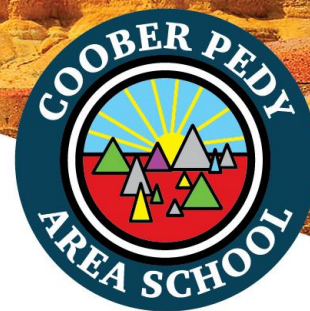


# NEWSLETTER

Term: 1 | Issue: 2 | Date: 09.04.2026



## 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 all our classrooms/learning areas.

We have continued to engage with the SA Curriculum in relation to our Education Strategy work in our context. Our SA curriculum implementation work has continued this year with the implementation of the additional learning areas of Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Health and Physical Education (HPE). We have been implementing the SA curriculum learning areas of English and Maths over the last two years. 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 a successful start to the South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA) at our school.

The academy is providing various sports and SACE opportunities for some of our identified students.

I wish to thank Mr Fraser and Mr Prizzi for their work at the Academy, and we wish all our enrolled students the best.

Thank you to our parents/caregivers for your participation in our parent-teacher interviews last week.

We look forward to more of these interactions between the school and parents/caregivers.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

School finishes at **2.00pm Tomorrow (Friday, 10/04/2026)** and school will resume on **Monday, 27/04/2026** from **8.50am** for the start of Term 2 2026.

Students will be dismissed after the swimming carnival.

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

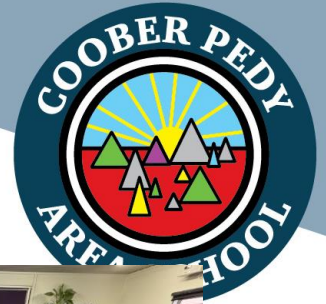
**Mr Maurice Saah**  
Principal



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RESPONSIBILITY





## TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

### Reception/Year 1 Class- Ms Patricia Wu

As we come to the end of a wonderful term, we would like to take a moment to celebrate all the fantastic learning that has taken place in our classroom!



We have been following the DfE phonics program, where students have been developing their phonics skills. They have been working hard to recognise sounds, blend words, and write simple sentences. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow - and most importantly, they have absolutely loved their literacy learning!

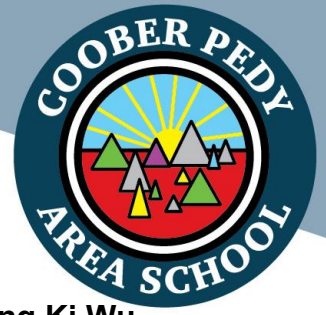


In **Talk for Writing**, students have completed their very own stories. We introduced our special *Author's Chair*, where students proudly shared their writing with the class. We also brought our stories to life through acting, which was a fun and engaging way to deepen their understanding of storytelling.



In Maths, we have been focusing on number skills and exploring the concept of *part-part-whole*. Students have been using a range of hands-on materials to support their learning, helping them build strong number sense and mathematical thinking. We also modelled from the story Five Little Monkeys and jumped into our "bar chart" to show different parts that make a whole.





Years 1/2 HPE- Ms Wing Ki Wu



In Technology, we have continued work on our playground design project. our students have enjoyed building and creating their own playground equipment, showing creativity, problem-solving skills, and teamwork throughout the process.

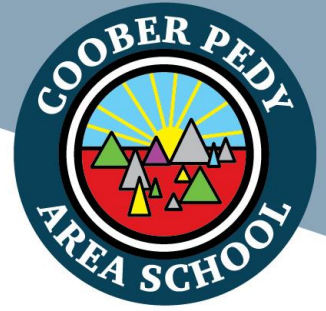


**Ms Patricia Wu**  
Reception/Year 1 Class Teacher



**Ms Wing Ki Wu**  
Years 1/2 HPE Teacher





## Years 3/4B Class- Ms Emily Lovegrove

Students in Years 3/4B class have been working incredibly hard in Literacy this term, particularly in developing their comprehension skills. This has had a positive impact across all learning areas, as strong comprehension supports students to better understand and engage with all subjects.



It has been fantastic to see our students demonstrate resilience as they grow into more independent learners. They are increasingly able to take charge of their learning by understanding what they need to do next and what tasks they must complete. This independence is an important skill, helping students take responsibility for their learning and build confidence in their ability to tackle new challenges.



A strong focus has also been placed on reading fluency. Students have been practising reading aloud with expression, working on using their voice to bring meaning to the text. It has been wonderful to see their confidence and engagement improve during reading sessions.

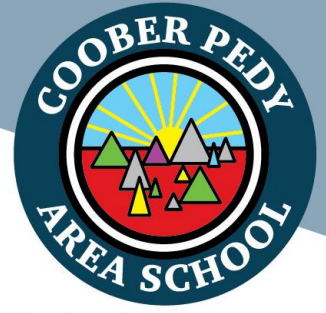


We are very proud of the effort and progress shown by all our students in the Years 3/4B class this term.

We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable break, and we look forward to seeing you all next term.

**Ms Emily Lovegrove**  
Years 3/4B Class Teacher





## Years 3/4 Arts - Ms Sue Lange

In Years 3/4 Arts we have been imagining and creating a city for the future. Everyone contributed a building that they thought would be vital, a school, hospital, an apartment building - with an external exit route for cars, petrol station.



We also had a place of worship and a playground.



In addition to using our creativity in Art we also used some of the joining techniques

we learnt in Design and Technology to create our buildings.

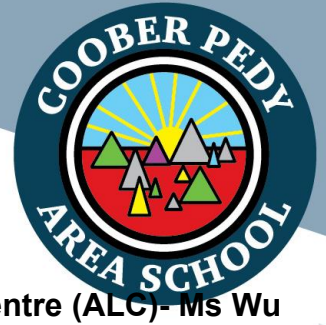


This learning experience really challenged our resilience and problem-solving skills.



**Ms Sue Lange**  
Years 3/4 NIT Teacher





## Learning Hub- Ms Wing Ki Wu

Our students in the Learning Hub are actively engaged in a variety of play-based learning experiences that support their holistic development.

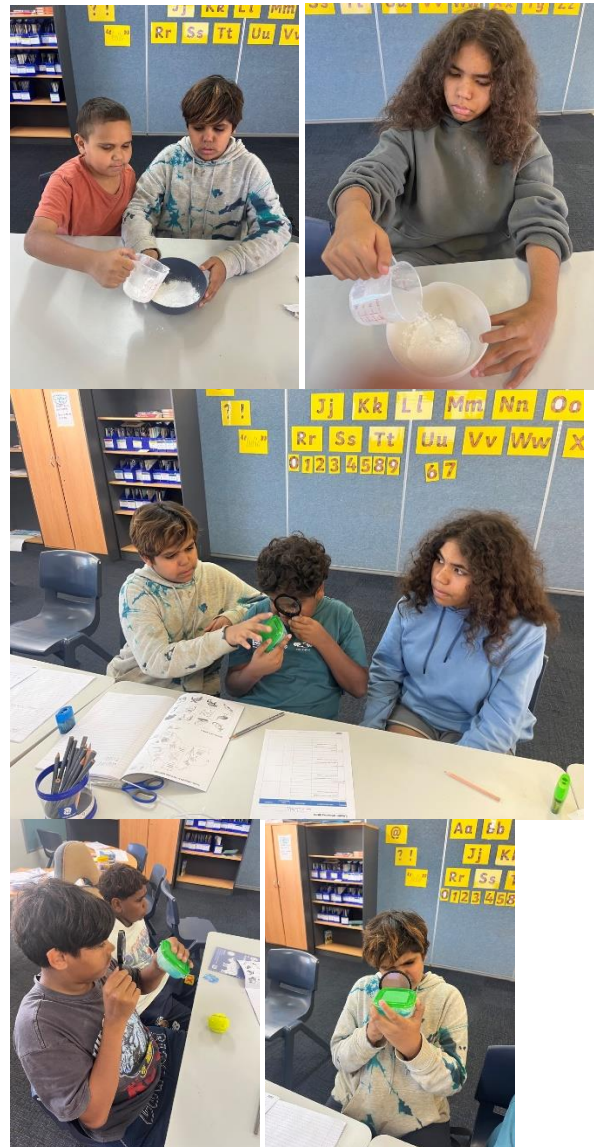


These experiences include sensory play, where children explore different textures, materials, and sensations to build curiosity and develop their fine motor and cognitive skills. Gross motor activities provided opportunities for students to strengthen their coordination, balance, and physical confidence through movement-based play. Through these play-based activities, students can explore, experiment, and learn in a meaningful and enjoyable way.

**Ms Wing Ki Wu**  
Learning Hub NIT Teacher

## Alternate Learning Centre (ALC)- Ms Wu

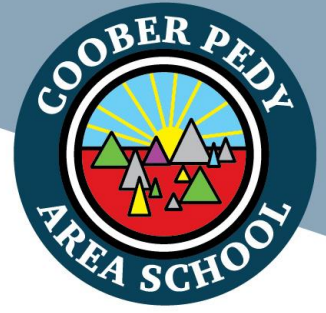
Students have been learning about the different states of matter and exploring how materials can behave in unique ways.



As part of this learning, they created an Oobleck to investigate the properties of non-Newtonian fluids.

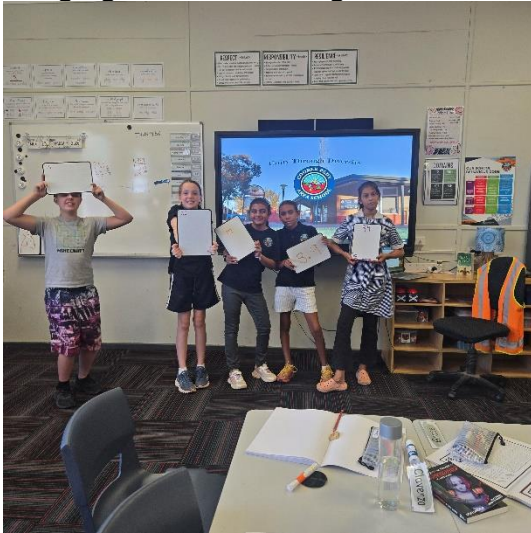
**Ms Wing Ki Wu**  
ALC NIT Teacher





## Years 5/6B Class - Ms Laura Brooks

The Years 5/6B class has had a fantastic start to the year! It's been great to see how quickly everyone has settled in and the confidence, resilience, and excitement everyone is bringing to their learning.



In Literacy, students have been working hard on their spelling and comprehension skills. They really enjoyed our class novel *The Turtles of Oman* and were engaged in both reading and sharing their thoughts. In Talk for Writing, we have been focusing on inner dialogue and adding detailed descriptions to bring scenes from short films to life. It has been wonderful to see the progress our students are making with their learning.



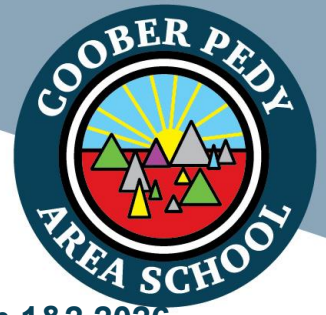
In Maths, we have been exploring place value, decimals, and percentages. One of the highlights was when students ordered themselves in ascending and descending order with lots of fun and great learning. They also worked on a school garden perimeter project, where they came up with different ways to solve problems. We have been linking our maths to real life concepts, especially through shopping and sale activities using percentages.



I am really looking forward to what is ahead next term and continuing this great start with the class.

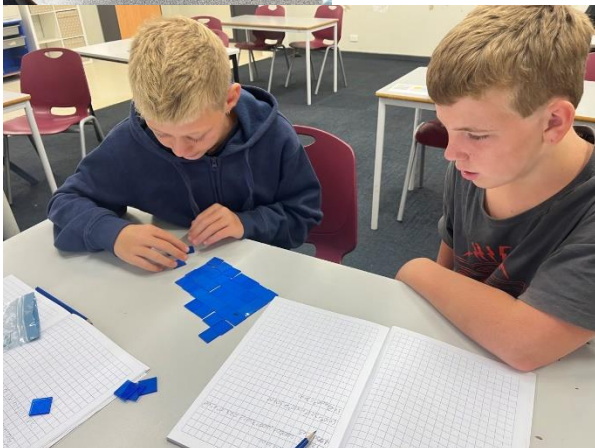
Have a lovely break,

**Ms Laura Brooks**  
Years 5/6B Class Teacher



## Years 7/8 Mathematics - Ms Wing Ki Wu

Students have been revisiting the concepts of factors and multiples, using counters as hands-on manipulatives to support their understanding.



Through creating different arrays, they were able to visually represent numbers and explore how they can be grouped in equal rows and columns.

**Ms Wing Ki Wu**  
Years 7/8 Maths Teacher

## DIARY DATES- Term 1&2 2026

### Term 1 Week 11

**Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**- Last day of Term 1 2026-  
School finishes at **2.00pm**

### Term 2 Week 1

**Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**- Start of Term 2 2026-  
*School starts at 8.50am*

### Term 2 Week 2

**Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2026- Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**- Doorways to Construction- **Years 11/12 Students**

### Term 2 Weeks 4&5

**Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2026- Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**- SAASTA Power Cup in Adelaide- **SAASTA Students**

### Term 2 Week 5

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2026- Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**- STEM Horizons Camp at Woomera- **Years 7-10 Students**

**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2026- Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**- Doorways to Construction- **Years 11/12 Students**

### Term 2 Week 6

**Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2026**- Student Free Day- **No School for Students**

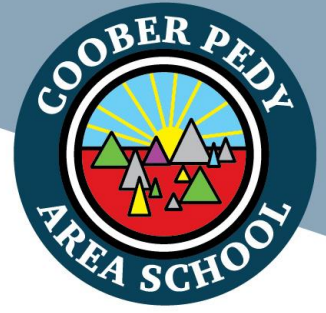
### Term 2 Week 9

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

### Term 2 Week 10

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





## SAASTA Academy- Mr Josh Fraser

Our South Australian Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA) has been going very well.

Our students have been completing assigned and required tasks during the term.



On Wednesday of Week 11 Term 1 2026, representatives from the Port Adelaide Football Club visited the school to deliver a two-hour workshop for our students in the academy.



During the session, our Years 10 and 11 students participated in a range of activities exploring Aboriginal heroes and role models.



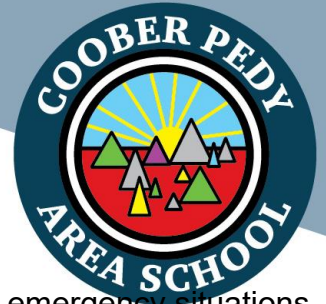
They also discussed the core values of the SAASTA program and reflected on what the Cooper Pedy SAASTA Academy means to them.



The workshop concluded with a football skills training session, helping students prepare for the upcoming SAASTA Power Cup, which will take place in Adelaide in May (Term 2 2026).

**Mr Josh Fraser**  
SAASTA Teacher





## Preschool- Ms Vicki & Team

### Emergency Awareness: Evacuation, Lockdown and 000

This term, preschool children have been developing their understanding of emergency situations, including evacuation procedures, lockdown practices and the emergency number (000). Through intentional teaching and play-based experiences, children practised key safety actions such as "Get down low and go, go, go", building confidence to respond safely and calmly.

In Week 6, the whole site participated in a lockdown drill, followed by a preschool evacuation practice in Week 11. Children demonstrated strong awareness, identifying hazards, responding promptly and following instructions to move safely to the designated area.

To extend their learning, we explored emergency services through shared reading, including an ambulance book. Children engaged in discussions about uniforms, safety equipment and transport, building their understanding of community helpers and safety roles.

Children's voices: post-drill reflection

D: "I feel happy, because you made me safe."

E: "I feel safe, and happy because I am safe. Adults helped me, teachers were with me!"

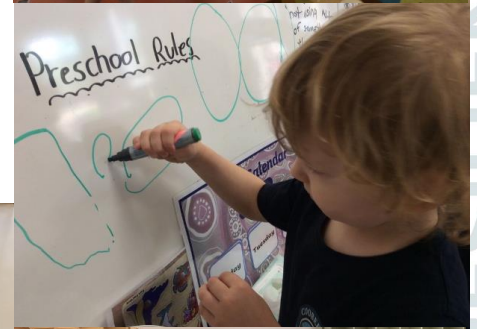
A: "Get Down Low and Go Go Go!"

E&D: "Look, this is an emergency, we need to call 000. There's a big fire, we need to ask for firefighters and fire trucks." "This one is not an emergency, they are having campfire with families." E and D engaged in discussion while looking at the photos, identifying and distinguishing between emergency and non-emergency situations.

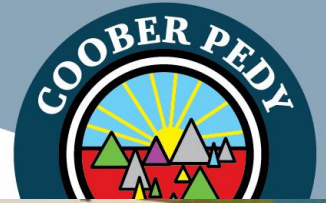
Aligned with the EYLF v2.0, these learning experiences support:

Outcome 2: Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

Outcome 3: Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and safety







## CPC: Emotions and Personal Space

The preschool children have also been engaging in learning experiences focused on recognising and expressing emotions, as well as understanding personal space and safety.

Through emotion cards, role play and sorting learning experiences, children explored how to identify, name and respond to different feelings, supporting their emotional literacy and self-awareness.

We also developed an understanding of personal space by moving with our own "bubbles," helping them to visualise boundaries and respect others. We further explored concepts of privacy and safety rules, supporting children to understand body safety, personal boundaries and seeking support from trusted adults when they needed.

In our daily interactions, we use friendly and respectful ways to show care and support, such as high-fives, fist bumps, waves and handshakes. This supports children to build positive relationships while learning about personal space.

Children's voices: sharing "I feel happy when \_\_\_\_"

D: "I feel happy when I play with T and K."

A: "I feel happy when I pretend to be a teacher."

K: "I feel happy when I cook with my family."

Aligned with the EYLF v2.0, this learning connects to:

Outcome 1: Children develop a strong sense of identity

Outcome 3: Children develop a sense of wellbeing

Principles:

Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships.

High expectations and equity

Practices:

Holistic, integrated and interconnected approaches

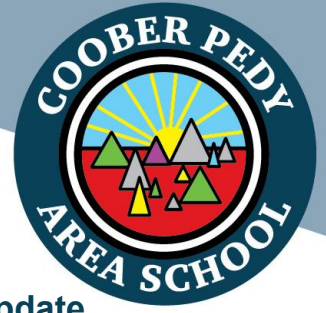
Responsiveness to children

Intentional teaching

Learning through play







## Health Focus

We would like to remind parents/caregivers and students that energy drinks such as “Red Bull” are not permitted at Cooper Pedy Area School.

A new range of drink causing concern is the “Prime” Hydration and Energy drink. This drink is also not permitted at our school.

If you require more information about the harmful effects of this drink, the links below will provide you with further details.

[Expert explains danger of Prime energy drinks for kids, Aussie school bans | Kidspot](#)

[Prime drinks: What are they, and what's the cause for concern? \(thenewdaily.com.au\)](#)



## 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 will start at the school from the week beginning of 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2026.

As a result, some parts of our school will be a construction site and limited or no access to these areas will be in place.

Some classrooms/learning areas will also be relocated as part of this work.

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

Further updates will be provided at the start of Term 2 2026.

Thank you all for your understanding and co-operation.

## Permissions and Consent Forms- Update- 2026

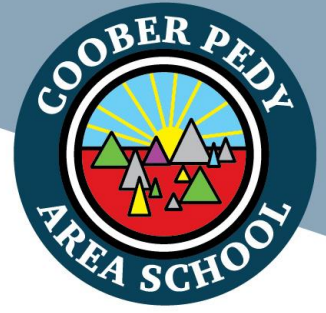
Dear Parents/Caregivers

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.





## Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council- News

Dear Coober Pedy Area School Community,

With the School Governing Council AGM coming up, I would like to take the time to talk about what the Governing Council is and does.

The Governing council is the body that governs the school and works with the principal to help set and monitor the direction of the school. The elected members meet regularly to review, approve and monitor the site budget

The review and approval of policies as well as the monitoring of the site priorities is part of their work.

The Governing Council also operates services like the school canteen.

Our Governing Council membership comprises of the school principal, 1 staff member elected by the school staff, 10 elected parents, 3 members of the community, 2 student representatives nominated by the SRC and 2 members nominated from the Umoona Community. The parents are elected at the AGM and appointed for a term of 1 year. Parents interested in joining the Governing Council can pick up a nomination form from the front office.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our Governing Council members for their involvement over the past 12 months. It has been a pleasure to work with everyone, and I am pleased with our achievements, including the re-opening of the school canteen.

We have a couple of important things coming up soon.

### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The School Governing Council AGM will take place in the boardroom (school library) on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> of April, 2026 from 5.30pm.**

Everyone member of the school community and broader community is welcome to attend.

### School Canteen

Great news! The school canteen will re-open at the start of Term 2 2026.

From week 1, students will have the opportunity to order lunch for the first break every Thursday. The menu will be made available on the return of the students to class after the school holiday break.

Students will be able to order directly in class during home group (between 8.50am and 9am) or directly at the canteen from 9am till 9.15am. We will not be taking any orders after that time.

The canteen will also be opened during breaks, on Thursdays only, for students to purchase snacks and drinks.

Due to volunteer constraints, we can only operate once a week at this time. If you, or someone you know, would like to give a couple of hours every week or fortnightly, please get in touch with either myself, Sabrina, or Maria B at the library or the front office.

I am wishing everyone a wonderful break!

Warm regards,

Ariane M-Roberge  
Governing Council Chairperson