

Innovation Central @ Coolbinia

School Priority: Empowering Futures

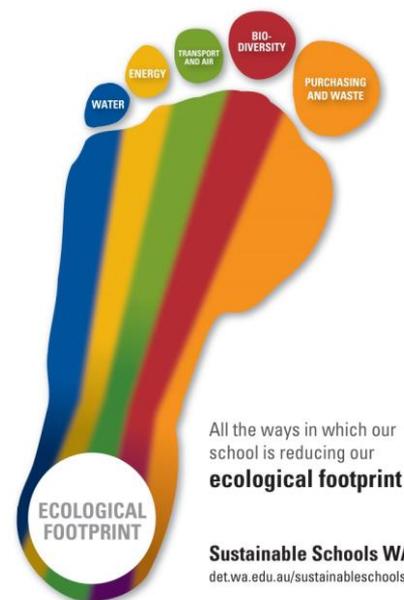
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics (STEAM)
- Cross Curriculum Priorities:
 - Sustainability
 - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories & Cultures
 - Australia's Engagement with Asia



All the ways in which our school is increasing our **social handprint**

Sustainable Schools WA
det.wa.edu.au/sustainableschools

STEAM & Cross Curriculum Priorities embedded into learning ...



All the ways in which our school is reducing our **ecological footprint**

Sustainable Schools WA
det.wa.edu.au/sustainableschools

Welcome to the Term 4, 2017, edition of news from the Cross Curriculum Coordinator. The WA Curriculum identifies three cross curriculum priorities:

- ✚ Sustainability
- ✚ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and Histories
- ✚ Australia's Engagement with Asia

These priorities are embedded across a wide range of learning areas, from English to Science, Technologies, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM), Geography, Health and Physical Education.

This article presents a summary of major innovations and initiatives that were held last term and news about what will be happening this term. The students were presented with real world challenges within a systems thinking perspective.

Our Innovative Programs on Show

... Making an impression at the WA STEM Expo

Innovative STEAM (Science, Technologies, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) programs being implemented at Coolbinia Primary were a standout at the Department of Education's STEM Expo! The Expo was held at the Burswood Convention Centre last term, attracting around 500 educators

passionate about STEM education. A workshop was presented by Coolbinia staff, including the Cross Curriculum Coordinator, to teachers from other schools. We also conducted a stall showcasing our K-Year 6 STEM programs. There was considerable interest in our innovative integrated programs and our community outreach, such as STEAMtopia, with many requests for follow-up support as a Teacher Development School in STEM.



The photo shows Mrs Greer and Dr Lewis at our STEM stall, along with members of our partnership school.

... *Our future leaders are problem solvers!*

✚ STEM is ... solving farming challenges

Children in Years 1 and 3 examined issues impacting on farmers in Australia. For example:



Year 1 ELC 2 students participated in citizen science research with Curtin University to assist WA's agricultural industry. They grew different varieties of barley to determine which were susceptible to mildew. This disease has reached epidemic proportions and is estimated to result in close to \$100 million loss annually in WA.

Year 3 students investigated how technology influenced food production and examined farming tools of the past, present and future.

✚ STEM is ... solutions for a very long walk!

In STEM lessons for Years 3 and 5, students learnt about refugees and the very long walks these people make to





... Kids Teaching Kids Conference Success

Our Year 6s River Rangers represented Coolbinia Primary at the annual Kids Teaching Kids (KTK) Conference in Mandurah at the end of Term 3. It was a very successful day for the students. They presented four workshops, focusing on environmental scenarios using our Sphero robots as the characters. The students had spent all term during Technology lessons writing the scripts, designing and creating the props and backdrops, programming the Spheros and producing iMovies using the school iPads for the performances. The students enjoyed participating in the workshops run by other schools and celebrated the event at the Gala dinner in the evening.



Cross Curriculum links:

The KTK activities were completed as a component of our STEAM (Science, Technologies, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) studies, Literacy and the Sustainability and Aboriginal Cross Curriculum Priorities.

River Rangers



River Rangers in Term 3

Students participated in a wide range of adventures during Term 3, for example:

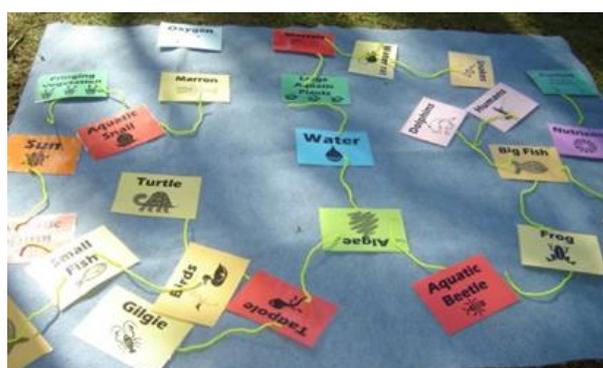
- NAIDOC Week celebrations and stalls to fundraise for Aboriginal literacy resources. The NAIDOC stall was conducted by the Yr 6 Mentors and Ambassadors -



- Tree planting in our bushland and school grounds. All classes participated. The photo shows Yr 5 (Rm 7) and ELC 5 buddy classes at work -



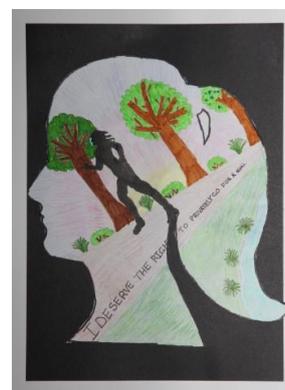
- Our students go to Uni!
All Year 5 and 6 students visited Murdoch University on Thursday 27 July. They participated in a range of activities, from learning about the river food web and dolphins in the Swan River, to a tour of the university. Furthermore, while at the university, students had the opportunity to attend a Gamalan workshop as a component of their music program.



- United Nations Association of Australia WA leadership conference at Parliament House with students from Yr 5s from Rooms 7 and 12 -



- United Nations Association of Australia WA Yolande Frank art project. Yr 6 entry addressing the UN Right to Privacy -



- Kids Teaching Kids Conference presenting the *Coolbinia Bots* Yr 6s presenting environmental scenarios at the Mandurah conference -



... and more!

River Rangers in Term 4

- Wetlands painting (Yrs 5 & 6) to be shown on *Garden Gurus* in a session with Angela Rossen, the inspiring environmental artist who worked with our students.





- ✚ Global citizenship – UNAA video (Yr 6)
- ✚ National Water Week (whole school)
- ✚ First Lego league Hydro competition preparation - boat pollution in the river (Yr 5 & 6)
- ✚ Global citizenship – UNAA interview (Yr 6)
- ✚ Raft Building at Riverton Bridge (Yr 6)
- ✚ Kayaking at Riverton Bridge (Yr 6)
- ✚ Gardening & litter collection (whole school)
- ✚ Remembrance Day @ RSL Care (Yr 6)
- ✚ Groundwater Festival (Yr 5)
- ✚ End-of-year celebrations (Yr 6)
- ✚ Camp: Perth Zoo (Yr 6)

Cross Curriculum links for River Rangers:

All Learning Areas, the General Capabilities and Cross Curriculum Priorities.

Community Links

... Working with our community partners

Last term Coolbinia Primary demonstrated a commitment to working with members of the wider community, such as:

- ✚ Indigenous Literacy Foundation.
The NAIDOC Week stall was held during the second week of Term 3 with over \$250 raised to support Aboriginal literacy.
- ✚ South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare – hundreds of trees donated to the school for planting in the bushland.
- ✚ RSL Care – students participated presented a concert to residents.
- ✚ Scientists in Schools Program – Geoff Kay's science and



technology support for Years PP - 6.

- ✚ Red Cross – conducting the “In Search of Safety” program for the Year 6s.
- ✚ Your Move (TravelSmart) –conducted sessions with Year 5 students.
- ✚ Remida – conducted recycling workshops with Years 1, 3 and 5 students.
- ✚ Noongar PALS - *PALS Grant*

Each year the school applies for a Partnerships Acceptance Learning and Sharing (PALS) grant. This grant aims to promote reconciliation and outstanding learning opportunities for aboriginal and non-aboriginal children. Coolbinia Primary has won many awards for our PALS projects.

Our 2017 PALS project aims to increase student engagement and community participation. We will do this by developing sustainable community partnerships focused on building better relationships and futures between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, leading to increased involvement and engagement of Aboriginal parents and communities in school life.

Some of the activities in our PALS project included:

Participation in *Boorna Waanginy: The Trees Speak* (Perth International Arts Festival) – our Year 3 students created butterfly totem seedpods. Each seedpod was lit:



Art workshops with Noongar artist Sharyn Egan – PrePrimary, Year 2 & 3 students worked with Sharyn to create Six Seasons and Creation Story paintings. These artworks were made into signage for our gardens and were installed during Term 3.



A PALS grant acquittal report was submitted at the end of Term 3 and we are now awaiting judging results.



🚩 *We are Global Citizens!*

Coolbinia Primary is a founding member of the United Nations Association of Australia's (UNAA WA) Global Citizenship Schools Program. This means we are committed to supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Our school supports the achievement of these goals by:

- 🚩 Global Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) through participation in our various wellbeing programs, plus contributing entries to the Yolanda Frank Art Award.
- 🚩 Global Goal 5 (Gender equality) by participating in the *Tomorrow's Citizen Leaders – Local to Global*, conference at Parliament House and subsequent action to address this student concern.
- 🚩 Global Goal 13 (Climate action) through our work on our carbon emissions reduction plan.
- 🚩 Global Goal 15 (Life on land) through our planting and bee hotel programs.
- 🚩 Global Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) by participating in harmony Day and attending incursions called "In search of safety".

A group of Year 5 students attended a leadership conference at Parliament House on Monday 31st July. These children investigated the work of the United Nations and have selected Global Goals they wish to work on: water (Goal 6) and climate action (Goal 13).

Our school applied for two UNAA Awards – World Teachers’ Day and the Sustainability Challenge awards. We were successful and have been listed as “Finalists” for both awards. Winners will be announced this term, at a UN Gala event at the Government House Ballroom on 27th October.

Thanks to Parent Volunteers

Sincere thanks to parent helpers for: Maintaining the Kwobadarn – cleaning and checking equipment/stock; helping with cooking lessons; weeding; providing plants for the assembly garden; and helping in class and on excursions and incursions. Without parent help we wouldn’t be able to provide the amazing learning opportunities that we do! Thank you.

Cross Curriculum links for Community Engagement:

All Learning Areas, the General Capabilities and Cross Curriculum Priorities.

Eco Footprints Actions

100 Tonne Plan Progress

Since starting to monitor the school’s carbon emission in 2011, we have reduced our emissions by a total of 360 tonnes!

Our emissions reduction target for 2017 is another 100 tonnes! We have reached a 70 tonne reduction to date, so we are on track to achieve our annual goal.

Also this year we are working on comprehensive:

-  Energy and
-  Water audits

to determine if we can make further reductions in our emissions and achieve substantial financial savings for the school. This term, our Scientist in Residence, Geoff Kaye, will be focusing on energy, a national priority.

Biodiversity Action

Apple Delights! ... From our Coolbinia orchard

Year 2 (Rm 9) children enjoyed harvesting apples from our school orchard. They then prepared the apples for dehydrating ... and enjoyed the end product! Great garden to table process!



Gardening

All students continued to be involved in our gardening and cooking programs. This included learning about bees and planting in class raised beds.

New garden bed signs were installed in Term 3.



Waste Warriors on the march!

Room 2 children were the Waste Warriors during third term. These students collected food scraps and recycled them in worm farms and compost bins.

Term 4 Waste Warriors are in Room 1. These students are well prepared as they conducted a tour of the school's waste management processes last term, enlightening teachers from other schools who were attending professional learning at Coolbinia Primary.

Great job Waste Warriors!



Nude Food continues to be an important initiative at our school. Nude Food refers to student lunchboxes containing food without wrapping. Information about healthy, nude food lunches may be found at:

<https://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/content/pick-mix-1-6-lunchbox-poster>

Other items we recycle at Coolbinia Primary include:

-  batteries
-  old toothbrushes & oral care packaging
-  mobile phones
-  plastic bread bag clips
-  old pairs of glasses
-  ink cartridges
-  paper and cardboard
-  coffee pods



All these bins may be found at the Kwobadarn (student kitchen).
Please continue to support our focus on being Wastewise.

Drop by drop we are Waterwise!

Proud to be a
**Waterwise
School**

Water Saver Actions

Year 3 students are our water saver helpers. Room 4 children were the Water Warriors during Term 3 and this term Room 5 has taken on that role. Students collected rainwater from the tanks for watering the gardens and hanging baskets, as well as topping up bird baths and frog habitat ponds. They also monitor taps for leaks.

Award Winning School

Last year Coolbinia Primary achieved the Silver Award from the Water Corporation for our Waterwise actions. By the end of 2017 we are aiming to achieve Gold Award status!

Education is the key for water saving at school and home. Visit watercorporation.com.au/save-water and watercorporation.com.au/whatsyourwaterstory to find out how you can save water.



Energising to be EnergySmart

Our 73 solar panels on the school roof continue to reduce our electricity costs and carbon footprint. Whole school daily actions to reduce electricity are also being implemented, contributing to our EnergySmart goals.

On 10 October our solar power system had generated 100351kWh and saved 94671kg of CO2 from being released into the atmosphere over the last five years. We will continue to monitor our electricity usage this term and implement actions to reduce our school electricity costs.



Term 4 will involve a major focus on being EnergySmart as our science curriculum focus is: Physical Sciences. Watch out for new initiatives at school in this field of study.

Make it ... 'Your Move'!

TravelSmart has been re-branded by the Dept of Transport to: Your Move!

Our special Your Move event last term was on Friday 1st September, recognising World Car Free Day.



Our Year 5 Your Move organising team encouraged everyone to come to school by walking or riding a bike or scooter. As a result of their promotional efforts there was a 12% increase in walking and cycling that day.

Raffle tickets were given to all students who participated in the event. There were 20 great raffle prizes won, like \$50 gift vouchers, umbrellas, as well as bike helmets, pumps, locks

and bells.

Thanks and congratulations to our Room 7 'Your Move' team. You did a great job!

Please continue to support 'Your Move' this term. Events will be organised by Room 12 Year 5s. Every Friday is a Fume Free Friday and on Tuesday 31st October we will be celebrating 'Walk Over October' as our special 'Your Move' day.

Bike safety for K-4

During the first two weeks of Term 3 the school conducted *Cycle Safe* incursions for Kindy – Year 3 students. These sessions, on 20th and 25th July, highlighted road safety issues for our young children.



During Term 4 Year 4 students will attend Cycle Safety lessons too. These lessons will be paid for from credits gained from participating in the Department of Transport 'Your Move' program.

Cross Curriculum links for Eco Footprint Actions:

All Learning Areas, the General Capabilities and Cross Curriculum Priorities.

Coolbinia Roots & Shoots

Roots and Shoots is a voluntary lunchtime club for children from Years 1-6. Members help out in the school gardens and bushland - planting, weeding, making recycled wheelbarrows into display beds, preparing fruit fly traps, supporting local animals by making homes for them ... and lots more.



Cross Curriculum links for Roots & Shoots:

Science, The Arts, Literacy, the General Capabilities and Sustainability Cross Curriculum Priority.

Sincerely

Dr Elaine Lewis

Cross Curriculum Coordinator

River Rangers Coordinator

Roots and Shoots Coordinator

Part time role: located in the Kwobadarn on Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Elaine.Lewis@education.wa.edu.au

10 October 2017