Welcome back to an exciting new term. I trust everyone has had a lovely break and our students are raring to go for a brand new term.

Staff changes
Mrs Clarke is unable to return this term due to a previous commitment so we welcome Mrs Tanya Murphy to take her place. Mrs Murphy will be working the same hours as Mrs Clarke in term 1.

This term, Mrs Mel Campisi (Learning Engagement and Acceleration Program Teacher) has been extended to one full day per week and will work with a wide range of students and small groups with support programs.

Electronic Newsletters
As mentioned in previous newsletters, we are moving to electronic versions of our fortnightly newsletter (as well as many important whole school letters home). This will not only assist us to improve our communications home but allow us to utilise resources more effectively. We are missing a few email addresses from families, so if you are happy to receive a digital copy and you are still receiving paper form, could you please provide your email address to admin.

We will be emailing all future newsletters to the primary email address provided in enrolment process, unless otherwise stated.

There are 3 ways of getting any future newsletters:
1. emailed to the primary email address provided in enrolment package. This is the default mode and requires a request if you do not want this to happen
2. from our website (updated immediately upon completion)
3. traditional paper form where requested.

Rats of Tobruk 75th Anniversary
Coowonga is again proud to be associated with the Rats of Tobruk as we joined them to celebrate their 75th Anniversary last Sunday. We wish to thank the Rats of Tobruk Association for their continued support and involvement with our school.

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Every Thursday from 9-10:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunnings Sausage Sizzle</td>
<td>Sunday 17^{th} April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grub's Up</td>
<td>Monday 18^{th} April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| P&C Meeting                                | Oval improvement meeting 8:30am  
                                        | Monday 18^{th} April 3pm |
| ANZAC school commemoration                 | Friday 22nd April  |
| Combined Coowonga/Rats of Tobruk ANZAC DAY March | Monday 25^{th} April |
| Book Club orders due back at school        | Wednesday 27^{th} April |
| Labour Day Holiday                         | Monday 2^{nd} May  |
| School Parade                              | Parade is held at 12:45pm every Friday. Please feel free to come along and hear messages. Certificates and awards are also presented during this time. |

From the Principal’s Desk

Welcome back
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P&C AGM
During the last week of last term, the P&C held their AGM and nominations for committee members were taken. We welcome the P&C for 2016.
President: Rachael Wilson, Treasurer: Kathleen Jenkins, Secretary: John Butteriss Vice president: Sarah Rutherford.
On behalf of our whole community, I would like to congratulate all members of this year’s P&C and thank them for their continued support of Coowonga State School.

Home Reading Tip 2
Don’t worry too much about what your child reads at home, as long as they are reading something! Sure, we would prefer all children read age appropriate fiction or non-fiction, but all children have different interests. Students can still get essential reading skills through comics, recipes, manuals, newspapers and magazines. All forms of reading assist students to improve vocabulary, grammar and punctuation, sentence and text structures and general knowledge.

Upcoming events
NAPLAN testing years 3 and 5

Andrew Orr
Principal

Free Microsoft Office 2016 for students and school staff
All Queensland state school students and staff can now download multiple free copies of Microsoft Office 2016 to their personal home computers and mobile devices.
Students and staff will need to use their school email address to sign in.
Microsoft Office 2016 is available for personal devices only, not devices owned by the department or part of a school network.
The Office subscription lasts for as long as the student is studying at a Queensland state school, or the staff member is employed by the department.

Headlice
Parents please continue to check your child’s hair each week for headlice. For treatment advice, consult your local pharmacist or hairdresser.

Lunches
Lunch is an important part of our day at Coowonga and impacts greatly on how students function for the remainder of the day. We would like to encourage parents to please take into consideration what they are packing in their children’s lunch boxes.

Attendance
School attendance and student achievement are directly related.
Attendance at school every day is absolutely necessary in ensuring your child has the opportunity to engage in quality education. Every day counts! If your child is unable to attend school parents are asked to phone or email the school with details of the absence.

School starts at 9:00am and finishes at 3:00pm!
Just a little bit late doesn’t seem that much but

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missing just.......</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is......</th>
<th>Over 13 years of schooling that’s.....</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly Half a Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bell Times
Congratulations to those students who continually make an effort to arrive at school on time.

Please note the bell times:
8:50am— School warning bell
This gives the students time to go to the toilet and get ready for the day.
8:55am— School commencement
Students are expected to be in the class for roll call.
9:00am
Any students that arrive after the roll has been called, without a note, will be written down as unexplained late.
Telephone Enquiries: 4934 4192
Email enquiries: the.principal@coowongass.eq.edu.au
Visit our school website at www.coowongass.eq.edu.au to view the latest newsletter, more photos and other school related events.

P&C NEWS
There will be a meeting to discuss improvements to the oval on Monday 18th April at 8:30am, we invite you to come down and give your suggestions. The next meeting will be held on Monday 18th April at 3:00pm in the office. We encourage all parents & caregivers to attend.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - Sunday 17th April
A note will go home this week with info. If you are able to help on the day please see Rachael.

Executive Committee for 2016
We wish to welcome the P&C Executive Committee for 2016:
President: Rachael Wilson
Treasurer: Kathleen Jenkins
Secretary: John Butteriss
Vice president: Sarah Rutherford
Many thanks to the departing executives for their hard work and support.

Grub’s Up
The first Grub’s Up for this term will be Monday 17th April, menu will be sent home this week.

Community Notices
Please note: the following notices may be included in the school’s Newsletter, they are published in good faith and do not necessarily have the school’s endorsement.

THEY’RE HATCHING AT KOORANA

DON’T MISS OUT
For the next 4 months our baby crocodiles will be hatching at Koorana - an event all children should witness. “THE BIRTH OF A DINOSAUR”
To make a booking or for more information please contact Koorana Crocodile Farm on:

phone 4934 4749, 4934 4703
fax 4934 4702
email kooranacrocfarm@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you soon.

EXPECTED 2016 HATCHING DATES:
These are the current dates. Further dates will be available soon.

Wed 13/01/16 Mon 21/3/16 Wed 06/4/16
Fri 12/2/16 Tues 22/3/16 Thurs 07/4/16
Thurs 25/2/16
Sun 06/3/16 Fri 25/3/16 Mon 11/4/16
Tues 08/3/16 Sat 26/3/16 Tues 12/4/16
Sun 13/3/16 Mon 20/3/16 Sun 17/4/16
Thurs 17/3/16 Fri 01/4/16 Tues 19/4/16
Fri 18/3/16 Sat 02/4/16
Sat 19/3/16 Mon 04/4/16
Sun 20/3/16 Tues 05/4/16
Other dates will be available soon – please contact us
Please join us for the official opening of Stage 2 of the Centenary of ANZAC Project “The Gatehouse”

Saturday 23 April 2016
12pm | ANZAC Memorial Gatehouse, Tennant Memorial Drive, Emu Park

The “Gatehouse” will feature interpretive panels providing an overview of our ANZACs and is believed illustrating the major conflicts during World War One.

Media Release

March 2016

CTC Rocky River Run gives back to schools

The CTC Rocky River Run promotes healthy community by encouraging young people to exercise more, while promoting and recognising the important role of schools in fostering healthy lifestyles.

"We’re all excited to be hosting the CTC Rocky River Run again for another year," said Mr. Lapsworth. "It’s a fantastic opportunity to get young people involved in a great community event while promoting positive health outcomes."

The event will be held on Sunday 5 June 2016 and will include a range of activities for all ages, including a fun run, walk, and 5km and 10km races.

The CTC Rocky River Run encourages community involvement and participation through a range of activities and prizes, including:

- A special trophy for the highest participating school.
- A special trophy for the school with the highest female participation.

Contact:
CTC General Manager
Telephone: 0499 4192
Email: info@ctc.com.au

CTC - Shaping Futures, part of Queensland, Australia.