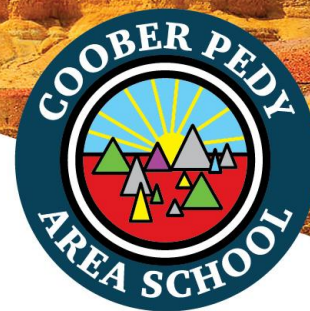


NEWSLETTER

Term: 2 | Issue: 1 | Date: 04.06.2026



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are very appreciative of the support of our parents/caregivers and the community in making our school a centre of **quality teaching and learning**.

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

Our work with the SA Curriculum in relation to our Education Strategy work in our context has continued throughout the term.

Our SA curriculum implementation of the additional learning areas of Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Health and Physical Education (HPE) has been going well.

We have been implementing the SA curriculum learning areas of English and Maths over the last two years.

We have a whole school focus on the following dispositions in these learning areas as follows: English- Resourceful, Maths- Resilient, HASS- Curiosity, Science- Curiosity, HPE- Resilient. These are clearly articulated in our Site Learning Plan.

We have seen a great engagement from our staff with this very important work.

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

We have had two successful camps during the term.

Our South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA) students travelled to Adelaide for the SAASTA Power camp event. This was part of their SACE learning activity.

Some of our Years 8/9 students travelled to Woomera for the STEM Horizons Camp. Both camps provided great and engaging learning opportunities for our students, and we look forward to more of these opportunities during the school year.

We wish to thank our staff for making a big difference to the lives of our students and the community.

Our school values recognition and awards assemblies have been going very well. We look forward to your continual support during the term.

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

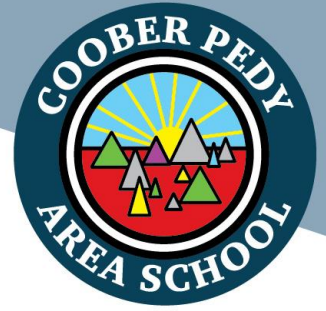
Let us continue to keep the bar very high!

Mr Maurice Saah
Principal



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

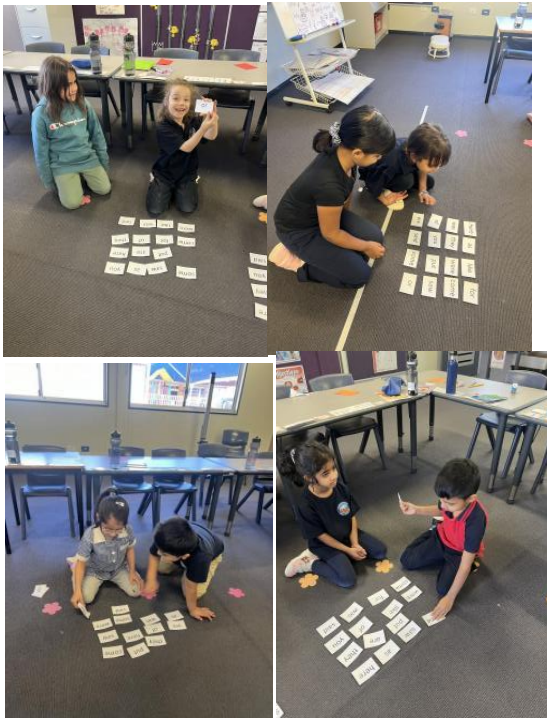
RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RESPONSIBILITY



TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

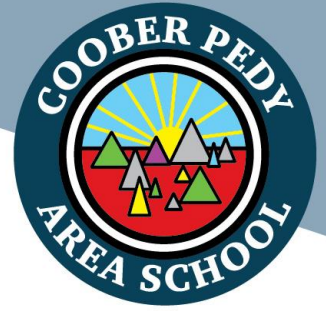
Years 1/2 Class- Ms Iris Mui

Literacy- Let's snap the heart words



Numeracy- Place value and Measurement





Glimpses of learning beyond lessons



Ms Iris Mui
Years 1/2 Class Teacher

R/1 Class- Ms Iris Mui

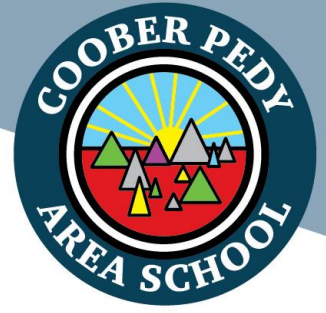
Literacy

This term, students have been following the DfE Phonics Program and have been developing their phonics knowledge and early reading skills. We have been practising letter-sound relationships, blending and reading words, and applying these skills in our writing.



In Talk for Writing, students have been learning how to retell and innovate a recount. Together, we created a class recount about our trip around Cooper Pedy Area School, where we explored different places and activities around the school. Students are now beginning to innovate and create their own recounts using the structure and language features we have been learning.



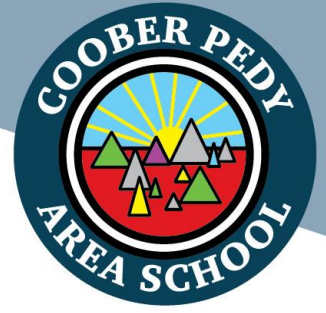


Numeracy

In Mathematics, we have been developing our understanding of part-part-whole relationships to 10. Students have participated in a variety of fun and engaging hands-on activities, including bowling, beanbag tossing, and whole-class part-part-whole games. Through these experiences, students have been exploring different ways numbers can be partitioned and combined, helping them build strong number sense and confidence with early addition concepts.



Ms Wei leng (Patricia) Wu
R/1 Class Teacher



Years 3/4A Class- Ms Hayley Geisler

This term, we have continued to focus on developing our group work skills, encouraging students to collaborate effectively, solve problems together, and learn from one another. In HASS, students have been exploring Australia's states and territories, investigating the unique natural landmarks found in each region and their significance. Using iPads, students have strengthened their research skills by locating, evaluating, and recording information about these important landmarks.

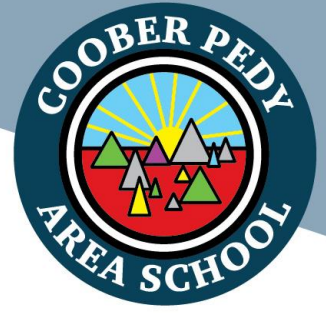


During Reading Fluency sessions, students have been participating in Readers' Theatre activities. These experiences have helped them develop expressive reading skills while maintaining accuracy and fluency when reading a variety of texts.



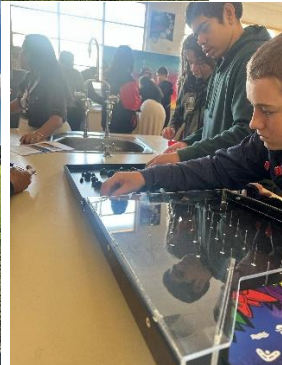
In Numeracy, we have been focusing on place value, with students learning to break down and represent whole numbers up to six digits. They have been practising reading, saying, comparing, and ordering large numbers from smallest to largest.

Ms Hayley Geisler
Years 3/4A Class Teacher

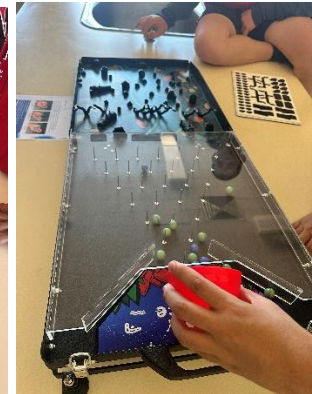


STEM Horizons Camp- Woomera

Most of our Years 8/9 students took part in the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Horizons camp to Woomera during the term.

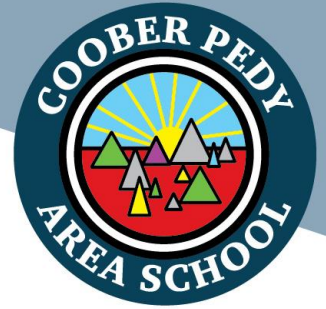


There was an opportunity for our students to immerse themselves in STEM learning activities and interact with students from other schools.



We wish to acknowledge the work of Mr Michael Scarman (Careers Pathways Manager- Department for Education) and his team for this opportunity for our school and students.

We wish to thank Ms Faith Brohier (Student Wellbeing Leader) and Ms Isabella Jones (Support Staff) for supporting our students on this very important camp.



SAASTA Power Cup Camp- Adelaide

The South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA) Power Cup took place in Adelaide during Week 4 and the beginning of Week 5. Eight students from Cooper Pedy Area School attended the event, which brought together more than 500 Aboriginal students from across South Australia to compete in a series of Australian Rules football matches. Evan was the only male student from our school and therefore joined the Christies Beach team, while the seven girls from Years 10 and 11 combined with the Fleurieu Academy to form a team.



Heading into the carnival, the students had limited expectations for the football competition. With no organised sport available in town and minimal opportunity to train, our entered the event with little experience in team sports and football.



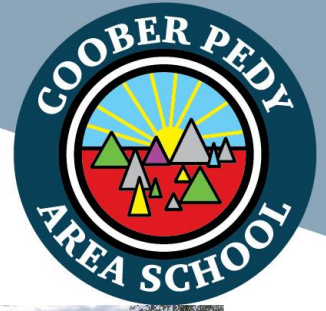
The girls lost their opening match but quickly found confidence, winning their second game. Our new captain, Tabetha, inspired the team with her determination and physicality, being a role model and kicking four goals in a twenty-minute match.



She was able to show the girls that skill and experience were not the most important factors—they simply needed the courage to attack the ball and back themselves. By the end of the carnival, the girls had won six out of their eight games, an outstanding achievement.

In the boys' competition, Evan understandably took some time to settle into a completely new team environment. As the rounds progressed, he became more involved in the play and even kicked a goal, although it was later overturned due to a free kick.





I was extremely proud of the effort shown by all students throughout the carnival, particularly considering the limited experience and preparation they had going into the event. They gave off their best, even when tired, sore, or carrying minor injuries. Our players consistently demonstrated teamwork, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship. While we were unfortunately not selected for the grand final, we were among the teams in contention, which is a remarkable result for our appearance at Power Cup in five years.



To conclude the carnival, our SAASTA students attended the AFL match between Port Adelaide and Carlton at the Adelaide Oval.

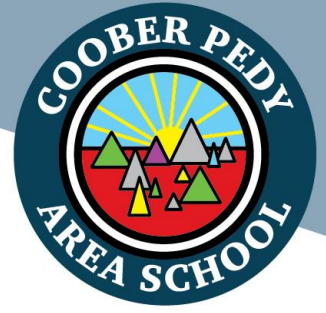
Before the game, students had the incredible opportunity to run onto the oval and participate in the cultural dance, creating memories they will never forget.



Outside of the football carnival, students took part in activities at Port Adelaide Football Club's training facilities, toured an elite athlete training centre used by Olympic athletes, and enjoyed some shopping at Westfield Marion. During one of the sessions at Port Adelaide, Tyla and Tabetha demonstrated a high level of confidence when speaking about their role models in front of staff and students from our school and other schools. Both students walked away with prizes, with Tyla winning a signed AFL football.

A big thank you goes to Ms Janice Walker for her support and assistance throughout the camp.

Mr Josh Fraser
SAASTA Teacher



Staffing Update

Mr Thomas Price has won and accepted the position of Senior Leader (Secondary/SACE/VET) for Terms 3&4 2026. Mr Price will be backfilling most of Ms Aki's role while she is on Leave.

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**.

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

New Toilet Block - Update

We wish to announce that construction work for our new toilet block and gym change rooms has started at the school.

As a result, some parts of our school have limited or no access.

The Years 5/6 class has been relocated to Building 30 (next to the ALC) as part of this work.

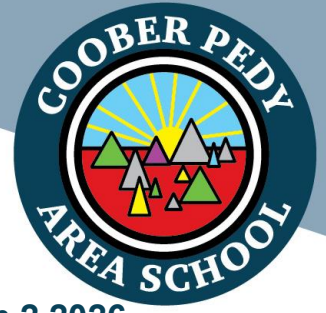
The gym is also not accessible for at least the next three weeks.

We wish to acknowledge the work of Ms Sharlene Jeffree and other staff members for playing a very important role in this.

We look forward to the completion of these projects around September, 2026.

Further updates will be provided in a timely manner.

Thank you all for your understanding and co-operation.



Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council- 2026

Members

Maurice Saah (Principal)

Elected Staff Representative

Veronika Witham

Elected Parent Members

Sabrina Troisi

Jo Anne Vanajek

Roger Vanajek

Ariane Montminy-Roberge

Sarah Rethus

Rukmalee Dissanayake

Elected Community Member

Gary Herdegen

Student Representatives

Satkirat Kaur

Mitchell Hoad

Election of office holders (Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer) will take place at our next meeting on 16th June, 2026

DIARY DATES- Term 2 2026

Term 2 Week 6

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

Term 2 Week 7

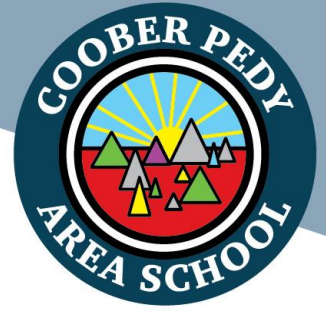
Monday, 8th June, 2026- King's Birthday- Public Holiday- No School for Students and Staff

Term 2 Week 9

Tuesday, 23rd June, 2026- Thursday, 25th June, 2026- Doorways to Construction– **Years 11/12 Students**

Term 2 Week 10

Friday, 3rd July, 2026- Last day of Term 2 2026- School finishes at **2.00pm**



From the Coober Pedy Opal Festival committee

Dear families,

As most of you are aware, the Opal Festival is fast approaching, and we wanted to communicate to you about some key elements to ensure your children don't miss out on any of the fun!

The Grand Parade will start at 11.45am from the RSL and finish at the Town oval. You can gather anywhere along Hutchison Street to watch as the floats go past. If you wish to hear the commentaries, the MC will be located in front of John's Pizza Bar. It is not too late to enter the parade; we are taking registrations up until Friday, 5th June, 2026.

The cardboard box car challenge will be at 1.45pm on Saturday. We invite children to showcase their talents and creativity and decorate a cardboard box under the theme of **PLAY COLOUR!** There will be prizes to win.

The novelty games are also back this year. There will be games for children and adults. To enter the games, you **MUST** register at the information tent, from 12.45pm. The games will run from 1.30pm till 4pm and there will be prizes to win and titles to defend!

Make sure to visit the **Coober Pedy Area School stall**. There will be face painting, chess and card games and a wonderful display of students' artworks. Miss Faith is inviting all students to display their arts, and it is not too late to add to the collection.

If any members of your family have a hidden singing talent, the **Karaoke competition** is the place for them! You can sign up now via the website or on the day at the info tent. The competition is open to individuals or groups of all ages.

You can find the full program on the Opal Festival website.

Hoping to see you all the 12th, 13th and 14th June, 2026 for a weekend of colours and fun!

The Coober Pedy Opal Festival committee
info@opalfestival.com.au
www.opalfestival.com.au