



Snowy Mountains Christian School

Newsletter 2022

Week 2, Term 1

From the desk of Mrs Meyer



Welcome to 2022 new school year. I hope the holiday break was refreshing and enjoyable. It has been eventful in so many ways. Those who tried to travel, faced border closures / entry permits / COVID-19 testing, insecurity regarding things that may have changed. It was hard to make future plans. I want to thank you all for your patience with the rollout of the Rapid Antigen Tests. It was a difficult way to start the new year. We hope we don't have to do this for too long.

With the new year ahead, we have a fresh start. 'God specialises in giving people a fresh start.'* That is exciting for all of us! We can move forward knowing the one who loves us most, will take care of us when we trust him. Our focus verse this year also reminds us of this:

'Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

We welcomed two new teachers to the school:

- Ms. Patricia James joins us to teach the Yr.5/6 class. She brings great experience, having taught for many years at Wagga Wagga Christian College.
- We also welcomed Mr. Morgan Santiagoo to teach Maths and Science in the High School. He has 30 years of teaching and comes to us from Nowra High School.

Next Monday, we have our annual Dedication Assembly to acknowledge that Snowy Mountains Christian School is God's school and to pray for those who share in our school community. We also want to recognize and set apart student leaders, to pray for them, and ask for God's blessing on their time in leadership.

During the break, many projects around the school were completed:

- Completion of the new Food Technology kitchen in High School.
- Installation of new TV monitors/screens in the Science and Computer rooms.
- The installation of LED lighting throughout the entire building.
- Garden work completed by those who were able to come to the Working Bee.
- New trees have been planted.
- The High School Common room was painted.

It is always encouraging to see things happen. Some things, like the High School kitchen, have been planned for a few years. We are looking forward to some lovely aromas coming from that area.

I pray that you have a great week and a great year ahead,

Ella Meyer



Primary Mutterings



Our primary students have had a fantastic start to the new school year. We welcome many new students and their families to our school. A special welcome to our Kinder students. It's been exciting to find out about some of the new changes that have been made and this has given everyone a lift.

There have been significant changes in the teaching roles this year. We hope that the changes bring new and exciting learning. We welcome Miss Patricia (Pat) James who comes to us from Wagga. She is the home room teacher for Year 5/6. Mrs Dani Wadland is the home room teacher for Year 3/4 with Mrs Janita Pristavu taking care of K/1/2. Mrs Amanda Forster is working across all the classes and is now our SMCS Sports Coordinator. Mrs Forster works with Year 5/6 on Mondays and Tuesdays, Year 3/4 on Thursdays and Fridays and has K/1/2 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Mrs Liz England is our Library and Music teacher, she also takes care of K/1/2 on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Ruth Salzke is teaching Indonesian throughout the primary.

Excitingly, we have swimming lessons for six weeks which started last Thursday. This year the costs have been made cheaper thanks to a NSW Government Sporting Schools Grant. I believe swimming is an important life skill and I'm so happy that our SMCS families can take advantage of these lessons. Students should come to school dressed in their sports uniform with their swimmers underneath. In a separate bag that they can take to the pool they should have their goggles, towel and underwear.

This term we have three primary assemblies. These will be on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30pm in the Sanctuary. Please put into your diary when your child's class is presenting the item and come along.

Week 4 Tuesday 23 February - 3/4 Item

Week 6 Tuesday 9 March – 5/6 Item

Week 8 Tuesday 23 March – K/1/2 Item

In all the primary classes there is a big emphasis on reading this term. It is essential that all students read aloud to a competent reader at least four times per week. As a busy, full-time working mum I know just how difficult this can be BUT I also know that it is the single most important thing I can do for my child that gives them the biggest start in life. Talk about 'bang for your buck!' The ten minutes per day that I spend, cuddled up with my child on the lounge – cuppa tea in one hand and them in the other- is a precious gift of my time that I can give and it lets them know how special they are to me. If you are unable to achieve anything else in your day please make sure that it is listening to your child read.

We have a number of community events coming up and I hope that you might take advantage of the easing COVID restrictions and come along. After spending a good portion of two years unable to connect face to face as a community, it is vitally important that we start coming together again. Here are some events that I hope to see you at and have a good chat. ☺

10 February – SMCS Swimming Carnival

14 February – 9am SMCS Dedication Assembly

14 February – 5:30pm SMCS family Picnic

18 March – SMCS Cross Country and Slime Day

Primary Assemblies – Wednesdays: 23 February, 9 March and 23 March

Looking forward to catching up with you at these events.

Regards

Dani Wadland

Primary Coordinator



High School happenings...



Welcome to 2022!

Students came back to school in high spirits, happy to be back with friends and eager for what the new school year has in store.

Students welcomed the new Yondr pouches, which is the pouch they received first day back, to store and lock their phone in during the day. Since the implementation of these pouches, I am happy to say I have not needed to tell any student to put their phone away. Most of the students like the pouch because it gives a satisfying click when they unlock it.

Other than the implementation of the Yondr Pouches, we have welcomed Mr Santiago who is teaching Mathematics, Science and the sport side of PDHPE.

[This year we have exciting events to look forward to.](#)

- Year 9 and 10 Sailing Camp
- Excursion to Canberra
- Secondary Water Day
- Tassie Trip – High School Camp 24th June to 1st June.

We also having exciting news that the new Food Technology Kitchen is almost complete. Thank you Mr Anthony Van der Plaat, Mr John Vanderhout and Mrs Lucy Gotts for all your hard work to build this new addition to the High School area.

God Bless,

Mrs Elyse O'Connor



Snowy Mountains Christian School

*Year 7, 8 & 10
Immunisations*

On **Monday 28th February, 2022**, the nurses from Community health will be visiting SMCS to administer Year 7, 8 and 10 students their immunisations.

Consent forms have been sent home to Year 7 & 10 students, which need to be returned asap, and Year 8 students can catch up on their delayed immunisations from 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact community health on (02) 6458 5777.

Please note, this immunisation program is not connected to the current COVID-19 vaccination rollout.

Thank you!

School News



Snowy Mountains Christian School

Invites you to attend our annual

Dedication Assembly

Monday 14th February at 9.00am in the Sanctuary

AND

Family Picnic

Monday 14th February at 5.30pm - 7.30pm on the SMCS front oval.

BYO picnic and picnic blanket/chairs

Come along for an evening of fun and community, and meet your child's class teachers!

Snowy Mountains Christian School is required by NSW Health to ensure that all visitors on site hold a double vaccination certificate and follow the current public health orders.
Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



Welcome to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9. All rules for the challenge can be found on the website [NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2022 - Logon \(det.nsw.edu.au\)](https://www.nsw.edu.au/premier-reading-challenge-2022). Your child will be able to access the website to register the books they read, once they have been registered. If you would like your child to enter, please complete the registration form found under [Permission Notes | smcs](#) and return it to school by February 28, so your child can be registered for the challenge.

2022 Challenge dates

- Challenge opens: Monday 28 February 2022
- Challenge closes for student entries: Friday 19 August 2022

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC Booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9, 9 plus
3-9 (refer to rule 7b)	20	15	5	All booklists



Snowy Mountains Christian School



SMCS invites you to come along and follow and share our Facebook and Instagram pages.

SMCS shares photos from our student's classrooms, excursions, camps and other extra curricular activities on Instagram. We utilise Facebook to send out reminders, and to post information about upcoming events or happenings at school.

Whilst Social Media platforms are not everyone's "cup of tea", we endeavour to inform our parent body of upcoming events via class dojo for Primary, email and of course the fortnightly Newsletter!



COOMA SCHOOL LUNCHES

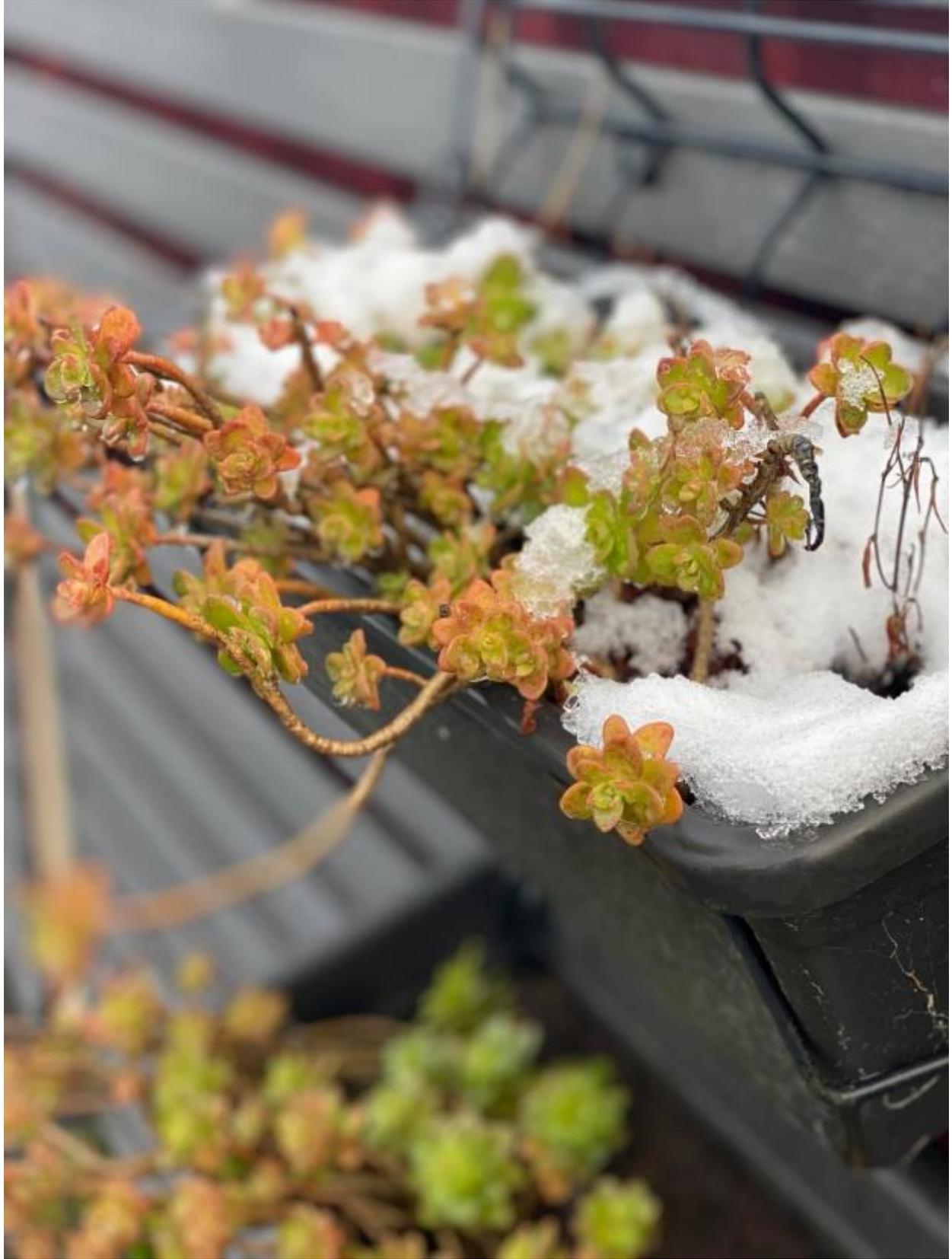
10% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

Lunch orders available on Mondays and
Thursdays.

Please place your order online before 9.30am

www.coomaschoollunches.com.au

Sport Spot



Royal Life Saving research has shown that rivers and creeks continue to be the location with the largest number of drowning deaths within Australia. One-third of the Australian population live in regional and remote areas. It is not always feasible to fence off large bodies of water. Therefore, it is vital that students learn all about water safety and are given every opportunity to develop their swimming ability.

School swimming and water safety programs give Primary students of NSW the opportunity to learn vital swimming and water safety skills. The benefits of swimming lessons include:

- increased fitness, resilience and well-being
- reduced risk of drowning

Primary Swimming lessons began on Thursday, Week 1, at Cooma Festival Pool. These lessons teach students how to behave in aquatic environments and be responsible in, on and around water. Swimming lessons will be held on Thursdays for 6 weeks throughout this term. They will continue in Week 3 as our Swimming Carnival is being held at Cooma Festival Pool on Thursday 10 February.

With a desire to even out the houses this year, the House colours and members have changed.

They have changed from Liddell (blue) and Gould (green) to Waratah (red) and Wattle (yellow).

Your child has been informed of their new house and is encouraged to wear their house colour to the Swimming Carnival on Thursday. We are praying that we will be blessed with perfect weather to help us have a safe and enjoyable day.

Mrs Amanda Forster

Sports Co-ordinator



Library



Hi everyone and welcome back to school.

I just wanted to add a little information about a few things that are happening in the library this year.

Firstly, just a quick reminder of library days for the primary students:

K/1/2 - Friday

3/4 - Thursday

5/6 - Tuesday

On these days, please help your child to remember to put their library books, their library bags, and any borrowed library bags into their school bags to bring them to school. If they do not have a library bag, they will need to get one! It does not have to be anything fancy – old pillowcases work very well! It is just something to put their borrowed books into to help protect them

The library is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays to all high school students at lunchtimes who may need to complete assignments or homework or who simply would like to sit quietly and read. High school students are also encouraged to continue to borrow books and read as much as time permits.

Something new!

Sometimes we end up with multiple copies of a book due to its popularity; but as this popularity wanes, we no longer need so many copies. This year we have decided to make books a little less expensive for parents. We will be placing a table outside in the primary pickup area with books for you! These books are free of charge, but we do ask that you might choose to make a small donation to help us purchase more books in the future.

I would encourage you to come along and have a look – you may just find a book from your childhood that you would like to share with your children.

This will be starting on Monday February 14 and will occur most Monday afternoons.

Ms Liz England

Librarian



Financial Administrator



SMCS and CBC Working bee, Saturday 22nd Jan

Rain + sun in the Summer holidays = a working bee for Cooma Baptist Church and Snowy Mountains Christian School.

A big thank you to all who came along and worked hard before school started on Saturday 22nd January.

With thanks to Judy Taylor's planning and sourcing, and Farhad Khan and Mike Fairbairn's lopping, we were able to replace some trees out the front that had been struggling.

Keen eyes and hands of the Khan's, George's, Mill's, Poucher's, Wadland's, Walker's, and Hazel were able to clear many overgrown weeds and garden areas as well as Judith, Liz and the Bevans tackling some inside work in preparation for the year. Thank you! You made such a difference.

It was also a great time to gather together and catch up before school started.

We look forward to another working bee next term!

Mrs Lucy Gotts













smcs

Free School Fees

For every enrolment that results from your reference, you will receive one term's FREE SCHOOL FEES for one of your children AND the new family will receive a \$300 voucher to spend on SMCS school uniform.

Logistically, all you need to do is collect an enrolment form from the school office which will be marked with your name and give this to the new family.

This is a tangible way that we can grow SMCS in terms of scope, quality and numbers whilst sharing the benefits. May God bless you as you take up this call.

For more information, please contact Mrs Lucy Gotts at finance@smcs.nsw.edu.au

Solar: January 2022



2021 year in Review



Fundraising News



Thank you so much for supporting our school, especially through fundraising. This term, we are hosting a Slime Spectacular School Fun Run to help us fundraise for SMCS!

We will be hosting our Slime Spectacular School Fun Run on Friday 18th March, from 2pm to 3pm. Please make sure students bring a WHITE shirt to wear during the Fun Run. They will be covered in vibrant, non-toxic slime from head to toe!

Lots more information will be coming home very soon!

Allysia Kamenyitzky

Fundraising Chairperson

Snowy Monaro Community Notices





Come and try rollerskiing in February!

Ever wanted to try roller skiing, that close relative of cross country (XC) skiing done on hard surfaces on "short skinny skis with wheels" with ski poles and a major training method for our Winter Olympians? Here is your chance!

Jindabyne-based XC club Snowy Mountains Nordic has combined with NSW/ACT XC and Snow Australia to offer a come and try event for kids ages five and up and adults with equipment and instruction by some world class skiers, a sausage sizzle, tunes, the chance to try some related XC activities, get info on roller skiing and cross country skiing for fun or as a serious sport, buy some gear and meet the local nordic gear and lesson suppliers.

With Australia's equal biggest team of 6 contesting Winter Olympics in Feb in China and the Australian Roller Ski Series just announced, there's never been a better time to give roller skiing a go!

Roller skiing has been part of dryland training for the big team of 23 Aussies who have been training and competing in Europe this summer including Jindabyne local Zana Evans with two wins and Cooma local Bentley Walker-Broose with top 10s under their belts in one of Australia's most successful years.

Cost: \$5 under 16, \$10 adults, \$20 families.

Just bring your enthusiasm, a bike helmet and elbow and knee protection.

rsvp on the event page <https://fb.me/e/1hBHshkR8> or text events coordinator Kaz Forman 0425675566

This event will be run in accordance with Snow Australia COVID safe plan and abide by NSW Public Health requirements.

Kaz

Karen Forman JP

journalist. editor. photographer. media and communications manager. Events coordinator.

Nationally accredited & affiliated MTB, road & track cycling coach. Sports Science. Sports Nutrition. Sports Psych. Pumping Iron. ACHPER fitness leader.

Remote Area First Aider & Wilderness Medicine First Aider. Infection Control.

ABN 23308410198

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Email: karenforman11@gmail.com

Facebook: Happy Places Photography by Kaz/Behind the Spokes Cycle Coaching





SMCS School Calendar



FEBRUARY 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
WEEK 1		1	2	3	4	5/6
Notes			Kindy students home day	Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 2	7	8	9	10 Swimming Carnival	11	12/13 10am CBC/SMCS Dedication Service
Notes			Kindy students home day			
WEEK 3	14 9am SMCS Dedication Service	15	16	17	18	19/20
Notes	5.30pm SMCS Family Picnic		Kindy students home day	Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 4	21 Primary school Zone Swimming Carnival	22 High school Zone Swimming Carnival	23 Year 9/10 Sailing Camp - Eden	24 Year 9/10 Sailing Camp - Eden	25 Year 9/10 Sailing Camp - Eden	26/27
Notes			Kindy students home day	Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 5	28 Year 7/8/10 Immunisations					
Notes						
WEEK 6						
Notes						

MARCH 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
WEEK 6		1	2	3	4	5/6
Notes			Kindy students home day	Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 7	7	8	9	10 Primary school Water Day with Snowy Hydro	11 High school Water Day with Snowy Hydro	12/13
Notes						
WEEK 8	14	15	16	17	18 Cross Country Slime Spectacular Fundraiser	19/20
Notes				Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 9	21	22	23	24	25	26/27
Notes				Primary school swimming lessons		
WEEK 10	28	29	30	31 School Musical		
Notes						

APRIL 2022

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
WEEK 10					1 School Musical	2/3
Notes						
WEEK 11	4 High School Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences	5	6 Primary School Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences	7	8 Last Day of Term 1	9/10
Notes						
	11 School Holidays	12	13	14	15	16/17
	18 School Holidays	19	20	21	22	23/24
WEEK 1	25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday	26 School students return for Term 2	27	28	29	30
Notes						

Contact Us

We would love to hear from you!

Snowy Mountains Christian School

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Visit us on the web at www.smcs.nsw.edu.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SnowyMountainsChristianSchool>

Instagram: @snowymountainschristianschool

2022 Term Dates

Term 1: Monday 31 January 2022 - Friday 08 April 2022

Term 2 : Tuesday 26 April 2022 - Friday 1 July 2022

Term 3 : Monday 25 July 2022 - Friday 23 September 2022

Term 4 :Monday 10 October 2022 - Wednesday 7th December 2022

Board of Directors

John Vanderhout (Chair Person)

Judy Taylor (Secretary)

Robert Wiles

Farhad Khan

Malcolm Anderson

Neil Poucher

Sandra Mortimer

