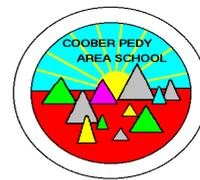


NEWSLETTER



Term 1 2017
Issue 1
13/02/2017

From the Principal's Desk

Dear students, staff, parents and caregivers,

I feel very privileged to be appointed as principal at CPAS while there is a recruitment process for the next principal who will lead the school for the next five years. I am really looking forward to meeting you and learning about your unique school and community.

I have been a Principal in a number of schools and most recently I have worked in executive leadership roles outside of schools. These roles have been to support schools and preschools to improve learning for all students and young people. I will relish the opportunity to “walk the talk” in your community! I will have to reacquaint with many aspects of the role but I know you will support me in this learning.

Personally, I am married with three adult children and I live on a small farm near Mallala. I have loved being part of a small country community and I have appreciated the opportunities my children have enjoyed as they grew up in Mallala. I am a keen fisherwoman (when I get the chance) and I enjoy gardening, cooking and spending time with family and friends.

During the holidays I have read a lot about Cooper Pedy, the school and the many achievements you should feel very proud of. I have also read about some of the challenges that the school faces including the lack stability with Principals and attendance. I have read the external review recommendations and I think that improving attendance should be the first priority. Although I will be here for term one only, I will work with DECD to attract a long term Principal and I will make sure that I can handover to the successful applicant to ensure a smooth transition.

From the Deputy Principal's Desk

We began the first day with 239 students in 14 classes. With staff movements to other schools we have made some changes that we believe will enhance the learning and school environment for our students. Sara Ling will teach year R-1. Also, we have a new music teacher Mr Jason Home. He is on paternity leave for the next three weeks. Mr Chris McNicol – a statewide PRT has been placed in his place to provide the Music/Performing Arts program to all classes. A few secondary teachers will be attending training and development for SACE subjects. Mr Barry Hajisavva – a statewide PRT will be here to release the teachers across secondary section. Our groundsman Geoff Squires will be on long service leave for next three weeks. Mrs Leanne Marijanovic is on medical leave for this whole term 1. We are working to get a new librarian to fill this position.

We welcome 22 new reception students to school at our first assembly along with 15 new students spread across other year levels.

SACE:

This year our school is offering the following courses for Year 11 & 12 students:

Subjects	Teacher
English	Mr Matthew Key
Essential English	Mr Matthew Key
Mathematics	Ms Amudha Pandian
General Mathematics	Ms Amudha Pandian
Essential Mathematics	Mr Amudha Pandian
Chemistry	Mr Dan Bird

Nutrition	Mr Ainslie Smith
Outdoor Education	Mr Ainslie Smith
Biology	Mr Dan Bird
Physics	Mr Rav Padayachi
History	Mr Bob Pryce
Research Skills	Mr Dan Bird
Research Project	Mr Dan Bird
SAASTA – Integrated Learning	Mr Michael Beelitz
Food & Hospitality	Ms Sally Martin
Visual Arts - Art	Ms Sally Martin
Visual Arts – Design	Ms Sally Martin
Media	Mr Matthew Key
Design & Technology Materials and Products	Mr Michael Beelitz
Information Publishing and Processing	Mrs Lyndal Pryce
Personal Learning Plan (Year 10)	Mr Dan Bird
Business Enterprises & Management	Open Access
Accounting	Open Access
Construction (Cert I, II & III)	Mr Michael Beelitz

Some students have got apprenticeships from mining companies and are doing part-time at school to get their SACE completion. All year 10 students have started their SACE with the Personal Learning Plan (PLP). The PLP is a 10 credit Stage 1 subject. Studying the PLP at the beginning of the SACE gives them a good foundation for Year 11 and Year 12 studies, and can guide them later with subject choices. Year 11 is when most students begin a full year of SACE study. Students can choose from a range of Stage 1 subjects as well as vocational education and training (VET) courses and other options.

As in Year 11, Year 12 students can choose from a range of subjects offered at our school, as well as VET courses and other options. This is the busy time for year 8-12 teachers to design learning tasks and assessment criteria in collaborative staff teams that allow students to achieve higher standards against the Australian Curriculum. This year, teachers will moderate assessments in staff teams to further build and assess learning with differentiated approaches in mind.

Homework Club

Homework club facilitates year 7-12 students to support completion of their homework. On Wednesdays between 3:15 pm and 4:15 pm in the school library, Mrs Maduro, Miss Littlehales and Ms Pandian will be available to assist the students to complete their homework tasks.

Governing Council

Thank you to the GC for providing morning tea for staff this week. Our first GC meeting will be on 13th Feb 2017 at 5 pm at Board Room. Our AGM is on 27th Feb 2017. We would love to see many parents because we value your input into our school.

Swimming Carnival

Our annual splash carnival will be held on the Friday the 24th of February involving all our students from reception right through to year 12. The canteen will have a limited menu, with order forms to come out from classroom teachers in the near future. Our younger students will enjoy water based games and activities throughout the day, while students from year 3 and up participate in swimming races and novelty events in an effort to guide their house team to victory. Coober Pedy Area School encourages all students to participate and cheer, showing great competitive spirit and sportsmanship!

Youth Advisory Committee

AFSS - Coober Pedy Youth Advisory committee in partnership with CPAS meet regularly every week to discuss youth issues and develop project plans, they have had some training leadership and emotional intelligence training at the end of last year and will be continuing to do Governance /Leadership training this term. The committee will also be attending Operation Flinders in March which will take place in the remote wilderness of the Flinders Ranges for a 8 day trek experience. This experience will assist the youth to develop skills to deal with new surroundings, routines and thinking, builds teamwork and takes one out of their comfort zone. The committee will also be involved with Youth Parliament and the YMCA leadership forums in Adelaide

Hot Weather Policy

All students must wear a broad brimmed hat in the yard during first term. Baseball caps do not provide adequate protection and are not to be worn while at school. Please label your child's hat (and other clothing) as we get many lost items handed in after play breaks. You can check the lost and found property box at any time for any missing items from the front office.

Allergy Awareness

In the past, the school has been nut free. But this is impossible to enforce and could create a false sense of security. From 2017 the school will be "Allergy Aware", with families from each class informed of any anaphylactic issues in the class and asked to take this into consideration lunches, snacks, party foods etc.

FUN-Net Program

Shannon Swanson is going to start a netball competition as an activity for everyone. Shannon is willing to run workshops for the young children, older children and adults to learn the rules properly including umpiring. Shannon is hoping to have rules and umpiring workshops run throughout term 1 and games organised at the beginning of term 2 when everyone feels more confident to play and for those who wish to umpire. If you have any questions you can talk to Shannon @ 0402914595.

Grievance Procedure

From time to time, as a parent, you may not be happy about a particular issue. Your first port of call should be to see the relevant teacher, then the line manager, and then the principal. If you are still unhappy with the outcome, you can contact the Director, Mr Rob Harkins. Please remember there is always another side to every issue and I would encourage you to approach every staff member in a calm and courteous manner.

Health Check Program

Umoona Health's Doctor Dr Judy McDonald and a dentist are scheduled to come during week 3. All students next week will be able to see the doctor and have their health check done. If treatment is needed a referral can be made to ENT. Many thanks to Trish Turner of Umoona Tjutagku Health Service for this support.

ICT

It's an exciting time for Information Technology at Coober Pedy Area School! The school's computer systems are currently being overhauled. We have a five-stage process in place, which we are currently in stage 2. We have new computers ordered to replace the aging machines in the computer room. There will of course be some disruptions to access whilst this process is underway; however we are working with DECD to ensure that students are able to maintain as much access to technology as possible as we undertake this project.

We have also worked with the year 8–12 students to order new laptops which are smaller and lighter. We will be rolling these out to the year 8-12 students throughout the term.

Counsellor's Corner

It's been great to see so many happy faces at school over the past few weeks. I have really enjoyed having visitors to C-Space at Lunchtimes.

For students in Year 3-12 we will be having nominations and applications for SRC over the next few weeks. The first SRC meeting will be in Week 4.

I have been working with a few agencies around Coober Pedy to put together some exciting lunch programs for you all. We plan to have sports and craft activities available throughout the week for you to join in with. Please come see me if you have any crafts or sports in particular that interest you.

Remember, if you need a friendly face to talk to or just someone to listen please pop in and see me in the C-Space. Parents are also welcome to come see me to assist your child at school.

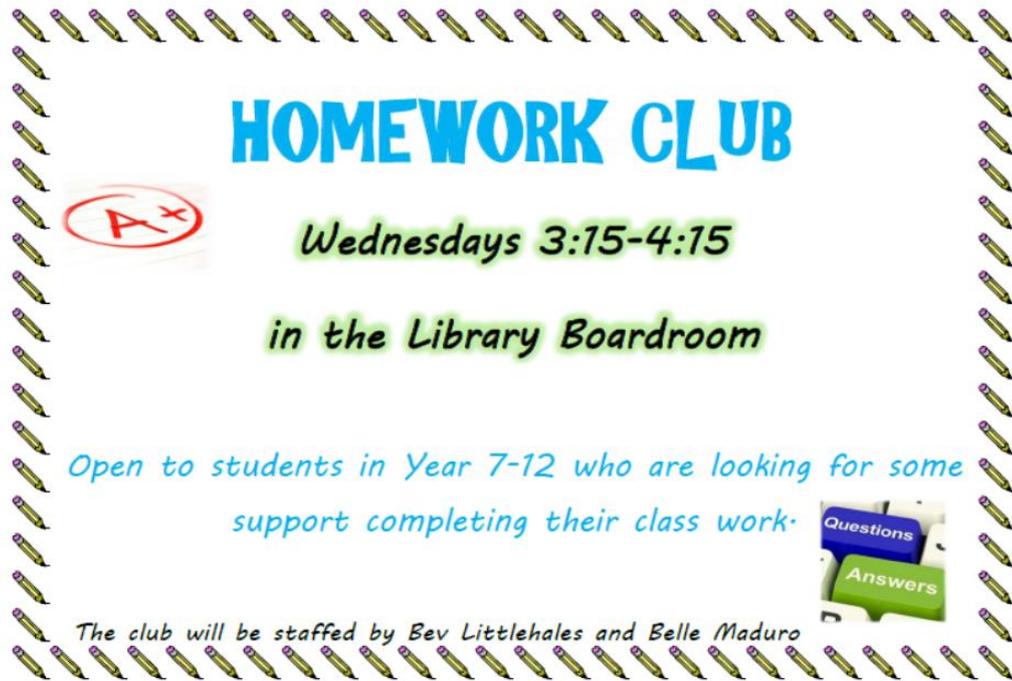
Thank you Belle Maduro.

Skills & Knowledge Tournament

On Monday, the attending Year 4-7 students from the Unit were lucky enough to participate in a 'Skills and Knowledge Tournament'. They created teams of 6, which had to have a student from different year levels, as well as a mix of boys and girls. Each person in the team had to compete in one challenge and the team event. There were 15 round and events testing all sorts of different skills. Examples included quizzes

testing Maths, Spelling and General Knowledge, basketball goal shooting, Memory, Simon says and constructing the tallest straw tower. At the end of the day, points were tallied and the team that came out top were declared 'The Brains' of the Unit. Well done to Dhanush Perera, Sam O'Reilly, Kate Gountounas, Angus McDonald, Riley Simmonds-Clements and Yanni Axiomakarou for their teamwork and persistence that led them to their victory. A special thanks should be given to Mrs Lange, Mrs Ravi and Ms Griffiths for all of their hard work and effort preparing such an outstanding teambuilding programme. It was a pleasure to watch all of the primary students cooperating and sharing in such a fun experience.

Primary Senior Leader- Casey Rivett



HOMework CLUB

 **Wednesdays 3:15-4:15**

in the Library Boardroom

Open to students in Year 7-12 who are looking for some support completing their class work.



The club will be staffed by Bev Littlehales and Belle Maduro

WELCOME BACK



BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS MICRO FINANCE

Computers, School Uniforms, Back Packs, Shoes. School excursions

Contact Tamasin Mckenzie
8672 5220



DON'T DELAY – contact your local Community Development Coordinator TODAY
The Low Income Support Services is a programme of Uniting Care Country SA