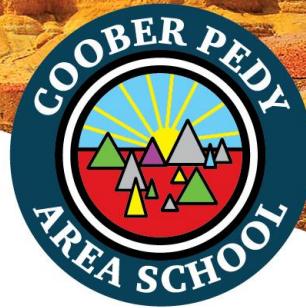


NEWSLETTER

Term: 4 | Issue: 2 | Date: 04.12.2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are always appreciative of the support we get from you all to make our school a centre of **quality teaching and learning** for all our students.



This year has seen the successful implementation of the Department for Education Synthetic Phonics Reading Program in our junior primary classes (R-2). Thank you for all your support in making the implementation process a success. The data we have validates the Impact this is making to the learning outcomes for our students. This work will continue in 2026. Our Site Learning Plan (SLP) work has continued throughout the year. Our teachers have been working collaboratively with our

experts to deliver the SA curriculum in Maths and English.



Our SLP work will continue in 2026 with the implementation of three additional SA Curriculum Learning areas/subjects of Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Health and Physical Education (HPE). Our Teaching staff have made a collective decision to focus on the dispositions of Curiosity and Resilience in these learning areas/subjects to align this with the goal of our SLP.

We look forward to your support with this work in 2026,

We have shared some of the exciting learning and work happening at our school in this newsletter.

Thank you all for another great year at CPAS and we look forward to seeing you back for the 2026 school year.

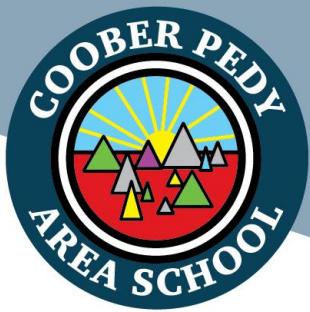
Let us continue to keep the bar very high!

Mr Maurice Saah
Principal



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY



TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Reception- Ms Kim Diep

In this final term of the 2025 School year, our Reception class has been able to consolidate and combine learning from Design Technologies with Numeracy.



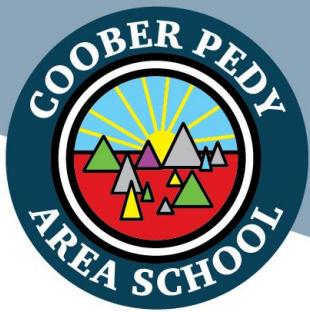
We were able to work in Project teams, showcasing how teamwork makes the dream work and effectively using all the Design thinking skills we were able to create our Market stalls.



With these Market stalls we were able to demonstrate and practise all our numeracy skills we have acquired throughout the year by counting our money, as well as using part-part whole and other addition and subtraction strategies to play shop.



Ms Kim Diep
Reception Class Teacher



Years 1/2A Class- Ms Laura Hardbottle

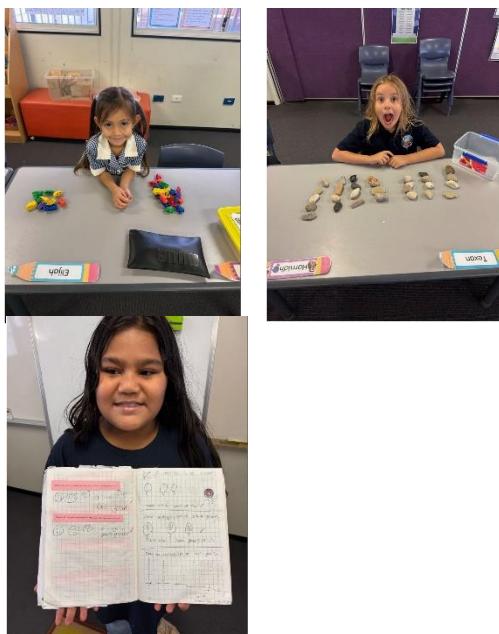
In Literacy this term, students have continued strengthening their reading through our daily fluency pairs routine. Working with a partner helps build confidence, accuracy and expression and it has been great to see students enjoy reading aloud together.



Students have also continued developing their writing skills through Talk for Writing, exploring model texts and practising new language patterns. In Phonics and Spelling, we are consolidating key phoneme - grapheme correspondences and applying these skills with increasing independence across reading and writing tasks.

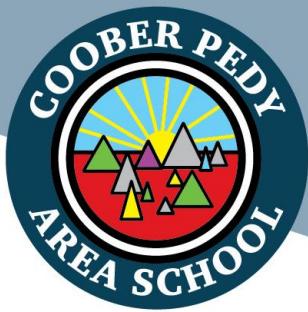


In Numeracy this term, students have been exploring equal sharing and grouping to build the foundations of multiplication and division. Through hands on activities, real-life problems and visual models, students have been learning how to share items fairly, make equal groups and recognise the patterns that connect these ideas. As their confidence grows, students are beginning to use repeated addition, skip counting and simple number facts to solve early multiplication and division problems. It has been wonderful to see their reasoning skills develop as they explain how they know their answers.



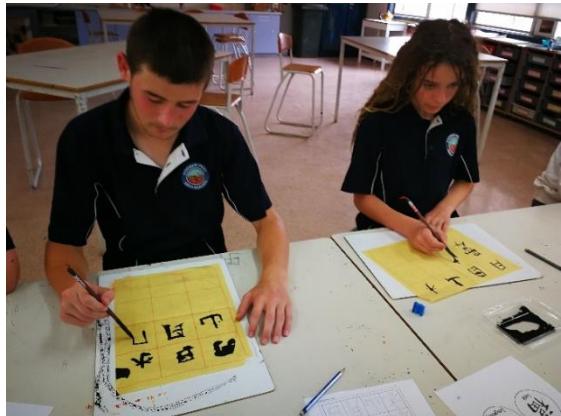
I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all students, families and staff for your support during my time at here at Coober Pedy Area School. It has been a privilege to teach here and I am truly grateful for the kindness, trust and encouragement shown to me. This community is incredibly special and I feel very lucky to have been a part of it.

Ms Laura Hardbottle
Years 1/2A Class Teacher



Year 7 Mandarin Lessons

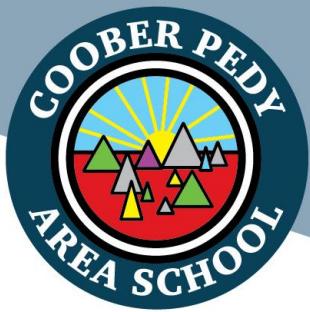
Our Chinese teacher Lan visited the Year 7 students in Week 2. The students explored the beautiful art of Chinese calligraphy using special "magic cloths."



It was a wonderful hands-on experience that everyone thoroughly enjoyed!

Ms Vicki CAI
Coordinator

They practised how to hold and control a brush correctly, practicing the numbers and characters they have been studying in class. Students also enjoyed decorating the Chinese bookmarks with their favourite phrases and stamping them with traditional Chinese seals.



Years 3/4A- Ms Sue Lange

As we come to the end of the school year, we have integrated our learning from Maths-measuring and estimating and the properties of three-dimensional shapes with the construction techniques we practised in Design and Technology.

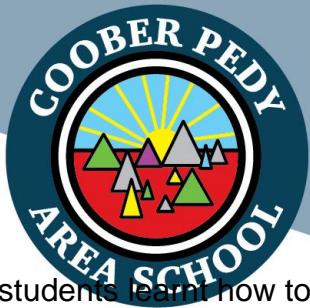


Students combined the skills and learning from both areas to construct Memory Boxes. These boxes were constructed with care and careful choice of colour and material. This will be used to store mementos of this year and years to come.



As you can see the students are very proud of what they have produced and achieved.

Ms Sue Lange
Years 3/4A Class Teacher



Years 5/6 Camp to Adelaide

Our Years 5/6 students have ended the school year with an unforgettable week at the Wirraway Homestead in Strathalbyn.



For many of our students, this camp was filled with incredible first-time experiences; flying on a plane, seeing the Adelaide Hills, meeting farm animals, and riding horses for the very first time.



Throughout the week, students took part in a wide range of activities, including horse riding, archery, low-ropes challenges, and team tasks that strengthened resilience, confidence, and cooperation.

During stockman skills, students learnt how to safely work with pigs, chickens, horses and goats, developing the skills of responsibility and respect for animals.

One of the most rewarding parts of the week has been watching students naturally apply the skills we have been developing in the classroom setting.

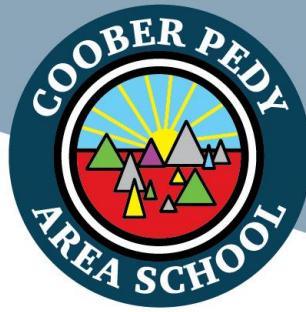


They have spent the year learning how to take feedback as part of the learning process and on camp, this shone through. Students embraced the challenges positively and supported one another, showing just how much they have grown this year.

The Camp wasn't all hard work either. Students enjoyed plenty of free time in the pool, played ping pong, air hockey, carpet ball, lawn games, and trivia, and created their own fun completely without technology. It has been a joy to simply watch our students in a different environment.

Our students return home with new skills, new friendships, and memories that will last for years to come. What a fantastic way to finish the 2025 school year!

Ms Elsie and Mrs Lovegrove
Years 5/6 Class Teachers



Permissions and Consent Forms- Update-2026

Dear Parents/Caregivers

The Department for Education has updated the Media consent form for child/student. Please come into the front office of the school if you would like to update the existing consent form.

Please contact the school if you require any further details or clarification.

On another note, if you would like to update any of the permissions for your child/children, please visit our front office/reception and get this completed for you.

Nut Free

Please also be mindful that we are a **nut free school**.

Several students have allergies to peanuts and other nuts.

As a result, we would like to encourage parents to ensure their children's lunches contain no nut products.

Thank you for your support with this.

Energy Drinks on School Site

Parents/caregivers are kindly requested to remind their children that, the **possession and consumption** of energy drinks are **not allowed** on school grounds at any time during school hours.

Our school takes a very strong position on this for the health and wellbeing of all our students.

We look forward to your continual co-operation with this.

Glass Bottles and High Sugar Drinks

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Just a reminder that glass bottles of any kind are not permitted in the school as they are a Work Health and Safety (WHS) risk due to the potential of broken glass in the school yard.

We would also like to ask parents and caregivers for their support to not send children to school with high sugar soft drinks and caffeine drinks, such as coke, solo, redbull etc.

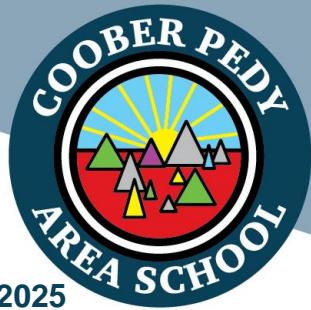


Please feel free to contact us should you require any further information.

Thank you for your support of our school over the year and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 27th January 2026.

Ms Veronika Witham
Deputy Principal



STAFFING UPDATE- 2026

Our Leadership Team:

Mr Maurice Saah- Principal
Ms Veronika Witham- Deputy Principal
Ms Aki Sharma Puri- Assistant Principal (Secondary/SACE/VET)
Ms Nikki Dibell- Assistant Principal (Intervention, Support and Aboriginal Education)
Ms Vicki CAI- Coordinator (Early Years)
Ms Faith Brohier- Student Wellbeing Leader

Our Teaching Staff- 2026:

Preschool

Ms Benzin Boonwarutaraya
Ms Vicki CAI

Junior Primary & Primary

Ms Kim Diep (Reception)
Ms Wai Ieng (Patricia) Wu (R/1)
Ms Iris Mui (Years 1/2)
Ms Yvonne Anderson (Learning Hub)
Ms Hayley Geisler (Years 3/4A)
Ms Emily Lovegrove (Years 3/4B)
Mr Nick Spencer (Years 5/6A)
Ms Laura Brooks (Years 5/6B)
Mr Peter Smith (ALC)
Ms Sue Lange (Primary NIT)
Ms Wing Ki Wu (Primary/Secondary)
Mr Anthony Prizzi (Science/HPE)

Secondary/SACE

Mr Nick Hayman (English/Humanities)
Ms Thomas Price (English/Humanities)
Mr Terry Lau (Maths/Science)
Ms Qi Sun (Secondary/SACE)
Ms Annie Yao (Primary/Secondary/SACE)
Mr Josh Fraser (Design & Technologies)
Ms Trish Jenkins (HPE/SACE)
Mr Luka Versteegh (Primary/Secondary)

STAFF FAREWELLS- 2025

I wish to acknowledge and say a big thank you to the following staff members for their work throughout their time here at the school and wish them all the best for the future:
Mrs Jeannie Lai-Salazar (Coordinator)
Ms Laura Hardbottle (Teacher)
Ms Marissa Lockhart (Teacher)
Ms Marie Otty (Teacher)
Mr Adam Salazar (SSO)
Ms Emaly Kapetanakis (SSO)

The following Staff Members will be on Leave during the 2026 School Year:

Ms Elsie Adu-Agyei (Teacher)
Ms Tegan Jones (Teacher)
Ms Tink Seekamp (Teacher)

On another, I (Mr Maurice Saah) will be taking some Leave at the start of Term 1 2026. I will be away until 04/03/2026 (Week 6 Term 1 2026).

In my absence, Veronika will be the acting principal. Brenton will be the acting deputy principal to backfill Veronika's role. Please give them your support like you always do.

Our Classes for 2026:

Preschool

Junior Primary

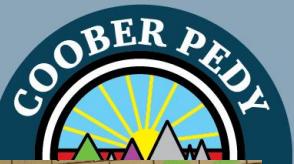
Reception, Reception/Year 1, Years 1/2 and the Learning Hub

Primary

Years 3/4A, Years 3/4B, Years 5/6A, Years 5/6B and the Alternate Learning Centre (ALC)

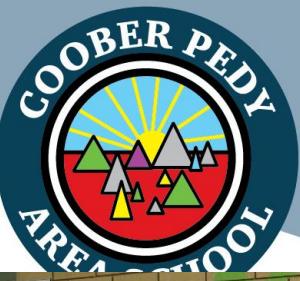
Secondary/SACE

Years 7/8, Years 8/9, Years 9/10 and Years 11/12

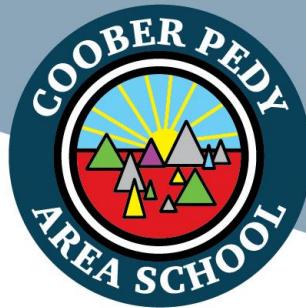


Presentation Day 2025





Congratulations to all our Award winners!



DIARY DATES- 2026

Term 1 Week 1

Tuesday, 27th January, 2026- Term 1 2026 begins from **8.50am** for all students.

Term 1 Week 6- Week 9

Monday, 2nd March, 2026- Friday, 27th March, 2026- Numeracy Checks- Year 1 Students

Term 1 Week 7

Monday, 9th March, 2026- Adelaide Cup- Public Holiday- No School for Students and Staff

Tuesday, 10th March, 2026- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Wednesday, 11th March, 2026- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Term 2 Week 6

Friday, 5th June, 2026- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Term 3 Week 9

Friday, 18th September, 2026- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Term 4 Week 4

Friday, 6th November, 2026- Family Night- School Community

Term 4 Week 5

Monday, 9th November, 2026- School Closure- Student Free Day- No School for Students and Staff

Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council- News

As the 2025 school year comes to an end, we would like to thank all staff, volunteers and organisations involved in creating a safe, nurturing and stimulating learning environment for our students.

2025 has seen great projects emerging such as the Student Representative Council (SRC). Other initiatives including the School Values recognition and awards have all contributed in making the school a thriving place for all students.

The Governing Council would like to acknowledge the initiative of all involved in these projects.

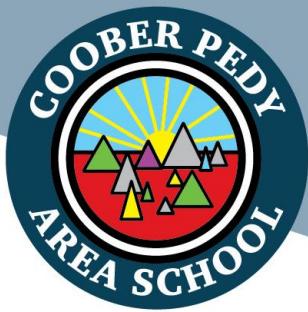
We also want to congratulate all the 2025 awards recipients.

The effort and dedication each of you have put in your learning and the living of the school values is something worth celebrating.

I wish to congratulate all our graduating Year 12 students and wish them all the best for the future.

Lastly, we like to wish everyone a great summer break and we look forward to another great year ahead.

Warm regards,
Ariane M-Roberge
Governing Council Chairperson
cpasgoverningcouncil@gmail.com



Special Appreciation and shout outs

School Governing Council

Thank you to all our School Governing Council Members for your unflinching support of our school and principal.

We look forward to this collaboration continuing in 2026.

Ian Hodgson (Complete Personnel)

Thank you so much for your sponsorship of various school/student programs and activities over the years and particularly in 2025.

We are particularly grateful for your support of our camps, school uniforms, winter clothing, year 6 graduation dinner and student awards. We look forward to this continuing in 2026.

The 2025 School Year finishes at 2.00pm on Friday, 05/12/2025.

The 2026 School Year starts at 8.50am on Tuesday, 27/01/2026.

We look forward to welcoming you all back to school in 2025.

We wish you all a restful holiday break and a Merry Christmas.

See you all in 2026.