street & Wentworth road, Wonthaggi

Guide meetings resume Tuesday 4th February, 2025 at 4.30 to 6pm

Contact : Cheryl Bertrand : tele 0408 391 035 or Cheryl.bertrand@guidesvic.org.au

The 7 aspects of the Guide program – *The Outdoors, Leadership, Community Service, World Guiding, Promise & Law, The Patrol system (Teamwork), Guiding traditions*
For more information check the Girl Guides Victoria website at : *https://www.guidesvic.org.au*

Community News

ATTENTION JUNIOR NETBALL PLAYERS

WPFNC ARE SEEKING U13'S & U15'S NETBALLERS TO JOIN OUR CLUB

TRAININGS TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS - 5:15 PM

@ WONTHAGGI NETBALL COURTS - WONTHAGGIPOWERNETBALL@GM

Being SunSmart in Victoria

SUNSMART

When UV is 3+

- **Slip** on covering clothing
- **Slop** on SPF50, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- **Slap** on a broad-brimmed hat
- **Seek** shade
- **Slide** on sunglasses (AS:1067)

Think UV, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

Download the SunSmart Global UV app to find sun protection times for your location.

When UV is below 3

Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.

March 2023

Scan the QR code or visit **sunsmart.com.au/app** to download.

Cancer Council Victoria

VICTORIA State Government

SPIKEZONE

volleyball VICTORIA

discover mini-volleyball WITH VOLLEYBALL AUSTRALIA

THURSDAYS
5:45pm - 7:15pm
@ Leongatha SPLASH
For Children aged 8-13

Also available ages 14-18

$90* per season

*includes yearly Volleyball Victoria Membership Insurance, 18 week program and junior playing top hire

Family Discount for 3 or more children

SOUTH GIPPSLAND VOLLEYBALL CLUB INC.

GET ACTIVE VICTORIA

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE CLUB

www.revolutionise.com.au/sgv/events/277842 southgippslandvolleyball@outlook.com

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (Inverloch Hub)
Kinder Soccer

What you will learn:

- Dribbling
- Shooting
- Passing
- Receiving
- Ball control
- Skills and tricks
- Fun games

*Runs during the school term except the last Friday of each term.

Session Details

Where: Inverloch Community Hub, 16 A'Beckett St, Inverloch
Day: FRIDAYS*
Time: 2.30pm-3.15pm (45mins)
Cost: $8 per session (casual)
Age: 4 and 5 years old
What to bring: Full Drink Bottle
Coach: Roger
Register Interest: 5672 4194

BASS COAST AQUATIC & LEISURE CENTRE

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BASS COAST | the Y