The Cooyar Chronicle

Welcome
The Cooyar Community spirit is alive and well. I was so impressed by the way that everyone pulled together to make the Student Council Movie Night such an enjoyable evening. The Student Council members were busy before hand bagging lollies, moving furniture and setting up the mats. There were mums who helped at the last minute to make extra bags of popcorn and everyone helped to clean up afterwards and even vacuum the popcorn off the floor. Thankyou to everyone for helping out. We will try and run another one next term.

Attendance
At the end of April I challenged the students to get their attendance up to 95%. Congratulations to those grades who achieved the goal and I’m sure after the winter colds have passed we will have all grades achieving the attendance goal. Please remember to contact the school if your child is going to be away.

School Camp
Preparations for the major school camp for Year 5 and 6 to Sydney is coming together nicely. Shortly you will be invoiced for a deposit of $100 to reserve a position on this camp. A payment plan is available if would prefer, just see Jodi to organise.

School Wide Positive Behavioural Support
As part of the process to encourage positive behaviours amongst all of our students, we have introduced “Kids Cooyar Cash.” Each Morning Tea play time a student from the Junior Room is nominated as the Playground Apprentice. Their job is to move around the students and seek out children who are being, “Safe, Responsible or a Learner” and nominate them for $1 Kids Cooyar Cash. At Lunch play time a student from the Senior Room is the Playground Apprentice. I have been impressed with level of dedication and maturity our young apprentices have shown towards the responsibility they have been given and the reasons they have awarded the “Kids Cooyar Cash.”

Semester Two News
This week I was informed that my role as Acting Principal will finish at the end of this term. Mark Wrigley will return from Blackbutt State School and Michael Flood will return to Blackbutt State School. I would sincerely like to thank all the students and families of Cooyar State School for making my time as Principal such a rewarding experience. Thanks also to the amazing staff, who have helped in so many ways to make each day run smoothly. I will miss you all as I head off to Yarraman State School in my new position as Deputy Principal.
From the Principal...

Celebration Day
Preparations for Term 4 Celebration Day are well under way. Please encourage your children to keep working hard at earning as much Cooyar Cash as they can as well as following the Celebration Criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BE RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>BE A LEARNER</th>
<th>BE SAFE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bring your kit book to school every day. Complete your homework and reading each day/week.</td>
<td>Earn 150 green cards by the end of week 9.</td>
<td>Be safe and responsible in the toilets. Be safe on the bus.</td>
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For Celebration Day the children will need to bring 1-2 photos of themselves. Please get some ready for the end of term.

Tuckshop Helpers
If you are available to help out on Wednesdays, even if only occasionally, please let Leanne or Chloe know. There have been a few days lately when an extra pair of hands would have been greatly appreciated.

Reading to Young Children: A Head-Start in Life
Research from Department of Education and Early Childhood and the Melbourne Institute of Economic and Social Research.

- Reading to children at age 4-5 every day has a significant positive effect on their reading skills and cognitive skills later in life.
- Reading to children 3-5 days per week (compared to 2 or less) has the same effect on the child’s reading skills at age 4-5 as being six months older.
- Reading to them 6-7 days per week has the same effect as being almost 12 months older.

Parent Interviews
What is a 3 Way Conference? It is an informal way for Students, Parents and Teachers to get together to share the successes of the school year.

How does it work? Parents nominate a 30 minute time slot on the note that will come home shortly, to meet with their child and teacher. During this time your child will take you through a Show and Tell session, sharing with you some of the work they have done in their text books, exercise books, on tests and published work around the room.

Why come? This is an informal session and there will be other students and parents in the room at the same time. Your child’s teacher will be present to support the students through the process and be available to answer any questions you have but it will not be a formal interview. You can have this in Term 3 if you feel the need to speak to your child’s teacher privately.

Report cards will be given out at the conclusion of the 3 Way Conference.

In my experience, holding a 3 Way Conference as described has been valuable for the students and parents because you get to see first hand exactly what the children have been working on and how they are progressing. 3 Way Conferences will be held in the last week of school, more details will follow soon.

Libby Clapperton
Principal
**Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 News**

Wow! It's week 8 already. How time has gone by so fast.

We have finished our PowerPoint presentation in English. Congratulations to all of our students, they did a wonderful job.

In Maths the Preps are learning all about patterns, creating repeating patterns using number. Year 1 are investigating coins to answer the question “Which Australian coin would you rather have?” Year 2 are also looking at money and counting collections of coins and notes.

In Science we are still investigating materials and their properties. We will be starting our Science projects soon. The preps are making a wind ornament. If you have any bits and pieces that we could use to create these ornaments please send them in. It's greatly appreciated. Year 1 will be making physical changes to a material to see if it will float and hold marbles. Year 2 will be investigating and writing a scientific report on combining materials for a purpose.

Thank you.

Michelle Bourke and Tania Duncombe

**Middle Class (Year 3 & Year 4)**

This week the class have completed quite a few pieces of assessment. It has been rewarding to see the enthusiasm and effort that the students have put in these tasks.

**Maths**

In maths we have completed pre and post tests, as well as looking at money concepts and working out change.

**English**

What an amazing sight to see! Year 3 and 4 children standing up in front of the class and speaking confidently about a character from a book that we had read, while at the same time referring to a PowerPoint presentation with pictures relating to their character. Well done kids, it was truly amazing.

**Geography**

The assessment task was about mapping, comparing different areas, graphing rainfall and drawing conclusions from the data. Sounds tricky, but the class handled it well and put lots of effort into their maps and answers.

Libby Clapperton
Assessment pieces are being finished off now and the children are working hard to finalise all work before the end of the semester.

Mathematics and English are mostly finished, and yesterday, after some trials and tribulations, all students handed in their Science assessment. The water samples are now purified!! Some have shown a dramatic change from beginning to end and others changed quickly after the first process of decanting. All of the children have worked successfully on this task and we all only wish we had a little more time and sunshine to increase the volume of our distilled samples. It has been an enjoyable journey and you can rest assured that if you are stuck in the desert with your son or daughter from year 5 or 6, you will be able to collect some of your own water to drink!

Homework has been set for the next two weeks. There is a list of about 150 words to learn from the whole semester. All words are mixed up so they will have to remember some that had rules to help them learn them. We will hold a big spelling bee in the last week so the children have been advised to learn a set of twenty each night. Of course, because it is revision, they will already know many of them. One page of mathematics operations has also been included.

Great to hear of children challenging their parents to division and multiplication operations at home! Keep up the good work parents! Also, thank you to those parents who have agreed to provide either ingredients or a slice for our classroom ‘Cooyar Cash’ buys. We are beginning to collect some recipes...here's this week's recipe provided by Kaycee. We all enjoyed this one!

Shall see you at the parent/teacher interviews.

Carmon Sloss

**Honeycomb Ice-cream Slice**

- 250g malt biscuits
- 300-600mls cream
- 1 can condensed milk
- 3 x 50g crunchy bars—crushed or roughly chopped
- Milo to decorate

1. Line baking trap with baking paper.
2. Arrange biscuits on tray evenly for base.
3. Place cream in bowl.
4. Beat until soft peaks form.
5. Add condensed milk and beat until thick.
6. Add chopped crunchy bars and fold into mixture.
7. Spread mixture over biscuits evenly.
8. Freeze until firm.
9. Sprinkle with Milo.
Week 7

Prep—Year 2— Safron for always doing her best and participating in class discussions.
Year 3—Year 4— Zach for great sentences in History.
Year 5— Year 7— Chantelle for always being gainfully engaged in the classroom.
Playground— Damon for always being polite and courteous.

Week 8

Prep—Year 2— Gabrielle for being a responsible member of our class by completing work of a high quality and using her spare time to help others.
Year 3—Year 4— Arien for his new “I can do it” attitude towards his work.
Year 5— Year 7— Summah-Jane for remaining on task and working at her own pace, avoiding interruption to complete her work.
Playground— Safron for being responsible and playing safe at all times.
Sarah, Bree, Kaycee, Amelia, Jessica and Bree still enjoy dressing up in home corner at play time.