Mr Luke Kenny  
Principal  

From the Principal’s Desk…  
We are coming very quickly to the end of another school year and we have got a number of school events happening over the next 2 weeks. There is the year 12 Graduation on Friday night at Desert Cave, which will be a great opportunity to celebrate the end of the year 12’s schooling life.  

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the year 12’s for all the hard work they have put in over the last 13 years of their schooling life. Especially over the last 12 months. It has been a real battle but there is light at the end of the tunnel. I wish them all the best in whatever they decide to do and I am sure that they will go on to achieve great things.

Governing Council  
We have our last Governing School Council meeting for the year on Monday 24th November to go through some of the changes that will be occurring in 2015 at Coober Pedy Area School. If you are a Governing School representative can you please make sure you attend the last meeting for the year.

Carols by Candlelight  
Is on Wednesday the 26th of November at 8pm on the OZ Mineral oval. This will be a great evening to hear the local community and families doing some singing. Come out and support the community please bring a rug and or chair. The SRC will be selling Candles and glow sticks down at the oval on the evening.

From the Education Director  
Dear Coober Pedy Parents and Caregivers,  
As the Education Director I am announcing the appointing of Mark Ireland as Principal of Coober Pedy Area School for a five year tenure starting 2015. Mark is currently Principal of Grange Primary School. He has a wide range of Principal positions and Area and Primary setting, both metropolitan and rural. Later in the term he will be visiting Coober Pedy to meet staff and connect with parents and caregivers.  
I would also like to acknowledge the leadership of Luke Kenny and thank him for contributions over the last year.

Yours sincerely,  
Ian May  
Education Director

Upcoming Dates to Remember…  
Monday 24th Nov—Governing Council meeting  
Friday 21st Nov—Year 12 Graduation  
Wednesday 26th Nov—Carols by Candlelight  
Thursday 27th Nov— Year 7 Graduation  
Tuesday 2nd Dec—Presentation Day

UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY  
Respect ◆ Inclusivity ◆ Integrity ◆ Commitment & Responsibility ◆ Excellence
Trachoma testing

This week Desley Culpin from The Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia visited Coober Pedy to undertake Trachoma testing for all Aboriginal Students from reception to year 7. Trachoma is a bacterial infection of the eye that can cause complications including blindness. Desley taught us that clean faces mean strong eyes—meaning we have to wash our faces regularly and blow our noses to prevent risk of infection. Desley was very impressed at how well the students had been keeping their faces clean. Everyone who participated in the testing was very well behaved and were lucky enough to get a small gift. Thanks Desley for your Trachoma education and service.

Parent Group

Due to sadness in the community around recent events the previous parent group was cancelled, however we will be having our last parent group meeting on the Monday the 24th of November at 11:30am in the Aboriginal Education room. We would love to see all Aboriginal parents come celebrate 2014 with us and reflect on the year that was.
This year Coober Pedy Area School sent away three primary teams to compete at Flinders University, Adelaide, against other schools from across South Australia in the Tournament of Minds. Students had to address two challenges - the spontaneous challenge where a question was posed on the day and the team had to present answers within a few minutes and the long term challenge where teams work on the solution for six weeks.

In the latter challenge, students had to show their answer in the form of a play, written and performed by them. Rules are very strict and only students in the team can contribute to the solution, writing the script, performing, making costumes and props and anything at all to do with the challenge. They may ask to be shown how to do something but must then use the skills learnt to do it themselves. The actual challenge is kept a secret between the students until after it is performed at Flinders University.

Students worked very hard in the six weeks leading up to presenting their play for the judges and gave up many hours of their time on weekends and after school to practice. Most of the students had competed in Tournament of Minds before and used their expertise and leadership to support their teams. Taylor Bock, Molly Steven and Dalila Berovic performed in their first Tournament of Minds and all were excellent assets to their teams. The teams were: Pipe Benjanukrom, Shenelle Perera, Emma Borrett, Sebastian Clark, Sophie Talbot-Ridgway and Angel Poulivaati; Team 2: Alyssa Cabrera, Jeffrey Chan, Jayden Simmonds-Clements, Amber McDonald, Molly Steven and Dalila Berovic; Team 3: Adeena Thankakumar, Taylor Bock, Hugh Bulotano, Ishka Maat, Joshua Carboni and Chloe Simmonds-Clements.

All students performed to a high standard and were a credit to Coober Pedy Area School. They communicated clearly and expressively and spoke to the judges confidently. Feedback from the judges was very positive and the teams scored well.

After the hard work was over, students went to the Adelaide Centre of the Arts and the Art Gallery of SA as well as ten-pin bowling, the beach, Saint Kilda Playground and the cinema.

A special thank you to Elsie Carboni, Roxene Newton and Geri Prizzi who supported our teams on camp and were tireless in their efforts.
SRC News

Next year there will be some changes to the Student Representative Council. 2015 will see the introduction of Students Working Actively Together (SWAT) teams. Led by the school counsellors, there will be a range of teams that will work on projects for a set period of time. Teams may focus on areas such as wellbeing, gardening, canteen, school community, and grounds and buildings. We look forward to sharing more news about the SWAT teams next year.

Carols by Candlelight

Carols by Candlelight is on Wednesday 26th November. SRC will be selling a range of glow sticks on the night ranging from 50c to $3. Money will go towards the projects that the SWAT teams will be working on next year.

Year 12 Graduation

Congratulations to the Year 12 students who will be celebrating their graduation this Friday. Thank you to Thiess for sponsoring the event. We look forward to sharing photos of the event in the next newsletter.

Find your flow!

Do you have a hobby? There are many benefits to having a hobby. Hobbies can help you unwind and can also shift your focus from your worries to something enjoyable.

Hobbies can also help you find your ‘flow’, which is basically losing yourself in something you are doing. You can experience flow in many ways. It could be engaging in a physical activity such as swimming or dancing or it may be experienced through a quieter and more creative activity such as painting or writing. It might seem too simple to be true, but it significantly impacts your mental health. So go on, find your flow!

Daniel Botten & Geri Prizzi—School Counsellors