

NEWSLETTER

Matong Public School



Last Thursday, our Stage 1 students had an amazing time participating in the NRL League Tag morning in Coolamon. They all showed fantastic sportsmanship and team spirit, making it a memorable day for everyone. A special congratulations to Archie and Isla, who won the awards for their outstanding performances and contributions to the team.

Well done to all the students for their enthusiasm and teamwork!

What's on at MPS - 2024

Week 9 Term 1

Thursday, 27th March - Netball Trials @ Kindra Park, Coolamon

Friday, 28th March - Year 7 2026 High School EOI Due

Week 10 Term 1

Thursday, 3rd April - Stage 2/3 Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday, 4th April - Small School Cross Country @ Ganmain

Week 11 Term 1

Tuesday, 8th April - Stage 1 Parent Teacher Interviews

Wednesday, 9th April - K - 6 Assembly @ 2pm

Friday, 11th April - Easter Hat Parade / Last Day of Term

Reminders

Wednesday, 2nd April - Small Schools Cross Country Notes Due

 matong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

 5649 Canola Way, Matong, 2652, NSW

 matong-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

 02 6927 7824

Attendance

NSW Department of Education



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Farewell to the Gordons



Kinder to Year 2 - NRL League Tag Coolamon



Community News

Coolamon Library

Storytime 2025

The next Storytime session will be this held Friday 28th March @ 10.30am theme "Under the Sea" @ 10.30am – Everyone is most welcome.

Youth Week – Youth Fest 2025

Youth Fest is happening again on Friday 11th April from 6pm-8pm at the Up-To-Date-Store outdoor precinct. Join us for a night of entertainment including; DJ, Henna tattoo, outdoor games and a Photo Booth – Food is available to purchase.

Youth and Primary School Holiday Program

Join us for our school holiday program with multiple activities running from 14th April – 24th April. Activities include: Art Sculpture workshop, Weight Sessions and games with Maddox Group Fitness, Foodiam cooking class, Rainbow Pillows at the Library and plenty more. Check out our Facebook page for more information.

Author Visit

The Library welcomes author Pauline Wilson, on Wednesday, 2nd April @ 10.00am. Pauline writes historical fiction inspired by the amazing true stories of her ancestors. Join us for a cuppa and a chat with Pauline. – book by phoning the Library – 69272492.

Tech Help Free

If you or someone you know needs help with technology, come to the Coolamon Shire Library for FREE one-on-one assistance. Bring your device and your questions. Bookings are essential. Call the Library to book a time that suits you (02) 6927 2492.

Lego Club

Lego Club is being held at the Library on Wednesday's from 4.00pm – 5.00pm, then on Saturday mornings from 10.30am – 11.30am. Lego Club is a fun inactive program for all ages – everyone is most welcomed.

Baby Bounce

Baby Bounce will be held this Wednesday 26th March @ 10.30am at the Library . Bring along a friend to enjoy the morning. Bounce is a 30 minute early literacy program designed to help very young children to explore language. This is done by everyone joining in and learning an array of simple stories, rhymes and songs – morning tea will be provided.

YOUTH WEEK SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

FRIDAY 11 APRIL - YOUTH FEST 10+
Join us for a night of entertainment! DJ, Henna Tattoo, Photo Booth & Outdoor Games! Food available for purchase.
Where: Coolamon Up-to-date store
Time: 6pm to 8pm

TUESDAY 15 APRIL - SCULPTURE WORKSHOP 12+
Come & join us for a 2 hour workshop where you can create and paint a paper sculpture. Lunch provided.
Cost: FREE | Time: 10.30am

WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL - PCYC SAFER DRIVER COURSE
Join us for our PCYC Safer driver course these school holidays at the Coolamon Shire Library & knock 20 hours off your logbook. Mixture of theory & driving. Lunch provided.
Time: 9.00am | Cost: FREE

THURSDAY 17 APRIL - EASTER HUNT CHALLENGE AND GAMES 12+
Join us for a variety of exercise challenges and fun games with Maddox Group Fitness.
Time: 10:30am
Where: Coolamon Footy Oval | Cost: FREE

TUESDAY 22 APRIL - WEIGHTS SESSION 12+
Join us for a weight session with Maddox Group Fitness at Coolamon Footy Oval
Time: 10:30am | Cost: FREE

WEDNESDAY 23 APRIL - FOOD I AM COOKING CLASS 12+
Join us for a cooking class at Food I am. Cruise TBA. Bus provided.
Time: Depart 8:30am from Library
Cost: FREE








BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL (02) 6927 2492







APRIL 2025 Primary School Holiday Program

Bookings are essential  Coolamon Shire Library (02) 6927 2492 library@coolamon.nsw.gov.au

Borrow, guess & win!
Each time you borrow during these holidays, you get to guess how many jellybeans are in our jar! Closest guess wins the jar of jellybeans!

Coolamon	Date + Time
Rainbow Pillow Make a rainbow pillow using precut material and a premade cushion.	Coolamon Shire Library Wednesday 16 April 10:30am \$6 per person
Easter Sacks Colour-In your very own Easter Sack - ready for Easter.	Coolamon Shire Library Thursday 17 April 10:30am \$5 per person
Pom Pom Creations Create a magical craft using pom poms to take home.	Coolamon Shire Library Tuesday 22 April 10:30am \$2 per person

Ardlethan

Koala Pillows	Date + Time
Make a Koala pillow using precut material and a premade cushion.	Ardlethan CWA Hall Thursday 24 April 2pm - 3pm \$6 per person

Marrar

Rainbow Pillows	Date + Time
Make a rainbow pillow using precut material and a premade cushion.	Marrar Hall Tuesday 29 April 10:30am \$6 per person




