Welcome

Wow! We are already in week 4 and what a busy term it has turned out to be. I have been impressed with the way our students are striving to Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be a Learner and, in the process, earn lots of Cooyar Cash. Firstly the students are aiming for $80 Cooyar Cash to earn an Ice Block, then $115 for Cooyar Cake and lastly $150 to go to Celebration day. Some students have already made $80, well done!

Bus Meeting

Last week a bus meeting was held with members of the Department of Transport, our local bus families and Bus operator, Chriss Payne. Options were discussed that could streamline the bus service and give our high school students access to a better service. One option that is being considered is to run a separate primary and high school run in the afternoon. This could impact on school operating hours.

A school community meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 May from 3.00 pm till 3:30 to discuss the implications of any changes to our bus runs and school hours. You are invited to attend this meeting and have your say on how these changes could affect your family. If you have already attended a bus meeting you will not need to attend as the same issues will be discussed. (unless you want to come along)

Naplan

This week the Year 3,5 and 7 Students worked really hard to do their best on the Naplan tests. It was a gruelling week and they all put in their best effort. Well done.

Reading Tips

Mem Fox, famous Australian children’s author says that children should be read at least 1000 books before they start school. Having fun with your children whilst reading to them and with them, is an important step in developing Life Long Learners.

Under 8’S Day

Next week the P-2 class will be attending Under 8’s day at Tanduringie State School, please complete and send back the permission form as soon as possible.

Attendance

I was impressed to look at our school attendance data for April (10 school days) and to find that Year 6 and 7 had 100% attendance, Year 4 & 5 had 98% and Year 2 had 95%. What a fantastic effort by these Year levels. I have encouraged all of our students to try to get an attendance rate of over 95% for the month of May.
From the Principal...

**Bush Dance**
Don’t forget the P&C annual Bush Dance will be held on Saturday 24 of May. This is always a great night to be enjoyed by children and adults alike. Please encourage your family and friends to come along and join the fun and support our P&C.

**After School Athletics**
Wednesday afternoons are a buzz with activity as a large number of our students and parents get together to practice for the upcoming athletics carnival. Everyone is welcome to attend, lend a hand with coaching or just cheer our little athletes on.

**No More Boxes Please**
Thank you to all the people who have been donating boxes for the Junior room. At the moment we have more than we need, but we will let you know when we are after more.

**School Library and Library Bus**
There has been some confusion with Library books, so just to clarify the details are: Every second and fourth Tuesday the Library bus comes to school and the students are able to borrow books, CD’s and various other town Library resources. They can take these books home to share with the family.

Each week on Thursday afternoon, the students will have time to borrow from our school library. The students can take these books home, but it would be better if they could stay at school to have a book to read in spare time. Please check the library card inside the book to find out if the book is a Cooyar SS book or a Library Bus book to avoid mixups.

**Check Out Our Website**
Cooyar State School now has its own website. Mrs Beacham has been working hard to get it all up and running. Please check it out and let us know if there is anything else about our great school that you would like to see on the website.

And a big Thank You to our Student Council for the new sports equipment!

Libby Clapperton
Principal
From the Classroom...

**Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 News**

Congratulations to our Student of the week last week Maddison and Madeleine this week. Well done girls! You are working very hard in class, to follow the rules—Be safe, Be a learner and Be responsible.

We are very busy in English creating a retell of a familiar story. We have planned and drawn our pictures and are currently working on our slideshow to present our retell to the class next week.

In Maths, we have been busy learning about location and direction. We have been following and giving directions to find a secret object. Preps have also been working on recognizing quantities and partitioning into two groups. Year 1’s have been looking at number patterns and growing patterns. The Year 2’s have been identifying and describing missing elements in counting sequences and number patterns.

We are continuing to investigate the properties of materials and how materials can be physically changed in Science. We are also exploring how these changes can be made to materials to make an object for a particular purpose and its suitability.

During History we continue to look at significant events in our community and how they are commemorated. We will be sharing stories of significant events in families and how they are celebrated.

If you wish to help out in the classroom please let us know. Our door is always open. Thank you for you continued support and until next time.

Michelle Bourke and Tania Duncombe

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

**Maths**

We have been focusing on tables and number facts and their fast recall. Please continue to practice tables at home with your children whenever possible, we’ve been playing beat the buzzer games and buzz to get really fast. We have also begun exploring common fractions.

**English**

This week the students have been tested on their reading levels, they have been given goals to work on to continue to improve their reading and comprehension.

**History**

This week we have looked at the Industrial Revolution, the reasons why convicts were sent to Australia and what life might have been like for these convicts. The students have enjoyed role plays of being a child convict in the 1700’s.

Libby Clapperton
From the Principal...

**Week 3**

Prep—Year 2— Maddison: for being a learner and finishing set tasks.
Year 3—Year 4— Shannon: for his enthusiasm about learning and sharing his general knowledge in science.
Year 5— Year 7— John: for discovering he can learn the times tables. Being a great learner and working well with Mrs Donaghy.
Playground— Kaycee: for helping the younger children.

**Week 4**

Prep—Year 2— Madeleline: for always finishing her work with a smile on her face.
Year 3—Year 4— Zoie: for showing commitment to her goal of trying to keep her area neat and tidy.
Year 5— Year 7— Kaycee: for consistent approach to learning, completing all set tasks, remaining focussed and doing extra!
Playground— Jake: for showing compassion for others.
English
All children are completing their narrative writing and handing in a published copy this week. Hopefully we can share some of these.
NAPLAN is, of course, a main focus this week.

Mathematics
Assessment pieces completed a few weeks ago now are being revisited to note where errors were made and to revise some methods of working. Double digit multiplication remains in focus with fractions being the next area of specialised maths we will work on. 7 times tables are being learnt this week. We saw some significant improvements last week so we are hoping for a similar outcome this week. I was pleased to see the children apply themselves to this task!

Science
As previously stated, children are now able to bring in their samples of water for decanting, filtering and distilling. Let's see if we can succeed in our quest to be water purification specialists!! Everyone will need at least one and a half litres of water in a clean container with a lid that seals and four separate containers with lids to keep a sample from each stage. These containers can simply be recycled bottles (preferably glass). Save your bottles and if you have some at home that you would like to donate, the 5,6 and 7 class would appreciate them. Thank you!

Garden Lettuce
Fancy some fresh garden lettuce?? There is a variety of lettuces in our garden that are ready for harvest now. The seedlings were kindly donated by the Winston family before the holidays and, thanks to the rain and various children watering them, we now have some great lettuces. Send a message in the KIT book if you would like one sent home.

Carmon Sloss
The wrestling of two media moguls, James Packer and David Gyngell, as shown on television, was pretty ordinary. Although the two billionaires are said to have been friends for over 35 years, something obviously occurred that caused their tempers to fray. Punches were thrown, causing a black eye, and a headlock was put around the head of one.

It just goes to show that education and wealth do not necessarily rescue people from the law of the jungle. When feelings are hurt and tempers aroused, the basic instincts of man can easily come to the fore and reason goes out the window.

It seems that, in time past, the wife of one of the men left her husband and moved in with the other. This happens all too frequently in our society, often with disastrous effects. Although the grass can seem greener on the other side of the fence, lots of times the fracture of marriage can have unhappy consequences for many, including children, extended family members, and friends. Also, according to statistics, a second relationship is more likely to end than a first one.

Children are often the victims, caught in the middle of strained, and sometimes hostile, relationships. Kids long for time with both their natural father and mother. Unfortunately, separation of marriage partners can make that a forlorn hope. There can also be the difficulty of establishing meaningful and happy relationships with a new “parent.” Resistance to a new guardian is a common problem which is often encountered. Worse still, if children are interfered with, it is often from a new marriage partner.

We quite often hear news stories where a rejected marriage partner does damage to himself, to his/her ex-partner and to their new partner, or worse still, to the children. The news frequently reports of murders, murder-suicides and other damage done within families where separation has occurred.

It is always possible to fix a fractured relationship through commitment and the seeking of divine help. When you consider the alternatives, it is at least worth a serious try to resolve whatever problems may arise. In the long term, it is likely that our children and loved ones will be glad we made the effort. And when you become rich and famous, it might even avoid an ugly wrestle that features on the evening news.

Phil Downing
Cooyar State School Chaplain
Public Notice & Photo Gallery...

Market Day

[Photos of children engaged in activities like interacting with pets, holding crafts, and setting up a market stall]

Price List

- Regular Popcorn: $3
- Large Popcorn: $5
- Super Shocker: $10

(If you buy 2 items, you get a free gift for free!)

[Image of a girl holding a pet and smiling]