

# Cross Curriculum Priorities

**Welcome** to the August 2016 edition of news from the Cross Curriculum Coach. 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 Mathematics to English, Science, The Arts and Humanities, as well as Health and Physical Education.

## Sustainability

### Eco Footprint

### Progress on our 200 Tonne Plan



On the 10<sup>th</sup> August our Mentors reported to the whole school on progress achieved towards our 200 Tonne Plan to reduce carbon emissions. Seven cans were removed from the Upside Down Thermometer, reflecting our energy savings from the solar panels and solar lanterns, waste wise and water wise actions, and tree planting.

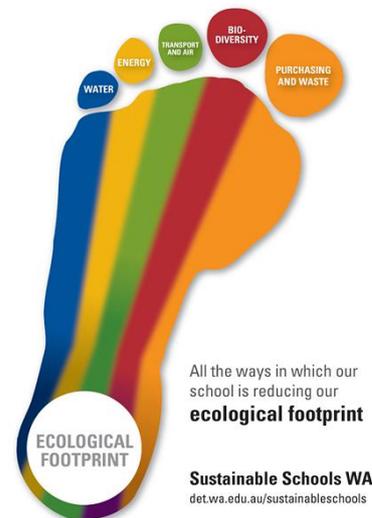
The school has under 60 tonnes of carbon emission reduction to reach our goal, as there are only three cans left on our Upside Down Thermometer. So please keep up your good work – recycling paper, batteries, food scraps! Your actions are making a difference! Thank you.

### 1. Biodiversity Action:

#### River Rangers

This month the River Rangers have been preparing for two forthcoming conferences – Kids Teaching Kids in September and Millennium Kids UNConference during the October school holidays. They will present workshops to other students from Years 5-11 on their Biological Science focus this year - Butterflies.

River Rangers have also been investigating the importance of the child's right to play. This is documented in Article 31 of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. Our students created art works to convey this Right. Resulting art works were submitted for consideration in the 2016 United Nations Association of Australia Yolande Frank Art Award.



River Rangers contrasted their play experiences with other children across the world who don't have play time. Some children in other countries walk for hours to collect water, shovel rubbish looking for food or items to sell, make bricks or sew all day, and have no time to play. Take a look at some of the students' outstanding art:



## Roots & Shoots Club



### Mildew Mania

As part of Curtin University's Mildew Mania project, different varieties of barley were planted to determine which varieties were resistant to mildew. Mildew on barley is a major problem for WA farmers. Roots & Shoots children have been monitoring the barley and have observed severe infestations of mildew on some of the varieties of barley they planted last term. Next month they will take leaf and mildew samples and send them to Curtin Uni for analysis.

### Peace Pole

Another fabulous Roots & Shoots activity has been designing a 'peace pole' for installation at Perth Zoo. The design needed to be based on a natural bush or forest setting. Our children painted a bush scene from our own bushland. Next time you visit the Zoo look out for Coolbinia's Peace Pole.



The Club builds on Dr. Jane Goodall's legacy and vision of placing the power and responsibility for creating community-based solutions to big environmental challenges in the hands of the young people. Bill Waterer, the WA Coordinator of Roots & Shoots, visited our school on 16<sup>th</sup> August to meet our club members and collect the completed "Peace Pole" artwork. After chatting together for a while everyone headed outside to plant butterfly host plants. Another enjoyable and productive lunchtime meeting for everyone! Thanks to all involved.



Bill answering members' questions about conservation while they ate their lunch and then helped them in the garden.



Meetings are held every Tuesday lunchtime. For the last meeting in August, members spent their lunchtime planting more host plants for butterflies. Many thanks to all our Roots & Shoots members for your excellent work caring for the environment.

### **Tree Planting**

All classes, K- Year 6, have participated in tree planting activities in the bushland as part of Schools Tree Day activities. Over 500 seedlings have been planted since July. Congratulations and thanks to all involved in this Geography and Science project.



Here Kindy children are making their contribution to caring for the environment by planting tree seedlings:

### **Bird Nest Boxes**

Joe Tonga, environmental consultant, worked with Year 4/5 students in Room 7, to create pardalote nest boxes. As part of the children's Technologies studies, they learnt about experimenting with different materials, including recycled resources, to make durable nest boxes. The photos show the students using a range of tools to construct pardalote nest boxes.



### Garden Beds

The students' garden beds are flourishing. Children learn about the life cycle of plants and use the produce to promote healthy eating. Literacy, Numeracy and Science are embedded in the school's kitchen garden program.



Kindy garden



ELC 1



Rm 1 garden



Rm 2



Rm 9



Rm 5

### Cooking

The Kwobadarn Kitchen has been busy this month, for example, Year 5/6 and Year 6 students cooked sushi :



Year 1 children learnt how to make pizza:



## Butterfly Project

The whole school, K-Year 6, have been participating in the butterfly project. All classes had butterfly kits to demonstrate the life cycle – eggs, caterpillars, chrysalis and butterflies for release.



Year 6 students releasing one of their butterflies:



## Environmental Art

Student artworks from the butterfly project are now on display in the school office. You are very welcome to check out this stunning environmental art next time you visit the office.

Angela Rossen, an environmental artist, worked with Year 3/4 (Room 3), Year 5/6 (Room 12) and Year 6 (Room 11) on this bushland scene showing a healthy ecosystem:



Sharyn Egan, Noongar artist, worked with Years 1-4 on a range of local butterflies:

Varied Hairstreak butterfly on wattle host plant:



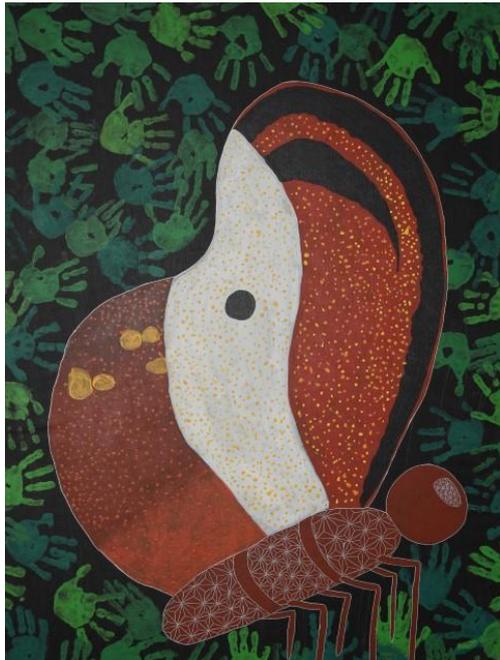
Monarch butterfly on milkweed host plant:



Swallowtail on scurf pea host plant:

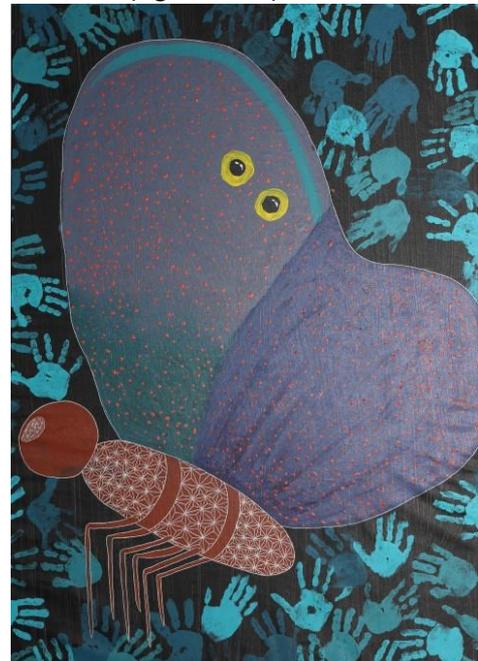


Jade Dolman, Noongar artist, worked with Kindy and Pre-primary children to create these stunning artworks of local butterflies:



The PP painting on the left represents the 3 class butterflies:

- Wedge Grass Skipper (left wing, ELC3)
- Cabbage White (centre, ELC 4)
- Western Grass Dart (right, ELC 7)



The Kindy painting on the right represents 2 class butterflies:

- Blotched Blue (right wing, ELC 5)
- Two spotted line-blue (left, ELC 6)

### Conservation Volunteers



Sixteen adult volunteers from *Conservation Volunteers Australia* visited our school recently to assist with heavy tasks in the bushland and school grounds. Bushland tasks included replacing logs on the tracks to control erosion, weeding and collecting litter. In the school ground the volunteers re-vitalised our compost bins, planted shrubs and weeded. Sincere thanks to the volunteers from *Conservation Volunteers Australia* for their outstanding service.

## 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 stalls

Without parent help we wouldn't be able to provide the amazing learning opportunities that we do!  
Many thanks to all parent helpers.

## 2. WasteWise:

Room 3 Year 3/4 students are the Waste Warriors for this term. They are collecting food scraps and recycling them in the worm farms and compost bins. Great job Waste Warriors!

Students learn about the benefits of worm farming and care of worms:



The special focus of our Waste Warriors this term, with the support of the Year 1s in Room 1 and Year 4s in Room 7, is the promotion of Nude Food. Please support Nude Food Tuesdays – student lunchboxes will be checked to determine the percentage of nude food lunches in each class. Information about healthy, nude food lunches may be found at:

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



Please continue to support the various wastewise initiatives across the school. We recycle ...

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

All these bins are at the Kwobadarn (student kitchen).

Thank you for contributing to our Wastewise initiatives.

### 3. WaterWise:

We are an active Waterwise School and have representation on the Water Corporation's Teachers Reference Group. Year 3 students in Room 4 are the Water Warriors during Term 3.



Collecting rainwater for watering the gardens and hanging baskets, as well as topping up the bird baths and frog habitat ponds.

### 4. EnergySmart:

Our 73 solar panels 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 31 August our solar power system had generated 74667kWh and saved 70440kg of CO2 from being released into the atmosphere since 13 September 2012.

### 5. TravelSmart:

Coolbinia PS was awarded Platinum level in TravelSmart (TS) Awards last year. This year we are going for the Double Platinum Award.



Year 5 students are involved in organising TS events. The Term 3 TS team, from Room 7, will prepare posters and make announcements to promote our World Car Free Day at the end of the term. Raffle tickets, stickers and other prizes will be distributed to children coming to school in a TravelSmart way.

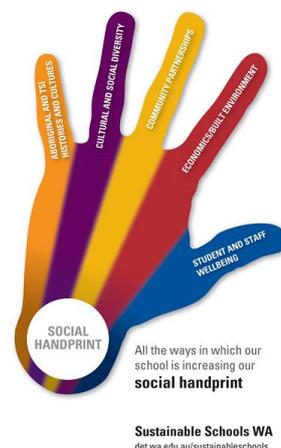
Please continue to support TravelSmart: every Friday is a Fume Free Friday!

## Social Handprint

### 1. Student Wellbeing:

#### Mentors

One of the Year 6 leadership groups is the Mentors. They meet every Thursday in the Kwobadarn and enjoy eating lunch together, making a warm drink if they choose. The Mentors discuss any issues they have with their weekly roles and then attend to special mentor tasks, such as, checking/renewing the straws in the native bee hotels, recycling paper waste, gardening or preparing for special events such as the launch of the Buddy Bench.



Mentor enjoying a warm drink at lunchtime.



Our Year 6 Mentors did a great job presenting skits to promote the use of our Buddy Bench.

The Mentors also conduct the fortnightly assembly garden stall and assist the Chaplain at the Friday Coffee Mornings. Dr Lewis, Coordinator of the Mentors, is impressed by their commitment and service to the school. Thank you Mentors.

### 2. Aboriginal Cultures:

An aspect of our engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Cultures and Histories Cross Curriculum Priority was demonstrated by Noongar artists working in our school.



Sharyn Egan, Noongar artist, worked with children from Years 1-4, creating paintings of their class butterflies. These photos show Sharyn working with Year 1s from ELC 1 on the Western Jewel butterfly.



### 3. Cultural & Social Diversity:

Coolbinia Primary is inclusive, embracing cultural and social diversity. We recently welcomed Mount Lawley Senior High School to conduct a Korean cultural workshop for Year 5/6 and Year 6 classes. On Wednesday 10 August, 8:30-10:30am, these students experienced aspects of Korean culture. As part of Mount Lawley's Language Specialist school promotion, their staff and supporters visited our school to showcase different aspects of Korean culture, such as Martial Arts exercises. Our students thoroughly enjoyed this educational experience. Many thanks to all concerned for organizing this event.



### 4. Community Partnerships:

Our school was invited to participate in the Kids Teaching Kids Conference again this year. Interested Year 6 students are currently preparing for the conference, which will be held in mid-September. They will present two workshops for other students in Years 5 - 11. Our workshops will be based on our students' Term 2 Biological Science studies about local butterflies.

Coolbinia's participation in the conference is supported by community partnerships with the City of Mandurah and Qantas, which includes a grant.



To find out more about Kids Teaching Kids visit [www.kidsteachingkids.com.au](http://www.kidsteachingkids.com.au)



River Rangers funding, from the Department of Parks and Wildlife and the Department of Local Government and Communities, also contribute to our involvement in this event.



Department of  
Parks and Wildlife



We greatly appreciate the support provided, enabling our children to participate in the Kids Teaching Kids experience, which is an outstanding educational opportunity.

### **Economics & Built Environment:**

#### **Boya Currency**

Boyas are our local currency created to acknowledge and reward environmentally and socially supportive actions. Boyas are spent at assembly garden produce stalls, the canteen and the Year 6 fete.



## **Aboriginal Cultures and Histories**

#### **PALS Grant**

The school successfully applied for a 2016 Partnerships Acceptance Learning and Sharing (PALS) grant. This year we have addressed the 'Environment Award' category, focusing on the conservation of local butterfly species. For example, Jade Dolman, Noongar artist, worked with Kindy and PP children creating two paintings of their class butterflies.



The grant acquittal process has commenced and the report will be submitted in mid-September.

# Australia's Engagement with Asia

## Asian Butterflies

This year Australia's Engagement with Asia cross curriculum priority will be embraced across the school in a range of learning areas, especially Biological Science in relation to Asian butterflies and the Health program (making connections with others).

A stunning new Wild Ways banner, featuring butterflies, was created by children in Years 5/6 and 6. The Wild Ways Conservation Art Project is a joint initiative between Perth Zoo and the Department of Education (for Asian Literacy).

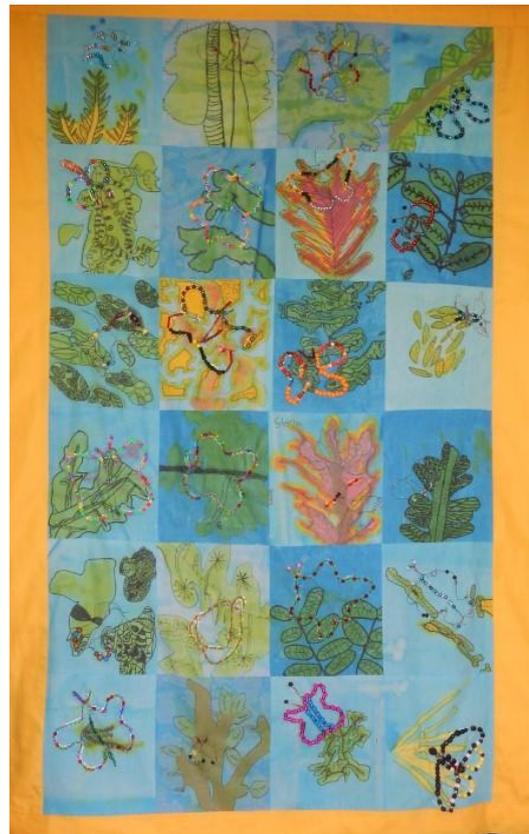
Year 6 students wrote to and received replies from two Indonesian schools:

Jogjakarta Community School, Jogjakarta, Java  
SDN Bubutan IV, Surabaya, Java

Photos and work samples of local Indonesian butterflies were sent to our students. This information informed our Wild Ways banner.

Year 6 (Room 11) students created the banner background with plant templates and edicol dye, to illustrate butterfly host plants, while Year 5/6 (Room 12) students made bead and wire butterflies for the banner.

The completed banner showcased local (18) and Indonesian (6) butterflies. It was submitted at the end of August for public display at Perth Zoo. It will be able on display for all to see during the October school holidays, so please check it out if you visit the Zoo.



## Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nation's 193 member states formally agreed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015 in New York. The new agenda provides a roadmap for global development efforts to 2030 and beyond. The 2030 Agenda follows on from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) but is a more comprehensive, progressive and innovative agenda that responds to the many challenges faced by the world today and into the future. It includes 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Throughout the whole year our school works to contribute to Global Goal 13 (Climate action) through our work on our 200 tonne carbon emissions reduction plan. Furthermore, this term the Year 5 and 6 students in Rooms 11 and 12 engaged with Global Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) and Global Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions):

- Global Goal 3 through participation in the Yolanda Frank Art Award.
- Global Goal 16 by attending an incursion called "In search of safety".

# THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



Coolbinia Primary School supports the achievement of these goals by having active membership with the One World Centre and the United Nations Association of Australia WA Global Schools Project, as well as the actions we take to address the various sustainability issues outlined in the SDGs. Please come and chat with me for further information about curriculum links.

Sincerely

Dr Elaine Lewis

Cross Curriculum Coach

River Rangers Coordinator

Roots and Shoots Coordinator

[Part time role; located in the Kwobadarn on Tuesdays & Thursdays]

31 August 2016