



Term 4  
Issue 1  
2018

# NEWSLETTER

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From the Principal's Desk

## *What's Happening?*

- **Early Years transition** – 2019 Reception children are starting a 6-week transition program from 22/10/18. Time at school will range from double lessons to a full day. We are helping our youngest students to become accustomed to their new learning space and the staff they will work with next year. While the pre-schoolers are visiting, we are also introducing the JP children to their 2019 teachers.
- **Everybody Reads** – we have been enjoying family/staff/student reading sessions in the library each morning before school (helped along by the Governing Council's Parents in Education Grant) since April. Now that the weather has warmed up considerably, we are seeing the numbers drop in the library. With the arrival of the hot weather, we have talked about the fact that before school outdoor play may be the only time our students can (and may want to) be outside. We will suspend the before school reading library reading and restart next year when autumn is upon us again.
- **New school uniform arrangements** – the school and Governing Council have agreed to move to an online ordering system for school uniform for 2019. In the process we have decided to introduce navy and white as the uniform colours. There will be a 2 -ear transition period where either blue is acceptable, but the new online ordering system will only be in navy. More information will come out in a separate letter and will also be on our school website soon.
- **Middle School changes** – we have had parent and student consultations on the changes to the 2019 timetable for Years 7 to 10. We will be posting a Curriculum Book home soon so that parents who've not yet heard about the changes can read about them. Please feel free to discuss the plan with us. Staff and students are excited.
- **Report writing** – once again teachers are producing written summative reports for families. We had some feedback about the Scorelink (online generated report format from the same data base that we keep our student learning data) – some positive and some not so. Given that we are expecting a new education department management system that includes report formats (and we are starting to use Daymap more and could move to that system next year) we have decided not to change the format for Term 4. We appreciate that the subject descriptors are lengthy and generic (R-12) but are unable to change them. The quality of teacher comment was widely appreciated, so hopefully this decision will be agreeable to most.

- **2019 Class Lists** – In primary, we are expecting 2 x Receptions/1, 2 x Year 2/3, a Year 4/5 and a Year 5/6 class next year. With limited opportunities to separate or bring together children at parent request, we are not planning to formally ask for your feedback about friendship groupings for classes next year. If you'd like to have input, please address a note to Karen Cornelius, Principal and pop it in to the office. Secondary classes will be Year 7 and 8 with two teachers per lesson, Year 9 and 10 with two teachers per lesson and Year 11 and 12. More information about this in the curriculum booklet being posted home (see above).
- **Presentation Day planning** – this is a big event on our calendar, and this year we want to add classroom visits after lunch. 11:00-12:30 Presentations, Lunch, 1:20 Open Classrooms.
- **Stay in touch with what is happening in the school** - with our Facebook Page (just search Coober Pedy Area School) or Skoolbag. We post to the Facebook page most days, giving updates about activities around the school. If you're a FB user, this is not to be missed.

### *Some reminders*

- Bus users – please be home for drop off. We are unable to drop students to an empty house. Thanks!
- Absences – please remember that it is a legal requirement that the school be notified if any of your children are absent from school. A phone call to the office or note to the teacher for short absences is fine, but 10 or more days away require an Exemption form signed by the principal.
- Speed – remember it is a 25km/hr speed zone around the school (on all sides) – thanks for helping us to keep children safe.

### *Dates for your diary*

October 22-November 26 – Kindy to school transition and JP transition program every Monday

October 29: Governing Council

October 29-November 2: Errappa Camp – begins transition for Year 6 and 7 students for 2019

October 31: Halloween Dress-up day – gold coin for the Cancer Council

October 31: Caregivers of Aboriginal children's Network Meeting 1:30 in the Ab Ed room

November 5-7: Visit from Dr Emma Goodall to support Interoception

November 16: Special night for primary students (TBN)

November 23: Blue light disco with SAPOL– primary students 3-4:30pm

November 26: Governing Council

November 30: Presentation Day 11am, lunch and classroom visits

December 7: Last Day of the school year, finishing at 2pm

December 18: Year 12 results due.