

Cross Curriculum Priorities

Welcome to the April edition of news from the Cross Curriculum Coach ...

The Australian Curriculum identifies three cross curriculum priorities:

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

Sustainability

Next Target: 200 Tonne Plan!

Last year we achieved our 100 tonne target to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. After a three month consultation period the preferred target for the coming year is a 200 Tonne Plan.



Thanks to all participants during the consultation phase.

Eco Footprint

1. Biodiversity Action:

Butterfly Garden

We now have a butterfly garden! Year 2s in Mrs Melville's class planted seeds of native plants that attract butterflies. These seedlings are being enthusiastically nurtured by students in that class. They watch the growth of the seeds and water the pots in the butterfly garden greenhouse every day.

Students in the lunchtime garden club planted other butterfly attracting shrubs in this garden to enhance the development.



River Rangers

Lotterywest Grant

Coolbinia River Rangers have been awarded a Lotterywest Grant. An article, entitled "Eco Explorers", in the *Guardian Express* on 17 February outlined how Lotterywest Grants are working in our community:

The Coolbinia Primary School River Rangers are a new generation keen to take on the challenge of exploring and conserving our environment. Support for transport costs and technological tools will help the group broaden their knowledge as they travel to new waterways and research different ecosystems.

Michael Sutherland (MLA BA, DipEd, LLB) visited the school recently to present the \$15,000 Lotterywest cheque to the Coolbinia River Rangers and to share some resources with the students (centre back row). Michael was joined by Councillor Rod Willox (Lawley Ward City of Stirling, AM RFD ED JP) on this special occasion (left back row), Shayne Harris (Principal), two River Rangers cadets and the River Rangers coordinator.



The Lotterywest grant will provide for 16 new ipads, 2 new Gopro cameras and cover the cost of numerous bus trips for River Rangers excursions. The ipads and cameras have already been purchased and were used on the recent Rottneest Island Year 6 camp.

Sincere thanks to all involved in achieving the Lotterywest River Rangers grant.

Bushland Research

Year 6 students are continuing their research, regularly monitoring their quadrats, observing and photographing the impact of the January fire. Here are examples of the regrowth students are observing:



Quadrat showing regrowth of grass trees ...



Zamia Palm on 2 February



Same Zamia Palm on 3 March

Volunteers

Special thanks to our Sustainability volunteers this term:

- Gardening: Leonie Tanner and Tom Hallam
- Garden produce stall: Leonie Tanner
- Kitchen: Sophia Dimovski, Barbara Makrides and Grace Reeson

These helpers make a huge contribution to the running of our education programs. Sincere thanks. If you would like to volunteer in any area of the Cross Curriculum Priorities please see Elaine. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Busy Bee

A garden busy bee has been organised for Sunday 3 May, 10am-4pm. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Tasks needing attention include:

- Spreading wood chips in all garden areas, including the bushland adjacent to the car park.
- Pruning dead heads.
- Weeding garden beds.



The River Rangers and Elaine will coordinate the sign in/out sheet and allocate tasks.

Please bring your wheelbarrow, rake, shovel, garden gloves, drink bottle and lunch on the day. In appreciation of your support, we will provide morning & afternoon snacks.

Please support our busy bee and enjoy catching up with other parents from our inspirational school!

Garden Stall

The fortnightly assembly garden stalls are back in action. Students sell garden produce, pot plants, and other items such as pens and water saving showerheads.

The 13 March stall included watermelon, silverbeet and herbs from our garden. All funds gained from the stall are used to support our sustainability program.



2. WasteWise:

Free Woodchips

If you need woodchips for your garden you may access the huge pile near the garden shed on Glick Street. Please advise the office if you will be taking a load of woodchips. Thank you.



Please continue to support the various wastewise initiatives across the school:

- Recycle batteries outside the Kwobadarn door
- Recycle mobile phone inside Kwobadarn door
- Recycle food scraps using the green bucket in the undercover area
- Use a 'nude food' lunchbox without gladwrap or aluminium foil



3. WaterWise:

World Water Day

International World Water Day is held annually on 22nd March to focus attention on the importance of freshwater and advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

Check out: <http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday>

We celebrated World Water Day during Week 8, 23-27 March. Students learnt about water, by for example, viewing "Water Changes Everything" and engaging in water based morning fitness activities.

Our students engaged in collection and water saving activities.



Waterwise Fact

Most illnesses in developing countries are water related.

4. EnergySmart:

Our EnergySmart program is ongoing. Since Sept 13, 2012, our solar power system has generated over 44,000kWh and saved more than 40,000kg of CO₂.



5. TravelSmart:

Ride to School Day

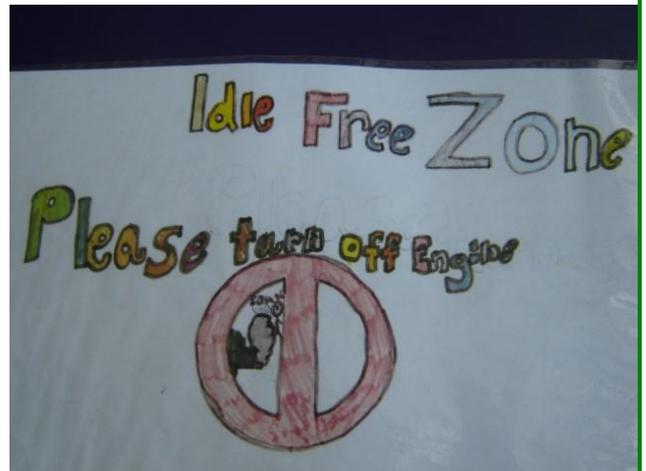
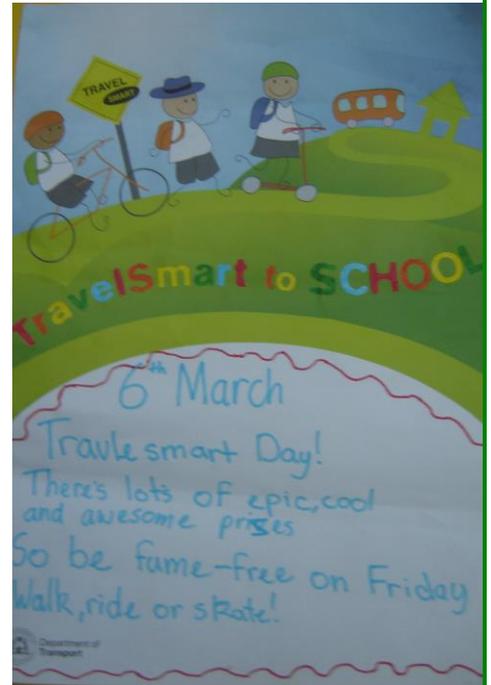
The TravelSmart day on the 6th March was a great success! Many more students came to school in a TravelSmart way for this special event.

The Year 5 TravelSmart team organised the event. One of the advertising posters is shown opposite. The students handed out stickers and raffle tickets, with 20 prizes being drawn at recess.

Other TravelSmart activities during Term 1 included:

- Travel surveys ... pre and post hands-up surveys were conducted to obtain baseline travel data and evidence showing the impact of the Ride to School Day on 6 March.
- Fume Free Fridays ... to reduce congestion around the school and help the environment. Please walk or ride to school every Friday.
- Walking School Bus ... they are fun, healthy and good for the atmosphere!
- Idle Free Zones ... in school car parks to reduce carbon emissions.

Overall, the students are aiming for double Platinum level in TravelSmart this year, so please walk/ride to school and support the students' initiatives. Thank you.



Social Handprint

1. Student Wellbeing:

RSL Care Visits

Coolbinia's supportive relationship with RSL Care, Menora Gardens, has resumed this year. A concert at RSL Care was held on Wednesday 1st April. Year 2 students performed with style to a very appreciative audience. This experience provided the children with the opportunity to develop confidence and enhance their performance skills. Thank you Mrs Smith for making this event possible. It was enjoyed by all!

Students singing at RSL Care



2. Aboriginal Cultures:

Drama: *Kep Kaatijin* (Understanding Water)

Yirra Yaakin means "Stand Tall" in the Noongar language. Yirra Yaakin is Australia's largest Aboriginal-led theatre company and has been producing and presenting an annual program of quality contemporary Aboriginal theatre since 1993.

K-Year 6 students attended Yirra Yaakin's performance of *Kep Kaatijin* on Tuesday 24 March. Based on a traditional Noongar dreaming story, *Kep Kaatijin* (Kep - Water & Kaatijin- to learn or understand/recognise) is the story of Water.

Drawing from Yirra Yaakin's rich history of creating stories for young people, Derek Nannup and David Milroy have written the second instalment of the *Kaatijin* trilogy. Now that the fire (first story) had brought warmth to Noongar Boodjar (land/earth), rivers and oceans were beginning to be created (second story). But that cheeky Djitty Djitty (Willy Wag Tail) had more to say!



Tortoise



Mumung - the hungry whale

Visual Arts: Noongar artist

Sharyn Egan, Noongar artist, worked with Year 1 and 3 students on 25 March.

Look at this stunning art work showing our bush fauna and flora by the children in Room 10 ...





Sharyn working with children in Room 11 ...



3. Cultural & Social Diversity:

Coolbinia PS celebrated Harmony Day again this year. Harmony Day, 21st March, celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. See: <http://www.harmony.gov.au/> Year 6 students organised a Multicultural Dress-up Day and associated celebrations and displays. Congratulations to all participants!

4. Community Partnerships:

'Friends of Coolbinia Bushland' is another group that has a close relationship with our school. This Friends group cares for our bushland – planting, weeding and other maintenance. Students and staff support this work throughout the year.

The next Bushcare Mornings will focus on:

- Maintenance – 9am Sunday 3rd May – meet in CPS staff carpark
- Planting - 9am Sunday June 21st – meet in CPS staff carpark

Parents, friends and children are welcome to assist.

Many thanks to 'Friends of Coolbinia Bushland' for providing seedlings for the children to plant each year. Planting and weed control will be especially important this year, following the fire in January.

Thanks to all participants supporting this excellent partnership.

5. Economics & Built Environment:

Boya Currency:

Boyas are our local currency created to acknowledge and reward environmentally and socially supportive actions.



There are three different boyas circulating in our community and wider:

- 1 boya notes from our initial 10 Tonne Plan in 2011,
- 5 boya notes from our 50 Tonne Plan in 2012-2013 and
- 10 boya notes from our recently completed 100 Tonne Plan, 2013-2014.

Boyas can be spent at assembly garden produce stalls and the canteen.

Our new 200 Tonne Plan will include designing new 20 boya notes, so watch out for these in the coming months.

Aboriginal Cultures and Histories

'Bushland Trail' 2015 PALS Project

The aim of the 'Bushland Trail' project is to enhance understandings of Aboriginal culture. The project is part-funded by a PALS grant. 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. This year our Aboriginal culture focus will be based in our bushland. An exciting and engaging range of learning incursions and excursions have been planned as part of our PALS project. These include:

- Hills Forest Centre, Living with Fire - Rms 4, 5 & 7 on Tuesday 25 February & Wednesday 1 April



- Yirra Yaakin *Kep Kaatijin* (Understanding Water) incursion – K to Yr 6 on Tuesday 24 March
- Bush walks & talks – Rm 10 & 11 on Tuesday 24 March



- Sharyn Egan, Noongar artist - Rm 10 & 11 on Wednesday 25 March
- Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre, Ancient/Aboriginal Science - Rms 5 & 7 on Thursday 2 April



- Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre - ELC1 & Rm 3 on Tuesday 28 April
- Trevor Wally ELC2, ELC3, ELC4, ELC5 & Rm 3 on Tuesday 19 May
- Leonard Thorn, Noongar culture - Rm 12, 5 & 7 on Thursday 28 May
- Joe Tonga, Micro Bat Boxes- Rms 3, 5 & 7 in first half of Term 2
- Millennium Kids, write and publish book - Rm 5 & 7 in second half of Term 2
- Kelly Newton-Wordsworth, environmental singer – Rm 5 & 7 on Monday 27 July
- Wesley College Moorditj Mob dance performance – K to Yr 6 on Friday 31 July



Coolbinia Christmas Tree...

The 2015 PALS project will address the 'Community Participation' category of the PALS awards. This focus on community participation will be achieved in four main ways:

- working with and learning from Aboriginal educators;
- publishing and distributing a book about our learning experiences;
- conducting an arts festival reflecting student learning about Aboriginal cultures and histories; and
- celebrating our relationships with Aboriginal people on a community day.

As can be seen, the scheduled incursions and excursions will support the achievement of our community participation focus.

Australia's Engagement with Asia

Our sister school relationship with a school in Indonesia, Jogjakarta Community School, has commenced. Following our library stocktake, Coolbinia PS donated over 70 library books to the school. See: http://jogjacomunityschool.org/?page_id=34



Further educational activities are being planned. These will enhance the implementation of the Asian Cross Curriculum Priority of the Australian Curriculum.

Sincerely

Elaine Lewis

Cross Curriculum Coach (Part time role; located in the Kwobadarn on Tuesdays & Thursdays)

20 April 2015