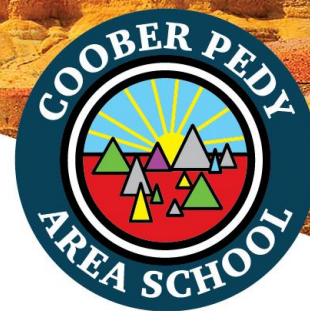


NEWSLETTER

Term: 1 | Issue: 2 | Date: 10.04.2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are very appreciative of your support in making our school a centre of **quality teaching and learning**.

We have had a great start to the school year with great learning occurring in our classrooms/learning areas.

Our teaching staff team have continued with the **activation** of our Education Strategy in our context.

Our SA curriculum implementation work in particular in English and Maths has seen a great engagement from our staff.

We continue to make **smart choices** as a school with this implementation work for the benefit of our students to enable them learn and thrive.

Please speak to our leadership team if you require further information about this exciting work happening at our school.



I would like to thank you all for your participation in our Parent-Teacher Interviews & Open Night during the term. We had another successful Governing Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the term. The Governing council will elect office holders at our next meeting in Term 2 2025. The names and details of our GC members can be found in this newsletter.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

School finishes at **2.00pm Tomorrow (Friday, 11/04/2025)** and school will resume on Monday, 28/04/2025 at 8.50am for the start of Term 2 2025.

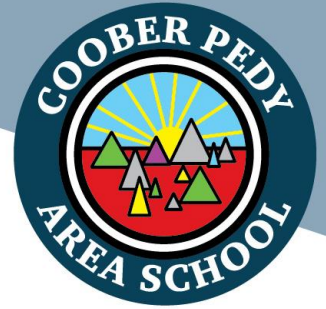
We wish all our students and staff a restful school holiday break

Mr Maurice Saah
Principal



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RESPONSIBILITY



TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Years 1/2A Class- Miss Laura Hardbottle

In Literacy, we have been working hard to build our phonics and spelling knowledge and skills to become stronger readers and writers. Here is what we have been learning:

Reviewing and Reinforcing – We revisited what we already know, while identifying new sounds and word parts (like suffixes).



Learning New Sounds – Following a two-day learning cycle, we were introduced to new sounds and spelling patterns, giving students time to practise and reinforce their learning through reading and writing.



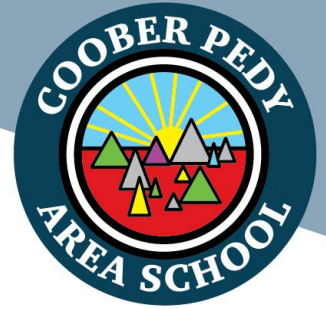
Challenging Ourselves – Students have been building their ability to read and spell more complex words, including those with digraphs (like sh, th, and ch) and trigraphs (like igh), consonant blends, and multisyllabic words.



Tackling Tricky Sounds – Some words don't sound quite like how they are spelt! We have been learning to recognise these tricky patterns, such as unstressed syllables, to help improve both spelling and pronunciation.

Understanding Spelling Variations – We have explored how one phoneme can be spelt in different ways (like *ai* and *ay*), and how one grapheme can represent different phonemes (like *oo* in *book* vs. *oo* in *moon*). **Becoming Fluent Readers** – As confidence grows, students are moving from sounding out each phoneme in words to recognising whole words instantly. We have also been practising blending phonemes silently to help make reading smoother and more fluent.

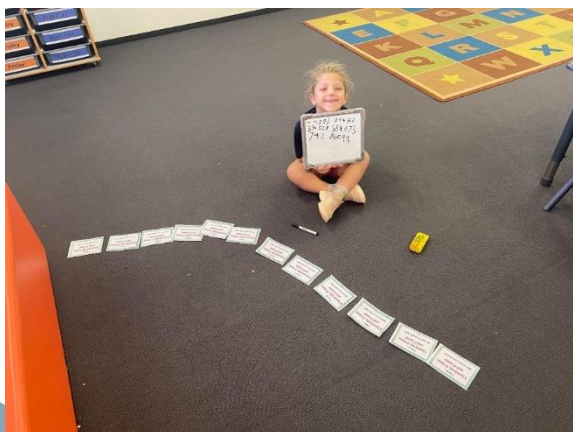
In Maths, our Year 1/2A students have been working hard to build strong number sense and confidence with key concepts. We began the term by exploring place value— understanding how numbers are made up of tens and ones, and extending that knowledge to include hundreds, thousands, and beyond.



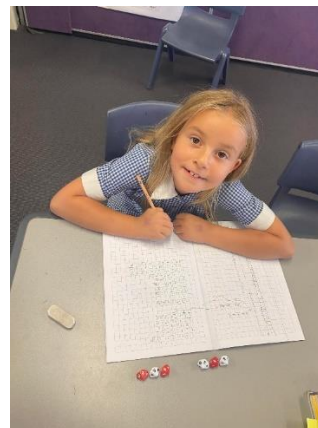
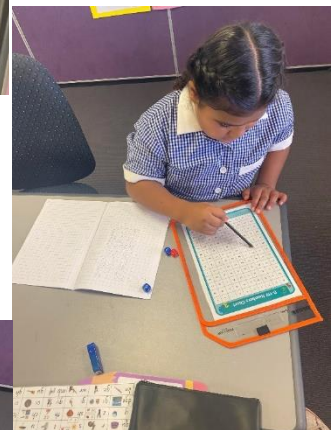
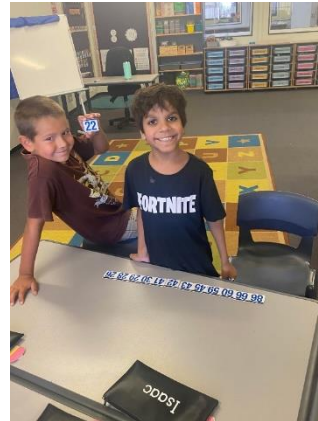
This has helped students see how numbers are structured and how we can break them apart to better understand and work with them. We have also been learning how to partition numbers in different ways, which makes mental calculations easier and builds a strong foundation for problem-solving.



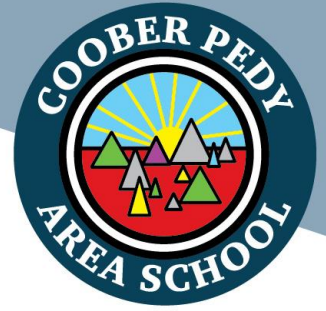
From there, we moved on to addition, using practical activities, number lines, and visual aids to develop strategies for combining numbers to find a total. More recently, we have started exploring subtraction, learning how it's closely linked to addition. We discovered that subtraction can mean "taking away" or "finding the difference," and that



we can use our understanding of addition to solve subtraction problems—for example, if we know $7 + 3 = 10$, we can work out that $10 - 3 = 7$.



Ms Laura Hardbottle
Years 1/2A Class Teacher



Years 3/4A Class- Ms Sue Lange

Our Design and Technology classes have become more hands on as the term has progressed.

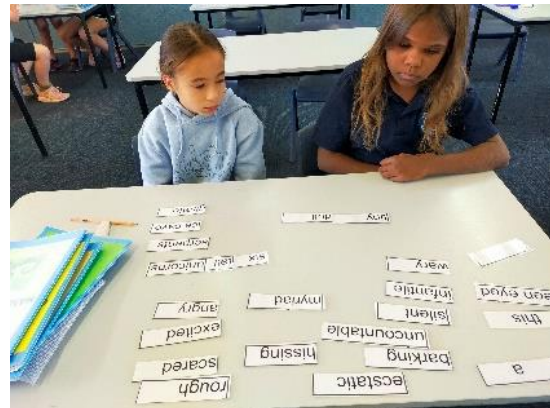


We started planning what a circus would look like, including facilities for employees. With our partners we reached an agreement on a design and then the fun started – we began the construction work shortly after.

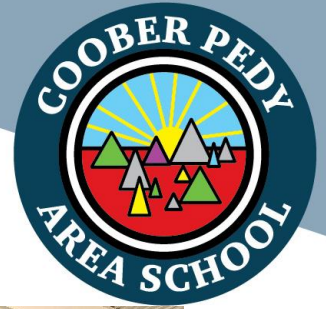


In Maths, we have been combining our understanding of number, addition and subtraction, and applying this knowledge to measurement.

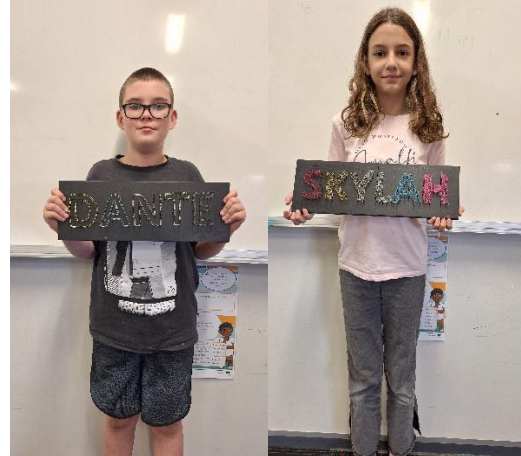
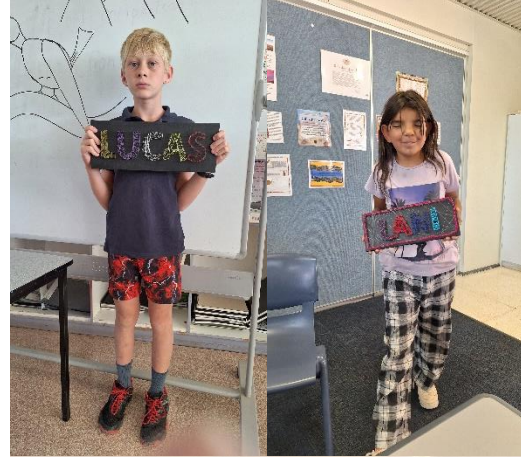
In literacy we have been using our knowledge of description to create interesting stories and recounts in both our spelling and writing lessons.



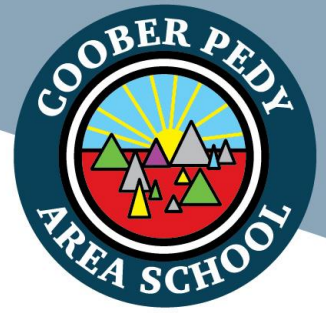
Ms Sue Lange
Years 3/4A Class Teacher



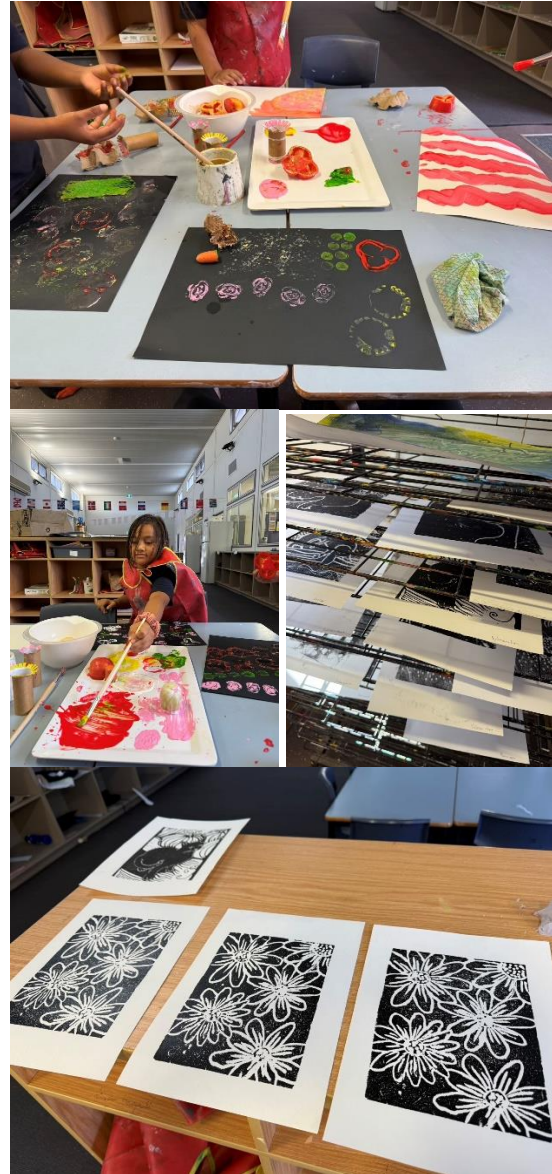
Years 5/6B Technology- Mr Peter Smith



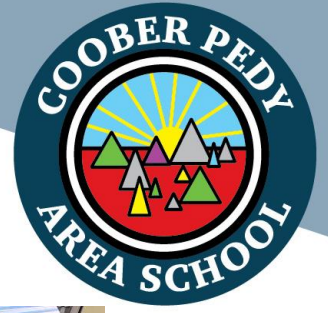
Mr Peter Smith
Years 5/6B Technology Teacher



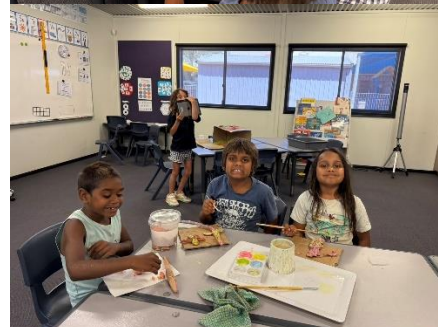
Years 1/2A Visual Art- Ms Benzin



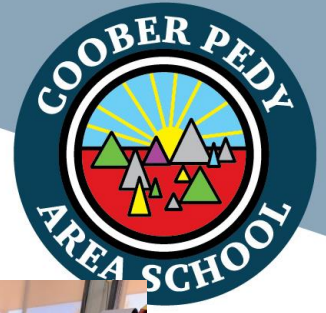
Ms Benzin Boonwarutaraya
Years 1/2A Art Teacher



Years 1/2B Technology- Ms Benzin



Ms Benzin Boonwarutaraya
Years 1/2A Technology Teacher



Years 3/4A HASS - Ms Benzin



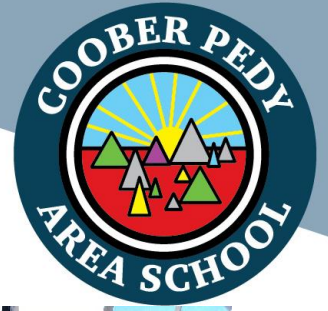
Ms Benzin Boonwarutaraya
Years 3/4 HASS Teacher



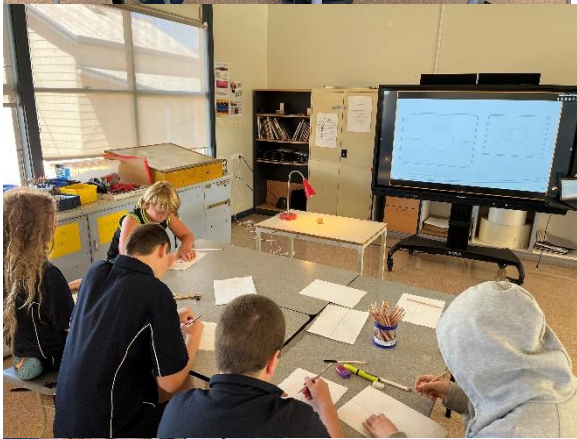
Learning Hub - Ms Benzin



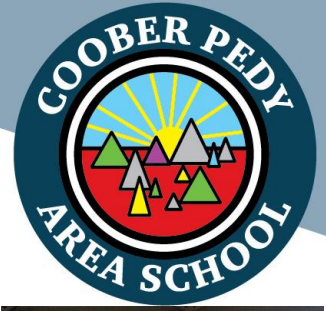
Ms Benzin & Mrs Farkas
Learning Hub Team



Year 7 Art- Ms Wing Ki Wu



Ms Wing Ki Wu
Year 7 Art Teacher



S.A.L.T Workshop- Secondary students

Our school hosted a practical trade workshop for our **Years 7-10 female students** in the school Gym.

The workshop was organised and run by SALT (Supporting and Linking Tradeswomen) during the term Organisation Australia on **Wednesday, 26/03/2025 (Week 9, Term 1)**.

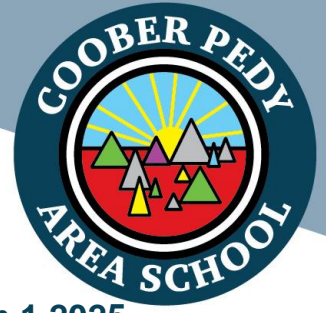


The workshop offered a valuable experience for our participating students.



Well done to our students who participated in this workshop and we look forward to many of such opportunities in the future. We would also like to thank the S.A.L.T organisation for travelling up to provided such a valuable learning experience for our students.

Ms Aki Sharma Puri
Assistant Principal (Secondary/SACE/VET)



Whole School Workshops

Dusty Feet Dance Workshop



Singing Workshop



We would like to Thank Mr Ian Hodgson and his Complete Personnel team for sponsoring both events at our school during the term. We look forward to many more of these activities during the year.

DIARY DATES- Term 1 2025

Term 1 Week 11

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

Term 2 Week 1

Monday, 28th April, 2025- Start of Term 2 2025- **School starts at 8.50am**

Monday, 28th April, 2025- TAFE SA Nursing Careers session– **Years 10-12 Students**

Tuesday, 29th April, 2025- Thursday, 1st May, 2025- Doorways to Construction– **Years 11/12 Students**

Term 2 Week 3

Wednesday, 15th May, 2025- APY Art Gallery Workshop– **Whole school**

Term 2 Week 4

Tuesday, 20th May, 2025- Thursday, 22nd May, 2025- Doorways to Construction– **Years 11/12 Students**

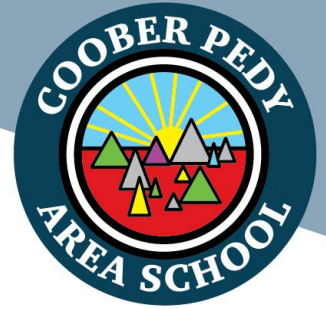
Term 2 Week 5

Wednesday, 28th May, 2025- Reconciliation Week Event– **Whole school**

Term 2 Week 8

Tuesday, 17th June, 2025- Student Free Day- **No School for Students**

Wednesday, 18th June, 2025- Student Free Day- **No School for Students**



The Special Events Corner

Harmony Week 2025

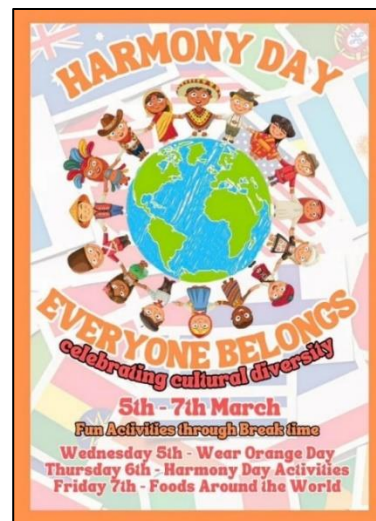
"Harmony Week was a beautiful reminder of the joy that comes from sharing food, stories, and culture together."

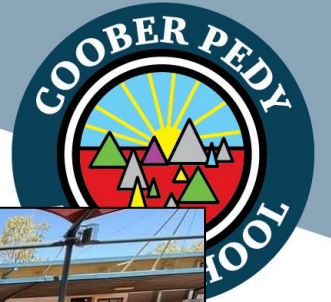
From Wednesday, 5th to Friday, 7th March, 2025 Coober Pedy Area School Celebrated Harmony Week—a time to recognise and embrace the cultural diversity that enriches our school and wider community.

The week kicked off with a vibrant staff multicultural lunch, where team members generously prepared and shared home-cooked dishes from their cultural backgrounds. From Aussie Rocky Road to Mexican Enchiladas and Thai Vermicelli Noodle Salad, the spread was both delicious and diverse. On Friday, students enjoyed a special Harmony Week tasting experience, featuring international finger foods provided by Outback Bar & Grill. The menu included:

- Greek beef meatballs with Tzatziki (Τζατζίκι)
- Malaysian vegetarian curry puffs (Epok-Epok)
- Vietnamese pork cold rolls with house-made dipping sauce (Gỏi cuốn)
- Greek rice pudding (Πυζόγαλο)

These were served by our Special Events Committee and Aboriginal Education Team, and thoroughly enjoyed by students. Throughout the week, students engaged in a range of cultural classroom activities, lunchtime games, and relaxing colouring sessions in the library, providing opportunities for both learning and connection. Harmony Week at CPAS was a joyful and meaningful celebration of inclusion, respect, and belonging, highlighting the rich cultural tapestry that makes our school community so unique.







Autism Awareness Day

"It's not about changing people with autism — it's about accepting, supporting, and celebrating them for who they are."

On Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025 Coober Pedy Area School proudly recognised Autism Awareness Day. Staff and students were encouraged to wear purple to show their support and help raise awareness around autism.

The day was a reminder of the importance of understanding, inclusion, and acceptance, and it provided a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the unique strengths and perspectives of people on the autism spectrum.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped create a community where all students feel seen, supported, and celebrated.

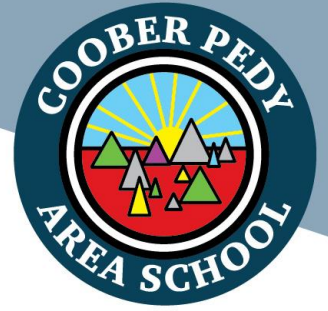




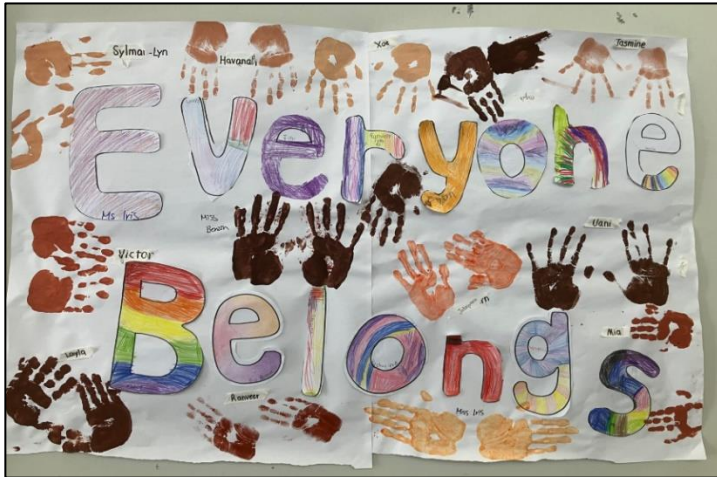
Birthday Celebrations

This year, the Special Events Committee introduced a new birthday initiative to celebrate students and staff! At the end of each month, we come together to recognise everyone who had a birthday during that month. So far, we've celebrated our January, February, and March babies — and it's been a hit! Students have been especially excited to receive personalised, hand-written birthday cards from our leadership team. It's a small gesture that's bringing big smiles across our school community!





From the Preschool





From the Aboriginal Education Team

Deadly Learning

Learning strong, sharing knowledge.

Welcome to *Deadly Learning*, a bi-termly update from the Aboriginal Education Team here at Cooper Pedy Area School. We are excited to share what we have been up to. From classroom activities to cultural celebrations, this space will showcase the ongoing journey of our students and staff as we walk strongly and learn proudly together. Watch this space for all the latest happenings! **WAI! NYUNTU PALYA? (Hey, how are you?)**

As we head into Term 2 in a few weeks, there are lots to look forward to from the Aboriginal Education Team!

We are excited to kick off our **Wangka Wiru** language class, where we will be working with the Mobile Language Team at Adelaide University to explore the Yankunjtjara language with our Aboriginal students. We will be exploring language through storytelling, cultural practices, and more.

Here's some wangka (language) to learn:

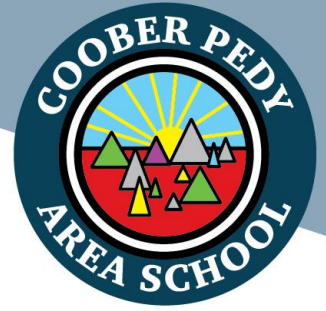
Wai = hi, hey, hello

Palya = ok, good

Another exciting initiative is our **Women's Afternoon Tea** sessions, which will be held monthly. This is a great chance for families to come together, have a yarn, and share what's been happening in the community. Invitations will be sent out soon—come join us! Here's a sneak peek at some **UPCOMING EVENTS** in Term 2, 2025 from the AbEd Team:

- **APY Art Gallery Workshop** – Week 3, Thursday 15th May
- **Reconciliation Week** – Week 5, Wednesday 28th May
- **Community Pizza Night** – Week 6, Wednesday 4th June
- **Cultural Immersion Day** – Week 8, Friday 20th June

The Aboriginal Education (AbEd) Team
Mrs. Jeannie Salazar, Ms. Pearl Austin, Ms. Sandra Warren, and Ms. Janice Bailes-Walker



CACYP Youth Summit in Adelaide

Emerging Leaders Represent CPAS at CACYP Youth Summit

On Friday, 21st March, 2025, Cooper Pedy Area School proudly sent two emerging Aboriginal leaders — Sofia Tsakiridis (Year 9) and Leah Butterfield (Year 10) — to the CACYP Youth Summit in Adelaide, accompanied by Ms. Pearl Austin and Mrs. Jeannie Lai-Salazar.

Held at the Adelaide Zoo, the summit was convened by the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People (CACYP) and co-designed with the Youth Advisory Group to give young Aboriginal voices a platform to be heard. Students engaged in conversations about identity, culture, and the challenges affecting their communities — as well as how they can be part of the solutions.



The event was emceed by Elaine Crombie, a Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara/Warrigmai woman with a background in theatre, music, and comedy, who brought warmth and energy to the day.

Keynote speaker Isaiah Dawe, a Butchulla and Garawa saltwater man and founder of *ID. Know Yourself*, shared his powerful personal journey through the foster care system and the importance of reclaiming identity.

His words — “*It doesn’t matter your how, as long as you know your why*” — left a lasting impression on the students.

Tamara Young, founder of *Wonky Lines Counselling*, led a workshop on the power of storytelling for healing and self-determination. Her session inspired students to reflect on their personal narratives and cultural strength. The summit concluded with students presenting their collective ideas to Elders and leaders, using their voices to shape a future grounded in identity and community.





Broadening the Horizons in Adelaide

During the trip to Adelaide, the students also had the opportunity to immerse themselves in art and creativity. They visited the Art Gallery of South Australia and participated in the *Frida Las Vegas* workshop in The studio, as well as enjoyed a facilitated drawing lesson on Portraiture with Artist Facilitator, Ellie. Additionally, the group made a quick stop at the APY Art Gallery in Adelaide, where Ms. Pearl guided them in creating a collaborative painting that will be completed at the APY Art Gallery in Coober Pedy.



In between the cultural and artistic activities, the students enjoyed some downtime, including a trip to Glenelg Beach, gaming at Archie's Brothers Arcade Games in Rundle Mall, and watching Disney's *Snow White* at the cinema. Overall, it was a fantastic trip to Adelaide!

Ms Jeannie Lai-Salazar

Coordinator- Aboriginal Education & Support

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

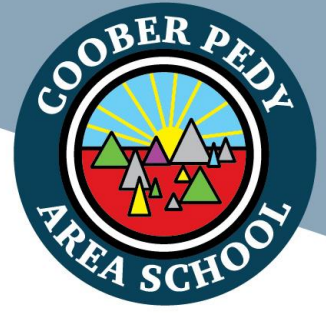
Please also be mindful that we are a **nut free school**.

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



Port Augusta Technical College (PATC)

We have some great and exciting news about future learning opportunities for our Years 10 & 11 students.

Interested students in Years 10 & 11 at our school will have the opportunity to access industry training programs at the Port Augusta Technical College from **Semester 2, 2025 (21st July, 2025)**.

We will be working closely with individual and identified students and their parents/caregivers to enable them access these opportunities at the Technical College.

Please see below further information about the Port Augusta Technical college.

The Technical College will play an important role for students interested in vocational careers, offering industry-specific training programs for high-demand jobs in the region. The technical college will:

- be tailored to local needs
- set the standard for excellence in skills-based training
- ensure job readiness.

Benefits for students:

- VET qualification
- employer connections
- workplace learning environment
- like-minded peers
- professional attitudes and behaviours
- further opportunities for VET or accelerated university entry
- SACE contribution.

The Technical College is different from VET School Pathways by offering:

- innovative industry training programs
- state-of-the-art facilities
- industry-standard equipment
- employer partnerships
- industry mentors
- career fast-tracking.

Further information about the Port Augusta Technical College can be accessed through the PDF file below or from the school:



Port Augusta Tech
College - fact sheet

Information about the Technical Colleges can also be accessed through the weblink below:

www.technicalcolleges.sa.gov.au

Alternatively, you can speak to either Mr Saah (Principal) or Ms Aki Puri (Assistant principal) at the school if you would like to discuss this further in relation to your child/children or require further information.



Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council- 2025

Members

Maurice Saah (Principal)

Elected Staff Representative

Veronika Witham

Elected Parent Members

Sabrina Troisi

Lyn Boussios

Ariane Montminy-Roberge

Sarah Rethus

Elected Community Member

Maria Brellas

District Council of Coober Pedy Rep

Gary Herdegen/Chevahn Hoad

Umoona Community Council Rep

Dawn Brown

Election of office holders (Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer) will take place at our first Meeting in Term 2 2025

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) update & Survey

The Governing Council OSHC Sub-Committee would like all parents/caregivers who are interested in using the OSHC to complete a survey.

This is part of the process aimed at revitalising and ensuring a smooth return of OSHC operation.

A paper copy of the survey has **been attached to this newsletter.**

Alternatively, you can use the link or the QR Code below to complete the survey:

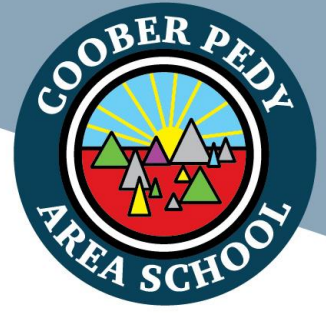
<https://survey.education.sa.gov.au/n/rG8Sk2L>



Once the completed survey is received, the Sub-Committee will then advise of the next steps/actions.

Thank you so much for your continual support.

**Coober Pedy Area School Governing
Council**



Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council- News

Dear Coober Pedy Area School Community,

The Governing Council has some exciting news to share with you all!

We are pleased to announce that, we will be re-opening the school canteen at the start of Term 2, 2025 (Week Beginning 28/04/2025). The canteen will be open on Tuesday and Thursday, at the break times, staff and students will be able to purchase snacks and drinks from the canteen.

In the morning, students will also be able to place lunch orders. Orders need to be in by 9.15am and this will be delivered to the classes just before Break 1.

A letter about the lunch order process and the menu will be sent home this week.

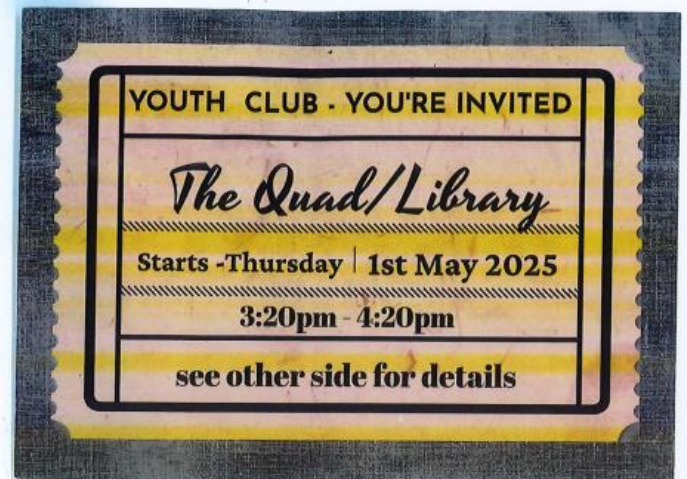
If you haven't received the letter, you can collect one from the school office, check the school Seesaw and Facebook pages or email us to get a digital copy.

The canteen will run by volunteers and we are still looking for people to help out during breaks and to prepare the lunch orders in the morning. If you have a few hours to spare, please get in touch!

We are wishing you all a great school holiday and are looking forward to seeing you in Term 2 2025.

The School Canteen Committee
CPAS Governing Council

cpascanteen@gmail.com



When: **every Thursday during Term**

Where: **the quad or library CPAS**

Is there food: **yes!**

What happens: **glad you asked....games/water bombs/ prizes/music/Bible comics**

Who are we: **We are Dave & Margy from the Catacomb church, we can take you home at the end also**



Have a great Holiday break!