Cooyar State School—Term 1, Week 5—26 February, 2014.

The Cooyar Chronicle

Welcome

It was great to see so many families at the Cooyar Show. I hope everyone had a great
time and had the opportunity to see the impressive entries our students entered into so
time sections of the show. Congratulations to the many place getters. A special thanks
to Mrs Sloss, who worked tirelessly to help our students, even after school, to get their
entries finished in time. An event like the show takes lots of time to prepare for and I
would like to offer a special thanks to all the Cooyar Staff for helping to put the show
display together.

At the recent P&C meeting, concerns were raised about the potential danger some of
the trees in our school grounds, pose to the safety of our students. In light of the recent
accidents involving trees in other parts of Australia, the P&C have decided to investigate
lopping or removing the dangerous trees. If you have any concerns about this project
could you please see me ASAP.

Parent Information Afternoon

This Monday 3rd of March, we would like to invite all parents to brief information session.
During this session we will discuss topics such as homework, student goals and school
expectations.

3.10pm: Have a cuppa
3.30pm: Junior (P-2) Room Session
4:00pm: Senior Room (3-7) Session

The children are welcome to stay and will be supervised for a game in the tennis court.
Please send along some afternoon tea if your child will be staying for the afternoon.

The Great Results Guarantee (GRG) draft has been formulated and we propose to give
our students the best chance of reaching the National Minimum Standard in reading by:

- Enrolling students in the Project 600, the online reading program.
- Targeting students with specific reading/writing needs during Literacy Block for the
  senior room.

Date Claimers:

4 March—Library Bus,
18 March—Library Bus,
27 March—School
Photos,
1 April—Library Bus,
4 April—Celebration Day,
4 April—Last day of
School Term 1.

So our information can
stay up to date, please
advise the school of any
changes to your :-

- Address
- Phone numbers
- Medical
  conditions
- Medication

Thank you.

Newsletters by Email.

If you would like to
receive a copy of the
Cooyar Chronicle or any
other notes by email,
please send in your email
address to me and I can
place you in my Outlook
Contacts. It is a great way
to receive notes and save
paper.
Providing more support with sightwords/reading in the Junior Room.

With these goals in mind, I am asking for expressions of interest to apply for a casual teacher aide position for 3 hours a day, from Monday to Wednesday for the remainder of the term. The applicant would need to:

- Be enthusiastic and encouraging when working with children in the Junior Room.
- Have a desire to help children improve their literacy skills.
- Be able to follow teacher direction precisely.
- Hold a current blue card.

If this role appeals to you, or you know someone who could provide quality support to help our students please send me an Expression Of Interest, with a brief (1 page) covering letter supporting how you could help to develop the literacy skills of our students. Closes Tuesday 4th of March.

Our School Leaders have been invited to attend the Annual Mayor’s Morning tea. This event has become a tradition for our students to attend and I know they look forward to it from year to year. This year’s event will be held on Thursday 13 March. Details and a permission note will come home soon for students in year 6 and 7.

**Be Safe**

**Be Responsible**

**Be a Learner**

These 3 principles form the basis of our school rules at Cooyar SS. This week we have discussed what students can do if they feel that another student is not following the school rules.

1. In a strong, brave voice tell them to STOP.
   - If the behaviour does not stop, tell the closest adult straight away.
   - The students are usually good with step one, but step two needs more practice. If we can all encourage the students to tell us straight away when there is a problem, not an hour or a day later, we will have more success at dealing with issues while they are still small.

**From the Classroom**

**Middle Class (Yr 3/4)**

**Maths:** This week the students have worked with times tables, discovered patterns and worked on the speed of their recall. Next week we will be looking at fractions.

**English:** We have continued to read “The Twits” and have begun predicting the ending to a chapter, and writing ideas into sentences in paragraphs.

**Project 600:** Online reading started this week for the Year 3’s, they did an amazing job and picked up new computer skills very easily. This will continue every Wednesday and Friday from 9am-10am. Could I please ask that all the year 3’s are at school by 8.45am on these days as it does take at least 10 minutes to log on and load the program onto the computer.

**Science:** We will be looking at living and non-living and ways to sort into different groups.

Elizabeth Clapperton

Principal
Congratulations to Sam for receiving Student of the Week last week.

Congratulations to Holly for Student of the Week this week.

We have been busy preparing for our oral presentations this week, discussing our favourite story and the main characters emotions. The year 2’s are comparing two texts and discussing why they liked one text over the other. Please help them practice their presentation that will be sent home in their homework folders.

In Maths, the preps have been busy learning all about numbers in their environment and subitising to 5. Year 1’s have been learning about addition and subtraction and teen numbers. The Year 2’s have been learning about partitioning numbers to understand number facts and skip counting patterns.

A big congratulations to all the students for the fantastic effort on putting in show entries. You all worked so hard on your lego making and art entries. Well done!

Michelle Bourke and Tania Duncombe
From the Classroom...

Winners are Grinners!
From the Classroom...

**5,6 & 7 News**

Last week the year 6 and 7 students from Cooyar attended a GRIP Leadership workshop at the Highfields Cultural Centre. All students participated and joined the year 6 & 7 cohorts from many other schools around the region. They mingled with children and met various ones through interactive activities and learnt how to lead like a strawberry, not a watermelon! It was a very valuable experience and I am hoping to see some results from this training put into practise in Cooyar State School.

A special thank you to Mr Davis who chauffeured us to and from the venue in his vehicle. We appreciated being able to go all together in one car.

**Language**

Children are reading short stories and working on looking at the structure of a short story and the author's craft. They will soon be asked to read a short story for assessment and complete an assessment sheet giving their analysis of the given story.

**Mathematics**

We have delayed the assessment piece for this section of mathematics as some students were still not confident with graphing in all forms and interruptions like GRIP and the show have caused some work to be delayed.

**Science**

Grouping of living things is the current topic in Science. Students are learning to use dichotomous keys! Sounds impressive ... do they remember what it means? Last week vertebrates and invertebrates were the topic of discussion.

**Technology for all classes**

The Cooyar Show was the deadline for our first minor piece of work in Technology. Lego entries from Prep to Year 4 required the construction of a vehicle with wheels. All worked well and most had very good results. Thank you to all parents who sent in Lego. We worked hard to keep all boxes separate at school but it seems some pieces were lost at the show. I am working on this to see if any odd pieces have turned up at other places.

Cake decorating, card making and the door-stop tasks for the years 5 to 7 students were successful with some very worthy prizes received by various participants.

A thank you also to Mrs Davis who volunteered her time and shared her talent and advice with the cake decorating students in one of our Technology lessons.

**LEGO Note**

Would parents please check the Lego that went home directly from the show to see if any odd pieces have turned up. Thank you.

Carmon Sloss
The South African Cricket Team has made an amazing turn-around. Just one week after losing the First Test against Australia, they were celebrating a convincing win in the Second Test match. Things don’t just happen by accident; so what brought about the amazing reversal of form?

First, they obviously instructed the groundsman to prepare a pitch that would blunt the pace and ferocity of Australian bowler Mitch Johnson, whose missiles had scared the pants of the South African batsmen in the first test. Instead of pace and danger controlling the game, it would be those who bowled with guile, swing and seam who would get the wickets in the second test. The South African bowlers obviously had greater skill in this department. Wickets and catches win matches. Without the ferocity of Johnson’s bowling, South Africa were able to score runs, and their pace-men could get enough wickets to cause Australia’s downfall. This is the law of “Comparative Advantage.” Australia obviously has the Comparative Advantage on a dangerous pitch; South Africa has the Comparative Advantage on a slow pitch.

Second, South Africa had a different attitude. Instead of thinking they were the better team, and only had to turn up to win whilst playing safe, they took risks and went for broke. After winning the toss in the First Test, SA captain Graeme Smith played it safe by inviting Australia to bat first. That move backfired, and had South Africa on the back foot from the beginning. In the Second Test, after again winning the toss, this time the SA captain decided that ‘fortune favoured the brave’; so he elected to bat first. He obviously instructed his batsmen not to take unnecessary risks, thereby possibly throwing away wickets easily before they compiled a reasonable score. They crawled to 5 wickets down for 214 by the end of the first day. With runs already on the board, they were able to add to them more aggressively on day 2, reaching over 400 runs before the side was dismissed.

When it was Australia’s turn to bat, the Aussies failed to cope with South Africa’s bowlers, who were more skilful at moving the ball through the air and off the pitch. Australia did well to avoid the follow-on after a shaky start, but were left well in arrears. When South Africa finally declared their second innings, Australia was left a big run chase, and failed miserably to gain a victory.

So what life-lessons can we learn from this game. First, if it lies in your hands, don’t give your opponent an advantage that you cannot overcome. Choose your battlefield of comparative advantage, and go all out for success. Second, learn from your mistakes, work out a new line of attack; and don’t give up. The Bible says: “A righteous man may fall seven times, but he gets up again.” Believe that all things are possible. Remember, you can if you will. One AFL football coach used to say: “The other side have the same human equipment as us: 40 arms, 40 legs and a 20 heads. So we have as much hope as them to win.” As in every game, the bounce of the ball is important; so put yourself in a situation where you can use luck, if it arises. Divine assistance can also assist; so pray for inspiration, and be sure that you do things according to the rules of fair play. You know what they say: “Cheats never prosper.” Not in the long term, anyway.

Let’s help our young people to appreciate these rules of life, that they might enjoy success and happiness. In the meantime, let’s hope that the Aussie cricketers use them for the final Test Match. And if success is not achieved, then let’s be happy for the victors. There is always next time.
Cooyar State School Uniform Shop

Our Uniform Shop will be open every Wednesday from 8.00am to 8.30am for your convenience.

Thank you.

NANANGO SOCCER CLUB

Training Begins
ALL WELCOME!
Thursday 27th February
Burnett Street Soccer Fields
4pm - 5pm
Returning and new players self-register online to save time.
EASY Visit: www.myfootballclub.com.au
Junior girls and boys aged from turning 5 yrs in 2014 through to 15yrs.
For further info on fees and general enquires phone:
Sandra 41 631403

This year Crow’s Nest Pony club has heaps of opportunities on offer and they are FREE to members!

If you’re interested in horses and have access to a horse, you are welcome to join Pony Club and experience all areas of the horse world with friends and instructors from all over Queensland! Throughout the year, there will be free clinics for members in the areas of Showmanship and Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Campdrafting and Team Penning. The ‘Get Started’ grant may be available to cover your membership fees and rally fees for 2014.
Our next rally is on the 2nd March at the pony club grounds.
For more information or and queries please contact Chief instructor Cassie O’Brien on: 0409 571 327 or President Tamara Altman on: 0437 818 301.