Term: 1 | Issue: 1 | Date: 05.03.2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are very excited to welcome you all to the 2025 school year. We are very appreciative of your support in making our school a centre of **quality teaching and learning.**



We have had another great SACE completion outcomes for our class of 2024 students. Thank you to all our teachers for making the dreams of our students come through.

The year started off with the successful implementation of the Department of Education (DFE) synthetic phonics reading program in our Junior Primary classes (Reception- Year 2).

We wish to acknowledge the onsite Professional Learning support of the Department's Literacy Guarantee Unit (LGU) Coach in the implementation process. We are very appreciative of the leadership support provided to our teachers during this process. Our teachers have embraced this implementation process with a very positive mindset and are giving off their best for great learning outcomes for all our students. We look forward to this growing and becoming embedded at our school in 2025 and beyond.



Our teaching staff group will continue with the **activation** of our Education Strategy in our context. The SA curriculum will be our main resource for this work during the year. We will continue to make **smart choices** in relation to the activation work to ensure that our students are learning and thriving. Please speak to our leadership team if you require further information about this exciting work.

Our language program has been extended to our Years 5/6 students and we look forward to this continuing during the year.

We look forward to your continual support in 2025.

Let us continue to keep the bar very high!

Mr Maurice Saah Principal





TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Reception Class- Ms Kim Diep

We have had an amazing start to the school year with everyone settling into the classroom routines early and starting the year off with a smooth transition for our preschool students. In Literacy, we have started the learning of the foundational phonemes and graphemes as part of the implementation of the DfE synthetic phonics program.



In Talk for Writing (TfW), we have been learning about the wombat stew story and have created a story map as a class. We should be able to recite this story to anyone who would like to hear it by the end middle of the term.





In Maths, we have been having fun naming and ordering our numbers and working on our subitising and collating our class data daily. We have also been doing some work to promote positive dispositions in Mathematics.



We have also been able to discover and explore what our playgrounds and what they are made up of during our Design and Technology lessons.

We are looking forward to another year of exciting learning opportunities for our reception students in 2025.

Ms Kim Diep Reception Class Teacher

Years 3/4A Class- Ms Sue Lange









Ms Sue Lange Years 3/4A Class Teacher

Years 5/6A Class- Ms Emily Lovegrove

Here are some learning moments in our Years 5/6A class! Getting into a routine has been a class focus. To support this, we have introduced 'Cornelius Cockroach' into our learning space. Not only has this approach helped us settle into our routines, the approach has also encouraged participation—everyone wants a turn to hold Cornelius while they talk!



In Maths, we have been focusing on number sense, trusting the count, and measurement, particularly length. Students have been exploring new and refined strategies for multiplicative thinking.



In Literacy, we have been working hard on many skills, but one of the highlights has been *Talk for Writing*.



Creating our own story map has been both fun and highly engaging! Students have expanded their vocabulary and are actively practicing using their new tools in writing.



To support their learning, we are following the *I do, We do, You do* model to scaffold their understanding and application of these strategies.



Ms Emily Lovegrove Years 5/6A Class Teacher

Secondary Food Technology- Mr McColl





DIARY DATES- Term 1 2025

Term 1 Week 6

Wednesday, 5th March, 2025- Friday, 7th March, 2025- Harmony Day– Whole school celebration

Term 1 Week 7

Monday, 10th March, 2025- Adelaide Cup-Public Holiday– No School for Students and Staff

Tuesday, 11th March, 2025- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Wednesday, 12th March, 2025- Student Free Day- No School for Students

Wednesday, 12th March, 2025- 24th March, 2025- NAPLAN 2025 – Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 Students

Term 1 Week 10

Tuesday, 1st April, 2025- Thursday, 3rd April- Doorways to Construction– Years 11/12 Students

Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025- Autism Awareness Day– Whole School Event

Term 1 Week 11

Friday, 11th April, 2025- Last day of Term 1 2025- School finishes at 2.00pm

Artist in Residence- Liz Baker

We would like to welcome back Liz Baker who supported us with our school murals last year.



This year Liz is back to work with our students for dance and movement lessons.



We are focusing on our Primary students (Preschool to Year 6) in Term 1 and 2 and our Secondary cohort in Terms 3 and 4.



Liz comes with a wealth of experience, working with both adults and students in creative dance including hip hop.

We have set up the canteen space to create a studio atmosphere with the first group being the Years 3/4 class combined.

Enjoy the photos of the students in action. More photos to follow in the next newsletter.

Ms Veronika Witham Deputy Principal

The Special Events Corner

Valentine's Day Celebration at CPAS

On Valentine's Day this year, our Special Events team added a little extra sweetness to the day. To celebrate the occasion, they prepared delicious chocolate-dipped strawberries, heart-shaped biscuits, and yummy Tim Tams to share, spreading a little love throughout the staff room. In addition to the treats, staff members were

in addition to the treats, staff members were invited to write a heartfelt message on a heartshaped piece of paper, completing the prompt: *"What we love about..."* Many of us shared beautiful sentiments about *"our life, our families, our jobs, and the wonderful people*



we work with." It was a wonderful display of appreciation and positivity that truly brightened up the staff room, creating a warm and uplifting atmosphere for all to enjoy. It was a beautiful reminder of the things that bring us joy and gratitude in our daily lives at CPAS!

Beat the Heat

On Friday, 21st February, 2025, Coober Pedy Area School hosted its **Beat the Heat!** event, where students and staff came together to learn about the importance of sun safety. The event was a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness about how to protect ourselves under the Australian sun.

A key focus of the event was educating our school community about the 5S approach to sun safety:

- Slip on a shirt
- Slop on sunscreen
- Slap on a hat
- Seek shade
- Slide on sunglasses

These simple steps are essential in helping everyone stay safe while enjoying the outdoors.

The students had a wonderful time enjoying a healthy treat of fresh yogurt and fruit, while engaging in important discussions about staying safe in the sun. It was a great way to combine fun and education in a hands-on way.

A special thank you goes to **Tumby Bay**



Pharmacy for their generous donation of



sunscreen. These sunscreens were given to families to help ensure everyone can stay protected under the sun. We appreciate the support of our local community in helping to make this event a success. By working together, we can continue to promote sun safety and healthy habits for all.



Upcoming Events:

Harmony Day

Week 6, Wednesday 5th March, 2025 – Friday, 7th March, 2025

• World Autism Awareness Day

Week 10, Wednesday 2nd April, 2025

Wrap Up Week

Week 11, Wednesday 9th April, 2025 – Friday, 11th April, 2025

Permissions and Consent Forms-Update- 2025

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.

A number of 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.

Ms Veronika Witham Deputy Principal



Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

DATE: Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025

TIME: 5.30pm

WHERE: Coober Pedy Area School – Library – Boardroom

Notice of the AGM went out on **Wednesday**, 5th March, 2025.

Nomination forms for parent and community members are available from the school reception.

If you require further details, please contact:

Ariane Montminy-Roberge Chairperson – CPAS Governing Council cpasgoverningcouncil@gmail.com 0448 621 453