Mr Luke Kenny
Principal

From the Principal’s Desk...

Welcome back to another term, I hope everyone had an enjoyable break. Last week on Friday we had sports day. Well done to the red team that took out the shield and to Evanna Williams and Clint Indelicato that took out the overall point’s winners for the boys and girls for the second year running. It was a great day where the staff, students, families and the community came together to support one another.

Next year there will be two Rec/Year1 classes, a Year 1/2, two Year 2/3 classes, Year 3/4, Year 4/5, Year 5/6, Year 6/7, Deadly Centre, Year 8/9, Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12. Parents are invited to write to me as Principal if they have any requests for certain classes based on student friendships, interactions, or academics. All letters are confidential and every effort will be made to accommodate student needs. All letters need to be into me by Friday 7th November. Please be aware that teachers have not been placed against classes and at this stage I cannot accept requests for students to be with a specific teacher.

From John Sutton...

Dear Parents, last Wednesday night I attended the Far North Regional Awards Night as I had been nominated for the Educational awards Section. The nominating person nominated me back in term 1 and is anonymous.

My understanding was that the school had been nominated for its progress over the last 4 years, but it turned out to be an individual award based on my leadership during that time. I was not only honoured to be there as a finalist, but extremely proud and humble to be awarded the overall education award. In winning the award it would be remiss of me not to congratulate and thank everyone who has contributed toward me winning. In the last four years staff, leadership, students and the community have come together in ensuring Coober Pedy Area School moves forward. Without their support, hard work and professional work ethic, our goals would not have been realised. The selection panel were particularly impressed by our improvement journey. Congratulations also go to Community Health, Stuart Range Caravan Park for winning their sections and the Shooting Club and The Bolt for being finalists in their sections. Once again thank you for everyone's help in our journey. John Sutton

Position Vacant: Grounds person

Coober Pedy Area School requires a Grounds person for 30 hours per week. Duties include mowing and watering oval/garden, up keeping the school grounds to a tidy state, some minor maintenance, beautifying the school grounds, unlocking parts of the school and school security. You will need to have completed a DCSI child related employment screening and a Mandatory Notification course. If you are interested, can you please hand your resume into the Front Office by Monday 3rd of November.

Upcoming Dates to Remember...

27th –31st October—Reward Camp for the year 8, 9 and 10’s

4th—9th November—SAASTA Shield Camp

10th November—Governing Council Meeting 5:30pm in the Library Boardroom

UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY
Respect ◆ Inclusivity ◆ Integrity ◆ Commitment & Responsibility ◆ Excellence
Welcome back to term 4. We hope everyone had a great school holidays. The term is in full swing and set to be a busy one.

Parent Group

We had our first Parent group meeting on the Tuesday of Week 1 (14/10/14). This meeting was held at the Playground and we had a BBQ to welcome everyone to a new term. 9 Parents attended as well as Sandra and Tamara from the Aboriginal Education team and Simone, Linley and Julia from the Remote Schools Attendance Strategy (RSAS) team. During this meeting parents discussed when the best time is to run the meetings to avoid clashes with other Community activities. Parents have agreed to meet once a fortnight on a Wednesday at 11:30am. During this time parents are able to discuss their concerns, get information about the school and education and this term will be focusing on establishing a Schools and Community Partnership agreement. We want to thank Selina Hull who helped Sandra to prepare and cook the food. Our next meeting will be Wednesday the 5th of November at 11:30am in the Languages room. This meeting has been changed as Tamara and Sandra have training in Port Augusta next week.

We hope to see you there.

Staff Network day

Next Tuesday Tamara and Sandra will be attending a networking day in Port Augusta. During this time they will be meeting with staff from other schools who are also working in the area of Aboriginal Education. They will be sharing what we do at Coober Pedy and be able to hear from other schools about their strategies and ideas. This will be a very worthwhile day and they hope to learn many new things.

From the Aboriginal Education Team
Loose Change Challenge

Throughout last term the SRC was running a fundraising campaign for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Each class had a jar and was encouraged to place any loose change they had or found in an effort to make the longest line at the end of the term. Over the term the school raised over $400 with Mrs. Jones’ Reception class making the longest line of coins. As a reward the class enjoyed a pool party on Tuesday.

Art Therapy — Mandalas

The very nature of creating a mandala is therapeutic and symbolic. The shapes and colours used creating a mandala will reflect your inner self at the time of creation. Your instincts and feelings will inspire and guide you through the process of creation. Ultimately, you will be creating a portrait of yourself as you are when creating the mandala. So, whatever you are feeling at that time, whatever emotions are coming through, will be represented in your mandala and potentially allow for discussion. Here are some of the mandalas that students have created so far this year.

Next Week — Reward Camp

Thanks to OZ Minerals, the Remote Student Attendance Strategy, and Mike Maylin a group of year 8, 9 and 10 students will be heading to Adelaide for a Reward Camp. Some of the fun activities the students will participate in are go karts and laser skirmish, ten pin bowling and rock climbing. Concluding the camp there will be a celebration dinner at the Stamford Grand. Look out for photos in the next newsletter.

Daniel Botten & Geri Prizzi — School Counsellors
The Strategy is funded by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the focus is raising attendance rates for all students at school. Many children in remote communities are not going to school every day, with attendance in some communities very low. It is just as important for children living in remote Australia to go to school every day as it is for those in the city. We need to increase attendance rates in remote schools so all children get a good education. Those students who miss one day a week can miss up to 40 days of school a year!

The attendance team is made up of Linley Belford Manager/Mentor, Julia Chamberlain, Richard Warren and Gary Crombie who are School Attendance Supervisors, and Cheryl Brown, Nikki Gardiner, Rajesh Khanduri, Samantha Hayes, Francine Hoani, Simone Brooks, Alinta Wonga and David Gilbey who are the School Attendance Officers.

We feel that we are highly visible to the school community and the general community by our signature black and orange tops. We can be contacted via the Complete Personnel office or direct on mobile: 0428966637.

We are working with the School, families and students to assist in improving attendance rates. There are many and different reasons for students to be absent from school and our team can help support families. The Team work to increase school attendance through a variety of measures, including walking or driving children to school, helping with breakfast and can assist with some school lunches and organising uniforms through the School.

There is a Red Cross Breakfast Club that runs from 7:00am until 8:45am each school weekday and all students are welcome to come along and have breakfast and then can participate in indoor or outdoor activities before the School Bell! Our team assist with the running of the Club and the activities.

All children dream big about what they want out of life when they grow up and getting an education will help those dreams.