

Cross Curriculum Priorities

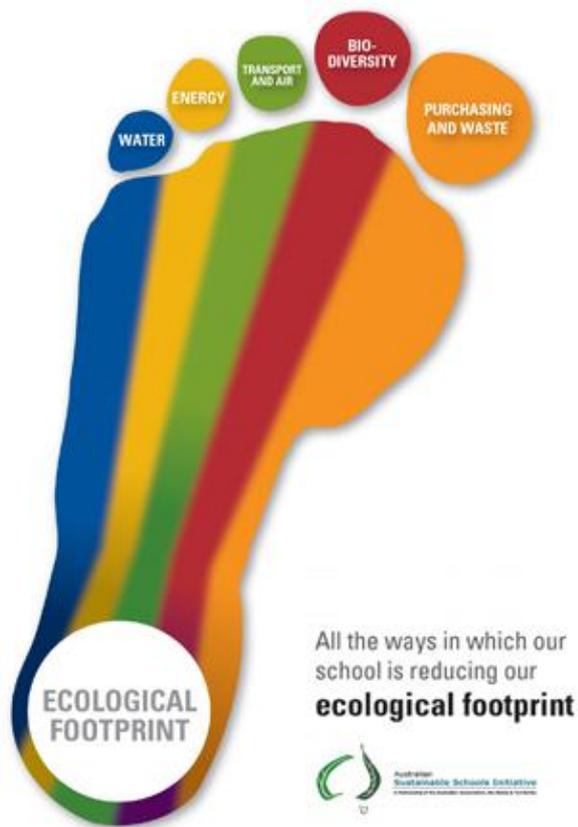
Welcome to the February edition of news from the Cross Curriculum Coach. The WA Curriculum identifies three cross curriculum priorities:

- Sustainability
- Aboriginal 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 Social Sciences, as well as Health and Physical Education.

Sustainability

Eco Footprint



Our current 200 Tonne Plan to reduce our carbon emissions by 200 tonnes will be achieved this year. We are well on our way to reaching this goal!

Last year Coolbinia PS was selected as the winner in the 2015 United Nations Association of Australia World Environmental Day Awards, in the Environmental School Award category for our work in reducing our ecological footprint. We won because of all the wastewise, waterwise, travelsmart, energysmart and planting actions taken by students, staff, parents and volunteers at our school. We will continue this important work in 2016!



Dr Elaine Lewis collecting the World Environmental Day Award in Melbourne last year for our *360 Tonnes of Impact: Thinking globally & acting locally* project.

1. Biodiversity Action:

River Rangers

After a fabulous year of camps, incursions, excursions and environmental activities, the end-of-year celebration for our 2015 River Rangers was held at Naturescape, Kings Park. The students completed eight challenges to “save Kings Park”.



River Rangers will continue in 2016. However, this year the program will be expanded across the whole school to include funding support for all year levels engaging in activities related to the Swan-Canning Riverpark and local wetlands. For example, Kindy and PrePrimary students will participate in an incursion using an interactive catchment model. Older children will be going on excursions to Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre, Jack Finney Lake at Curtin University and the Nearer to Nature bush site on the Darling Scarp. Yes, there are many exciting and engaging learning adventures being planned for your children.

Roots and Shoots Club

This lunchtime club commenced on Tuesday 2 February. Over thirty students attended the meeting and learnt that our club is one of many world wide. Jane Goodall’s Roots & Shoots is a global network of young people empowered and inspired to take action to improve our world. It is a youth-led community action and service-learning program that is currently making a difference in over 130 countries.



The Club builds on Dr. Jane Goodall’s legacy and vision of placing the power and responsibility for creating community-based solutions to big challenges in the hands of the young people. All around the world today, young people from kindergarten to university are exploring problems in their communities around animals, people and the environment, brainstorming solutions and creating projects that help to solve the problems.

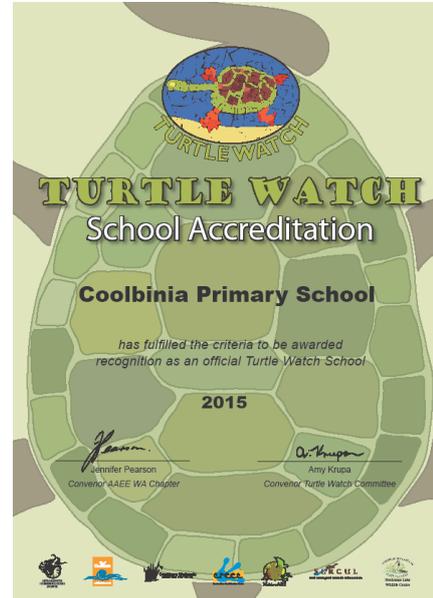
Roots & Shoots is a program that is different for each and every member around the world. As it is in such a diverse range of countries and communities, projects vary widely. Members across Australia are currently engaging in projects that address animals, people, or the environment. Coolbinia Primary School students will be involved in gardening and clean-up activities, guided bush land walks, and official Roots and Shoots activities like youth conferences. Meetings and activities will occur at least once a week during lunchtime. Other special opportunities will occur from time to time.

The first Roots and Shoots Conference will be held on Sunday 21st February and the venue is Perth Zoo. Five students (randomly selected) have been invited to attend from our school but all our members will have the chance to participate in different activities over the year.

Please have a chat with Dr Lewis if you have any queries about the Roots and Shoots Club.

Turtle Watch School Accreditation

At the end of 2015 our school achieved Turtle Watch School Accreditation for completing a range of activities that support the conservation of our local oblong turtle. This accreditation continues until the end of this year.



2. WasteWise:



Please continue to support the various wastewise initiatives across the school. Save up your recycling for when school returns next year! We...

- Recycle batteries
- Recycle used toothbrushes and oral care packaging
- Recycle mobile phones
- Recycle plastic bread bag clips

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

Thank you for contributing to our Wastewise initiatives.

3. WaterWise:

World Water Day will be held on Tuesday 22 March. To learn about the importance of water a whole school incursion will be held. Captain Waterwise, the Water Corporation's Fresh Water Thinking superhero, will be visiting the school in inspire children to be waterwise.

We need fresh
water thinkers
this summer

Discover waterwise holiday tips
at watercorporation.com.au/discover



4. EnergySmart:

Our 73 solar panels continue to contribute to our EnergySmart goals. Since 13th Sept 2012, 63,611kWh have been generated and we have saved 60,010kg of CO2.

Students are studying Earth and Space Sciences this term so our solar cooker will be in use again.

Solar cooker with solar panels in background ...



5. TravelSmart:

Coolbinia PS was awarded Platinum level in TravelSmart Awards last year...



... and we will continue to inspire TravelSmart behaviours in 2016.

Year 5 students are involved in organising TravelSmart events. The Term 1 team has met already and have begun planning activities for this term. Watch out for the students' Ride to School day advertising for Friday 4th March!

Social Handprint



1. Student Wellbeing:

Students from our school are involved in various community activities which enhance their personal confidence. One of these activities involves visiting RSL Care Menora to perform concerts and engage in literacy activities with the senior citizens.

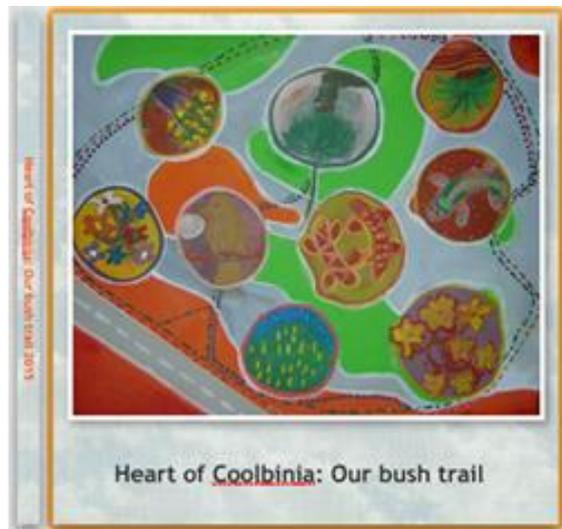


For example, instrumental students from Years 3-6 visited RSL Care on 3rd December to perform a concert. This community service opportunity enhanced our students' performance skills. The residents thoroughly enjoyed the concert ... as shown by all the smiles, nodding heads and tapping toes. These visits to RSL care will continue this year.

2. Aboriginal Cultures:

Last year our students created a book called *Heart of Coolbinia*. All classes across the school contributed to this book which showcased student work in the bushland and the Aboriginal focus of Artopia 2015. Copies of the book are available for viewing and purchase in the office and from assembly stalls.

This year students will be creating a book about local butterflies, which will also embed links to Noongar culture.



3. Cultural & Social Diversity:



Coolbinia Primary is inclusive, embracing cultural and social diversity. In Term 1 we celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day, 21 March, celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs', reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians. The Year 6s will be organizing special activities for Harmony Day.

Another way our school embraces cultural and social diversity is through our class cooking programs. For example, last year Room 12 served Chinese Lettuce Cups and Beetroot and Fetta Tart as part of the outstanding Year 3 Junior MasterChef event held on Wednesday 8 December.

4. Community Partnerships:

Coolbinia PS is a founding member of the United Nations Association of Australia WA Branch *Global Citizenship Schools* program. This will provide enhanced opportunities for our students and staff to participate in activities that relate to civics and citizenship. For example, on Tuesday 1st March a professional learning opportunity will be provided for our Early Childhood staff.

United Nations flag flying at the front of our school...



5. Economics & Built Environment:

Boya Currency

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



South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare

Through a community partnership with the South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare, the school received a donation of 100 native seedlings for the new playground. These seedlings were planted in the playground and surrounding native gardens. The South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare will also provide seedlings for our bushland planting program in 2016.

Aboriginal Cultures and Histories

2015 PALS Project Winner! ... Overall Schools Award and Community Participation Award



Our school won two awards at the 2015 PALS Awards ceremony at the end of last year. 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. We received 'Overall Schools Award' and 'Community Participation' Award. This is a huge achievement as hundreds of schools across the state participated in PALS.

Another creative PALS project is being planned for 2016. This year we will be focusing on the 'Environment Award' category.

Australia's Engagement with Asia

Last year 'Australia's Engagement with Asia' was embraced across the school in a range of learning areas. For example, we shared our Robotics program with Malaysian students who visited our school. They focused on science, robotics and technical lego sessions during their visit...



Indonesian students also visited our school. They learnt about environmental stewardship related to our bushland. The photo shows an Indonesian student performing a traditional dance in full costume...



2016 will again see 'Australia's Engagement with Asia' embraced across the school in Biological Science and other learning areas.

Wild Ways Program

The Wild Ways Conservation Art Project is a joint initiative between Perth Zoo and the Department of Education.

The 2015 project used art in the form of textile banners as a vehicle to raise awareness about conservation issues in both Australia and Asia. Students learnt about different ecosystems in the regions, focussing in particular on the Borneo rainforests, along actions they could take to contribute to a more sustainable future.

Coolbinia's completed banner *Bringing Borneo Back ...*



A stunning new Wild Ways banner will be created in 2016. Watch this space!

May your families enjoy a wonderful, happy, healthy and inspiring learning journey this year ...

Sincerely

Dr Elaine Lewis

Cross Curriculum Coach

River Rangers Coordinator

Roots and Shoots Coordinator

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

3 February 2016