

Cross Curriculum Priorities

Welcome to the September 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

Eco Footprint

1. Biodiversity Action:

Garden Gurus Visit Coolbinia

The Garden Gurus team spent the day at Coolbinia on Monday 21 September. Students helped to install a greenwall at the end of Room 10 and explained their year-long project in the bushland.



Installing the

Greenwall



Debra Holland in the Mandala Garden



Students explaining their bushland project



Garden Gurus team amongst the veggie gardens

in the Tree Garden



At this stage, the story on the school will go to air on **24 October 5:30pm on Channel Nine.**

Garden Gurus team in the Bush Tucker Garden

Action in the Garden Beds

Room 7 students prepared their garden bed for spring planting:



Action in the Frog Habitat



Maintenance on the frog habitat was completed – pruning, cleaning the ponds and adding fresh rainwater. Additional Western Pygmy Perch, to control mosquitoes, were also placed into the ponds.

Native Bee Hotels!

An environmental consultant, Joe Tonga, conducted 'native bee hotel' workshops with our Year 5 and 5/6 students (Rms 4 & 5). The students learnt about the importance of stingless native bees in our ecosystem and taking action to conserve them by constructing bee homes. This unit of work is part of their Science and Technology studies.

Room 4 native bee hotels



River Rangers

Bushland Action ...

Our student-created books have arrived!

Year 5 /6 and 6 students have completed their book on the bushland using the *mixbook.com* program. This exciting project demonstrates how the Sustainability and Aboriginal Cross Curriculum Priorities are embedded into Literacy, Science and Geography.

The soft cover books showcasing the students' work have arrived. Place your orders now! See the separate advertisement on the website.



Copies available for viewing and purchase in the office.

Cooking Action

During September delightful aromas wafted from the Kwobadarn ...



Kindy Fathers' Day celebration with our cumquats made into jam! Yr4 Rm3 carrot & pineapple cake

Garden Masks

No parent feedback about the revised masks procedure for gardening (August news) was received. Further information may be obtained from Elaine Lewis, the Cross Curriculum Coach. The safety and wellbeing of your children is paramount, so if you have any queries or information you wish to add to the consultation process you are welcome to respectfully speak with Elaine.

Carbon Kids Incursion

Belinda Bloxsome, Carbon Kids Officer from Scitech, visited the Yr 4, Rm 3 class, to present a session on the carbon cycle. This incursion linked directly with the students' science program.



Students enjoyed conducting experiments with household chemicals. These experiments aimed to enhance their understandings about the carbon cycle.

Volunteers

Special thanks to our Sustainability volunteers. In the Kitchen we have the fabulous support of: Sophia Dimovski, Barbara Makrides, Grace Reeson and Jeneta Masson. These helpers regularly conduct a thorough clean of the kitchen and an audit of kitchen equipment.

Leonie Tanner regularly assists in the garden. Many thanks.

These and other helpers make a huge contribution to the running of our education programs across a wide range of learning areas, from literacy and science support, to helpers who supervise groups on cooking days. Sincere thanks.

If you would like to volunteer in any area of the Cross Curriculum Priorities please see Elaine. Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

2. WasteWise:

Students in Year 4 (Rm 3) were supported in their Biological Science studies last term by a visit from a Wastewise Educator from the Mindarie Regional Council. Eco Faerie Cara presented this hands-on incursion which focused on the benefits of worm farming and composting.

This inspired the students to review their management of our worm farms and paint food scrap collection buckets to encourage correct separation of food scraps for worms.



Habitat needs of worms



Students painting food scrap buckets



Kindy students also participated in worm farming lessons. They learnt about the parts of a worm farm and helped to install their own operating farm. Students examined the worms up close and slimy, delighting in these wriggly wonders. They identified the external features of worms, drew and labelled pictures of worms and talked about how to care for the worms.



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

- Recycle batteries outside the Kwobadarn door
- Recycle used toothbrushes and oral care packaging 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:

Water Incursions

Three 'water' incursions were organised for Years 3 and 5/6 (Rms 11, 12 & 5) as part of their Biological Science studies. These incursions were conducted by a Water Corporation education officer.

The Year 3 incursion focused on sustainability of our water supplies, with particular attention to strategies employed by Aboriginal cultures. Children examined Aboriginal artworks and interpreted their messages about water sources.

Students in Year 5/6 engaged in a microscope investigation of native plant species, with a focus on adaptations that enable the plants to survive harsh, dry conditions.

Waterwise Fact

97% of the world's water is held in oceans, with only 3% fresh water and only 15 of that available for use.



4. EnergySmart:

Our EnergySmart program is ongoing. Recording our solar power system data commenced on 13 September 2012.

By 14 October 2015 our solar power system had generated over 54337kWh and saved 51260.9kg of CO2. This outcome contributes to our 200 Tonne Plan target.



5. TravelSmart:

World Car Free Day, 22 Sept, was celebrated at our school by a special TravelSmart day. Students came to school in TravelSmart ways wearing dress-up costumes, as shown in the photos. As they arrived at school they received raffle tickets from the TravelSmart team members. Twenty winners were drawn and children collected their prizes at recess.



Many thanks to the term 3 TravelSmart team for organising this successful event.

The new Term 4 TravelSmart team, from Year 5 (Rm 4), is organising the following TravelSmart activities for this term:

- Travel surveys ... pre and post hands-up surveys to obtain baseline travel data and evidence showing the impact of special walk/ride to school days.
- Fume Free Fridays ... to reduce congestion around the school and help the environment. Please walk or ride to school every Friday.
and remember
- Walking School Bus ... they are fun, healthy and good for the atmosphere.

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:

Year 6 students visited RSL Care on Monday 14th September to present a session on their bushland book and games. While entertaining the residents, this opportunity enhanced our students' personal confidence and presentation skills. Congratulations to all involved!



Singing their bushland song *From Black to Gold*



Reading their book to residents



Reading their book and playing their bushland games with the residents

2. Aboriginal Cultures:

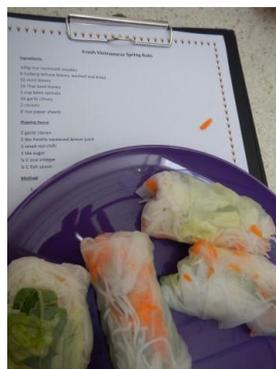
This year our students, from K-6, have participated in a range of excursions and incursions that enhanced their understandings about Aboriginal cultures. Knowledge from these incursions has been included in their bushland book, *Heart of Coolbinia: Our Bush trail*.



Trevor Walley, Noongar Educator, working with students in our bushland...

3. Cultural & Social Diversity:

Year 2 students in Rooms 8 and 9 are continuing their exploration of foods from different cultures. The following photos show the children making delicious, healthy Vietnamese Spring Rolls.



Many thanks to the hard working teachers and parent volunteers who support our cooking programs.

4. Community Partnerships:

Coolbinia P. S's whole systems thinking environmental program, the 10, 50, 100 and 200 Tonne Plans to reduce carbon emissions, was recognised at the recent *Pride of Australia* awards. Our school was one of three finalists from across the state.

Congratulations to the whole school community for your support for the waste, water, energy, travel and biodiversity initiatives involved in our four Plans. Thank you for your contributions.



Jayne Conley and Elaine Lewis
at the awards ceremony

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 currently circulating in our community and beyond: 1 boya, 5 boya and 10 boya notes. Our 200 Tonne Plan will release new 20 boya notes later this year. Boyas can be spent at assembly garden produce stalls and the canteen.

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 has been based in our bushland. The 2015 PALS project addressed 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

Sharyn Egan, Noongar artist, creating a painting of the bushland with Yr 3 students ...



- 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.

Leonard Thorn, Noongar Educator, teaching students to throw a boomerang correctly...



Our 2015 PALS project report has been submitted to the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. It received a positive write-up on their website: <http://www.daa.wa.gov.au/about-the-department/news/pals/>

Kids Teaching Kids Conference



On 9th September, ten Year 6 students attended the Kids Teaching Kids Conference in Mandurah. They conducted two workshops based on the Bushland Trail project. At these workshops our students showcased their book on the bushland and played games they created, with the workshop aim of enhancing participants' knowledge about the bushland in relation to environmental and Noongar understandings.

Our students leading their workshop ...





Our students leading the bushland board games



Our students receiving their *Kids Teaching Kids* trophy

Our students partying at the post-conference dinner



Australia's Engagement with Asia

Wildways Program

The Wild Ways Conservation Art Project is a joint initiative between Perth Zoo and the Department of Education. The project uses art in the form of textile banners as a vehicle to raise awareness about conservation issues in both Australia and Asia. During the project, Year 6 (Rm 7) students learnt about different ecosystems in both regions, focussing in particular on the Borneo rainforests, along actions they could take to contribute to a more sustainable future.



Students working on the background of the banner using Dala Sun Colour paints ...

Student Zentangle designs of animals of the Borneo forests for the banner ...



Coolbinia's completed banner
Bringing Borneo Back ...

All of this year's banners are on display to the public at Perth Zoo and are located in the entrance to the Rainforest Retreat exhibit. As a participating school in the Wild Ways program, you are very welcome to come and see your banners on display, however normal zoo entry fees apply. For Zoo opening hours and prices go to: <http://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/visit/>

A report on this Wildways project was also prepared, documenting all the learning involved. This has been submitted to the Asia Literacy section of the department of Education and will be uploaded onto their website as a reference for other teachers.



Sincerely

Elaine Lewis

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

12 October 2015