

## Welcome to the Cross Curriculum Priorities in 2014

The Australian Curriculum identifies three cross curriculum priorities:

- Sustainability
- Aboriginal Cultures and Histories
- Australia's Engagement with Asia

These priorities are embedded into all learning areas and this part of the school website will outline developments and events relating to these priorities. It is the role of Elaine Lewis as the Cross Curriculum Coach to support staff implement these components of the Australian Curriculum.

## Key Achievements in 2013

2013 finished with a party as far as the cross curriculum priorities were concerned.

### Sustainability

Our school is an active member of the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative. Please click on the following links to find out the Sustainability achievements:

- 2013 Eco Footprint
- 2013 Social Handprint

The school was also recognised with awards for being WasteWise, WaterWise and TravelSmart, as well as the United Nations Association of Australia Environment day award for our 50 tonne Plan. Our TravelSmart program, led by Year 6 students, achieved Gold Award status; while our school was the winner of the \$5000 Infinity Award prize for our wastewise actions. We also participated in Kids Who Give WA, the Mildew Mania project with Curtin University, Walk Over October and the Perth Zoo Night Stalk. All these certificates are displayed in the main office or the Kwobadarn.

Some of the highlights from an exciting year of Eco Footprint learning included:

- Whole school achieved 50 Tonne Plan and commenced 100 Tonne Plan.
- K-7 Cool School Adventurer weekly sessions, with K-2 focusing on biodiversity, Yr 3/4 on waste, Yr 5 water, Yr 6 travel, and Yr 7 energy. Gardening support was also provided K-7.
- K/PP worming farming.
- Yr 3 'water' assembly item.
- Yr 3 and 4 *Resources Rescuers* wastewise program.
- Yr 5/6 *Kids Teaching Kids* students performed at the *Climate, Coasts and Communities Conference* in Mandurah, the TravelSmart Showcase and Target store in Perth.
- Yr 5 and 6 *Eco-forensics* sessions with Carbon Kids presenters.
- Yr 7 Biodiversity snapshot with follow-up actions.



Yr 3/4 students sorting litter to develop targeted education plan



Our enormous turnip!



K/PP students investigating worms

Another feature of our Sustainability program relates to the Social Handprint. Our caring program was highlighted by:

- Performances for RSL Care Residents
- Donations to groups like Solar Sister, Red Cross Refugee program and Amnesty International.

Yr 3 students performing at RSL Care Menora



## ***Aboriginal Cultures and Histories***

Three major art works reflecting Noongar culture were completed last year, involving all K-7 students. This work was guided by Peter Farmer, the renowned Noongar artist.



To conclude a year of outstanding progress on the Aboriginal cross curriculum priority, Coolbinia Primary School was the Winner of the 'Environment' and 'Overall Schools' categories of the PALS Awards. The PALS acronym stands for the qualities of **Partnership, Acceptance, Learning and Sharing**. This program encourages young people to take a leadership role in strengthening relationships in their local community between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

## ***Australia's Engagement with Asia***

Coolbinia's engagement with the Asian Cross Curriculum Priority of the Australian Curriculum continued throughout the year from a whole school perspective, as well as being embedded into class programs. 2013 started with our Harmony Day celebrations, which also involved our whole school project to raise funds to provide solar lanterns to replace polluting and dangerous kerosene lanterns.

By the end of the year another wellbeing project was completed. It linked with our Waterwise Schools program and involved students raising funds for Oxfam's *Clean Water Saves Lives* initiative.

Through the sale of finger puppets and other items \$110 was raised to provide clean water to families in Cambodia.

## **2014 Cross Curriculum Priorities Action Plans**

At the end of last year evaluations were conducted on the effectiveness of the 2013 Cross Curriculum Priorities Action Plans. The findings informed the development of the 2014 Plans. These Plans can be accessed as follows:

- 2014 Sustainability Action Plan
- 2014 Aboriginal Action Plan
- 2014 Australia's Engagement with Asia Action Plan

## **2014 Adventurers**

We have a very exciting year ahead! A taste of some of the learning experiences is outlined below:

- K-7 Cool School Adventurers continues
- 100 Tonne Plan implementation continues
- Yr 6/7 River Rangers program
- K-7 Totem project with Peter Farmer

More information follows:

### **Eco Footprint**

#### **1. Biodiversity Action:**

Cross curriculum focus involving our 23 school garden beds and bushland lessons.

During the summer holidays the nectarines in our orchard ripened. They were harvested and prepared for cooking ... nectarine pie coming !



#### **2. WasteWise:**

Clean Up Australia Day action on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**.

You may also support our Wastewise initiatives by using the following recycling bins at school:

- Battery Bin (outside Kwobadarn door)
- Mobile Phone (inside Kwobadarn door)
- Aluminium Can Bins (inside Kwobadarn door & undercover area)
- Food Scraps Bin (undercover area)

### **3. WaterWise:**

Our WaterWise Schools program will continue, with Yr 5 students maintaining a particular focus on this aspect of sustainability..

### **4. EnergySmart:**

Our EnergySmart program will also continue this year.

### **5. TravelSmart:**

In 2010 our school gained a Bronze Award for its TravelSmart actions, this was followed up with a Silver Award in 2011 and Gold Award last year ... so this year our students are working towards achieving the Platinum Award! Please support this program. All TravelSmart initiatives will be listed on the website in Important Dates.

## **Social Handprint**

### **1. Student Wellbeing:**

The term is starting with our commitment to renew *Tribes* Agreements across the whole school – class, staff and community agreements. These agreements facilitate a positive, caring, joyful learning environment.

### **2. Aboriginal Cultures:**

Students will continue developing our Bush Tucker Garden and we will conduct an innovative totem project that focuses on local plant and animal species. Also, we will complete a Noongar Hands-on Kit for the One World Centre. We received a grant of \$4000 to develop this kit, which will not only be used by our students but also be available for loan by all schools across the state.

### **3. Cultural & Social Diversity:**

**Harmony Day is on 21 March** and we will be celebrating with a dress-up day. This annual celebration will be preceded by an incursion by a African drumming performer on Wednesday 19 March, 1.50-2.50pm.

### **4. Community Partnerships:**

This year we will continue to foster our strong community partnerships. Key partners include: Sir David Brand School, Maia Maia ERCS and Solar Sister- our 100 Tonne Plan partners; Mt Lawley SHS - for River Rangers, bushcare and student wellbeing; and RSL Care – for gardening and learning experiences such as interviews and performances.

## **5. Economics & Built Environment:**

Boyas, our local currency created to reward environmentally friendly actions towards our 100 Tonne Plan, will be in use again this year. They can be spent at our assembly garden produce stalls and other outlets, such as the Bodhi Tree café.

As you can see there are a lot of wonderful, exciting learning experiences already planned for this year. If you have any queries or would like to join in the fun and action, please see me.

### **Thank you**

A big thank you to the following families: **Bronwyn Howlett, Tom Hallam, Jason Hoogland and Dione Tonts**, for your care of our rabbit last year. Your support was greatly appreciated. Sincere thanks also goes to Mrs Evans-Lashmar, Mr Brescianini and their classes for their ongoing commitment to caring for Chester. Sadly, Chester died on Australia Day as a result of cancer. She is greatly missed by students, staff and the parents who cared for her.

Another thank you goes to **Tanya Crewe** for organising the assembly garden stalls throughout the year. Garden produce, worm whiz and water-saving bentonite clay are sold at these stalls. The funds raised from these fortnightly events go to benefit further sustainability education. Thank you Tanya.

A final thank you goes to Dino and Alan, our gardeners, for caring for the plants and frog habitat during the holidays. Many thanks for your support.

**Thank you**

**Elaine Lewis**

**Cross Curriculum Coach**

(Part time role; located in the Kwobadarn on Tuesdays)

4 February 2014