



Coorow Primary School

25th May 2023

▶ Edition 51



THE COOROW QUILL

Our school is built on the land of the Yuat people – the Yuat are part of the Noongar nation. We respectfully acknowledge that the Yuat have been the custodians of this country for many thousands of years and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Kaya

At our school, we value diversity and inclusivity: people with different abilities and disabilities, neurodiverse people with ADHD and autism, and people from different places and different cultures all expand our experience and understanding and make our lives richer.

Books can be a great way to teach children about concepts that are hard to put into words and, at assembly, I read the beautiful book *Doing the Boom Cha-Cha Boogie*, by Australian author Narelle Oliver. In this story, three homeless little murmels are washed up on the shore of a strange land, and they have no friends to help them. We heard how Little Snig had the courage to defy her father, the Boss Snig, and show kindness to the lost and lonely murmels. As their friendship grew, the murmels taught Little Snig the joys of waterwoppers, murmel-games, and dancing with rattly boom-cha-cha seedpods on their tails. And in the end, when the Boss Snig saw how happy these things had made his little daughter, he tried them too, and discovered how good they were. As adults would see, this book is about accepting people from other cultures, rather than fearing them and locking them away. You can enjoy it again with your children

Dates to remember



Friday 26 May	National Sorry Day
Thursday 1 June	School Board meeting
Monday 5 June	WA Day Public holiday
Friday 16 June	Wheels at School
Thursday 22 June	Faction Cross Country
Monday 26 June	Musica Viva—Eneabba
Tuesday 27 June	Assembly
Friday 30 June End of Term	Picnic @ the Hill

National Reconciliation Week

Next week is National Reconciliation Week, a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Reconciliation is another difficult concept: in very simple terms, it means that people who have had problems in the past decide to try to work together and make things better. In 21st century Australia, reconciliation means acknowledging that when European people came to Australia, they did not treat Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people fairly. They took their land, separated families, and didn't let them practise their own culture. It means listening to each other's stories and saying sorry for things that happened, respecting the culture and traditions of Australia's first peoples, and recognising the importance of working together to make a better future where everyone is treated fairly.



Our vision

At Coorow, we strive to do our best. We are confident and resilient. We laugh and learn and grow together.

Reconciliation involves understanding and accepting ideas that may be very different to those we grew up with. That requires a gradual change and can take a very long time. The formal process of reconciliation in Australia began in 1991, with the stated aim of 'A united Australia which respects this land of ours; values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage; and provides justice and equity for all.' We are still working towards this today.

Tomorrow is National Sorry Day, a day when we remember and acknowledge the terrible mistreatment of The Stolen Generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We think about the pain that was caused to them, their families, and their communities, we recognise the strength of survivors, and we think about how we can all share in the healing process for our nation.

Part of this healing process was the *Apology to Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples*, delivered in parliament in 2008 by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd. This speech was only 738 words long, but it was very important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It touched my heart and was a very important step in my personal journey towards reconciliation. Many people in our school community will be too young to remember it. If you haven't heard the Apology, or if you would like to listen again, you can find it here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1-9NO6G_dw

National Sorry Day - Friday, 26 May

On Friday, I will be reading *Sorry Day* by Coral Vass to the children. It is the story of Maggie, a little girl who is watching the prime minister give the Apology when she loses her grip on her mother's hand and becomes lost in the crowd. Maggie is safely reunited with her mother, but throughout the book, we see images of the children of The Stolen Generations all around them. *Sorry Day* is read aloud here <https://storyboxlibrary.com.au/stories/sorry-day>

You may have seen a statement on the wall of my office that says:

I believe that education is powerful because it changes lives.

- It provides choices and opportunity
- It allows individuals to feel hope for themselves and compassion for others

This is why I believe in the importance of Reconciliation for Australia's indigenous people. It is why I believe that a respectful relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the wider Australian community will make our nation stronger, and make all our lives richer. And it is why I believe that is important to teach the values of reconciliation to our students.

Here are some ways that you can help your children develop an understanding of the importance of reconciliation, using our four school values:

I am a Learner - Learn about the effects that European settlement of Australia had on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, how they were treated, what happened to their culture, languages and communities, and how these effects continue to be felt today.

I am Resourceful - Don't waste your vote in the upcoming Voice referendum. Listen to all the arguments, do your research, think about the issues, and cast your vote carefully.

I am Brave - stand up and call out racism whenever you see it. It's not an easy thing to do and it takes courage.

I am Responsible - Model respectful behaviour towards people of all cultures at all times, including in your own home where your children are watching and listening and learning.

Home reading

We have had many students reading regularly at home this year and some of them have shown excellent progress as a result. I understand that seeding and other commitments make it more difficult to keep up with home reading, but the investment of your time is worth it. Not only is it extra practice and one-on-one help for your child, but it also shows them that you value their education. Research tells us that children do better at school when their parents are involved.

Circus Challenge

Sadly, the circus performance artist caught covid and this event had to be cancelled but it has been rescheduled for Friday 9 June. Perenjori Primary School students and teachers will be joining us for the performance and workshop, the P-2 students will also combine for some in-class activities.

Denny Elam

Denny Elam, a former student who now attends Carnamah DHS, has been joining us on Fridays for work experience. Denny would love to work with young children in the future. It is great to have her working with us this term.

Uniform

Please remind your children to wear school uniform. We are seeing many non-uniform jumpers and jackets on these cooler mornings.

Joggers are the best shoes for students to wear to school. Well fitting ankle-length boots with flat, flexible soles are acceptable. Gum boots, ugg boots, knee-length boots, cowboy style or dress boots or any other boots with heels are not suitable at school. They do not provide the support needed for active, growing feet.

Children do NOT need umbrellas or toys at school. Please leave them at home.



Absences and Targets

Students who come to school every day do better academically and socially. We encourage all children to attend every day, unless there is an acceptable reason. Acceptable reasons include illness, appointments, and unavoidable family commitments. Unacceptable reasons include being too tired, having a birthday, and staying home because relatives are visiting. We are required to record all student absences and obtain a valid reason for that absence.

Please help us to do this efficiently by contacting the school on the day of absence to let us know the reason why your child is away. If you know in advance that your child is going to be away, please tell us as soon as you can. If you are planning a holiday, please contact the principal to discuss this in advance.

Progress towards our attendance targets this term:

Target - 30 students attend regularly (attend at least 90% of the time)

Achievement - 24 students attending regularly.

Five students who have not achieved the 'regular' target of have acceptable reasons for their absences. One third of all absences are due to illness.

Target - 95% of absences are authorised.

Achievement - 48% of absences are authorised.

This is very disappointing.

One third of the unauthorised absences are unexplained.

If you have received a note or text message asking you to explain your child's absence, please respond to it.

It is a waste of time and resources for us to have to continually follow up unexplained absences.

School bus

For everyone's convenience and your child's safety, please remember to let us know if your bus plans have changed. There have been MANY instances lately when we have not been sure if a child is meant to be on the bus or not. This means that everyone has to wait while we check. You can contact us by phone, email, SeeSaw, Audiri, or a note in your child's diary. **Please do not use email on Fridays.**

Contacting the School

We welcome your contact at any time. You will find it more efficient if you direct your query to the correct person.

Your question or problem	Who to approach
Absences, bus changes	Office or teacher by phone, email, SeeSaw, Audiri, or a note in your child's diary. (Do not use email on Fridays when office is unattended.)
Lost or forgotten items, excursions, payments, any general questions that are not class specific	Office - by phone or email
Obtain copies of school policies	Office - by email
Queries about school policies	Principal – by phone, email or appointment.
Confidential queries about the welfare of your child	Principal – by phone, email or appointment.
Problems with the class teacher	Firstly, contact the teacher by note, email, appointment, or by phone after 3.05pm. If the problem is not resolved after contacting the teacher, contact the principal, preferably by email.
Problems with the principal	Firstly, contact the principal by email, telephone, or appointment. If the problem is not resolved after contacting the principal, please refer to the Coorow Primary School Complaints Management Policy for details about how to escalate your complaint.
Bullying or other problems with friends	Class teacher - by note, email, appointment, or by phone after 3.05pm.
Classroom routines, academic work, behaviour or homework	Class teacher - by note, email, appointment, or by phone after 3.05pm

Address	14 Bristol Street, Coorow WA 6515
Office email Address	Coorow.ps@education.wa.edu.au
Mrs Millsted email	Denise.m.millsted@education.wa.edu.au
Ms Whyte email	Jancy.whyte@education.wa.edu.au
Miss Johns email	Rena.e.johns@education.wa.edu.au
Miss Stevens email	Jennifer.stevens@education.wa.edu.au
Miss Turk email	Catherine.turk@education.wa.edu.au
School Website	currently under renovation
Facebook	Coorow Primary School https://www.facebook.com/people/Coorow-Primary-School/100063447506670/
Messaging App	Audiri
Phone	(08) 9952 2800

Hello!

I had the pleasure of taking the 5/6 students of Coorow Primary on a tour of Parliament House on the 28th of February and recently received a bunch of thank you letters and art from the students thanking me for the tour and the extra time I gave them as they'd travelled so far. I was blown away by all the amazing art, the great letters, and the overwhelming sense of gratitude. I'm so glad that the students are so engaged and interested.

Also: one of the letters from Heidi Smyth said that she really enjoyed learning that there was so much art around Parliament – including art from every shire in WA. She noted that while she didn't get to see the Shire of Coorow it was nice to know that it's there. Well as a big thank you I found the painting from our collection that is of the Shire of Coorow and took photos just for Heidi and the class (see attached).

Thank you to the 5/6 students of Coorow and I hope they return one day either in later years at school or even (who knows!) as a Member of Parliament in the future.

Kind regards,



David Cox | Parliamentary Educator |

Parliamentary Education Office | Parliament of Western Australia

Parliament House | 4 Harvest Terrace | West Perth WA 6005

t (08) 9222 7850 |

e dcox@parliament.wa.gov.au | w www.parliament.wa.gov.au



Heidi and Ava
speaking at the
Three Springs
ANZAC service.



Mother's Day Celebration



It was a big day at Coorow Primary School on Monday, 15 May, we combined Mother's Day celebrations with Walk Safely to School Day. Lots of grown-ups joined with children for an exciting treasure hunt around town. Thank you to everyone who participated.



Coorow Primary School is the 30th school to join the Gilbert's SOS Program. Simply ask the checkout staff next time you're in Gilbert's Midland to help sign you up, nominate the school and then every time you shop, scan your card and Gilbert's will donate 1% of your total spend to our school. Thank you to everyone who has already joined and nominated Coorow Primary School to receive Gilbert's Fresh donation.



Join the Support Our Schools Program (SOS)

- It's free and available to all Gilbert's customers!
- Gilbert's Fresh Market donates 1% of the money spent by you to your nominated school every time you shop with us.
- Sign up at the checkout and simply present your SOS card for scanning each time you shop to earn funds for your school.

It's so easy!

SIGN UP
IN-STORE TODAY

gilbertsfresh.com.au

GILBERT'S
— fresh market —

HILTON, MIDLAND &
WILLETTON

OPEN 7 DAYS

Honour Certificates

Jack for being a learner in the classroom by practicing your letter formations until you could do them correctly. I'm proud that you didn't give up trying.

Declan for being an outstanding learner during spelling lessons. It is pleasing to see your writing improve because of your hard work.

Brianna for always being responsible and striving to do your best. It is great to have a role model like you in our classroom.

Ava for being an amazing leader. Always including and assisting others in the classroom and the playground. Excellent leadership Ava.

Joel for being an amazing leader. Always including and assisting others in the classroom and the playground. Excellent leadership Joel.

Jasmine for being an amazing learner. Consistently doing your best in every activity and learning opportunity.

Rory C for always being so willing to help the younger students get organised when catching the bus at the end of the school day. Rory shows high level initiative in assisting the kids. The teachers never have to ask him to help; he just takes it upon himself to get involved when recognizing extra support is needed. Rory's caring nature and sense of fun helps motivate our youngsters on those afternoons when they are low on energy. Thank you so much for all that you do to help us Rory.

Dear our hard-working Parents and Community team,

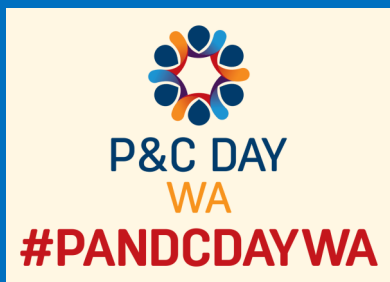
We would love to thank you for all your hard-work and effort in making this school a great environment to learn. We give you all our full gratitude for every new thing you do to make CPS perfect. Your amazing commitment to support us and help us grow and learn is legendary. You mean so much to this school and you are completely irreplaceable. We don't know what we would do without you.

You've done so much to earn our thanks; the nature play, the new e-board, the cubby house, the basketball court and so much more. If you had never done that, Coorow Primary School would not be the same. With you, we are the best we could ever imagine.

So, thank you on behalf of the Coorow Primary School students.

Yours truly,

Ava, Heidi and Romy





Whole school activities about kindness and being a good friend



I'M RAISING FUNDS FOR

Do It For Dolly Day '23

Join me in creating a kinder and safer world for Australia's kids and communities.

Friday 12 May 2023

#DoItForDollyDay #BeKind



Welcome to Coorow Primary School 3Ups program for 2023. If you would like your child to attend 3Ups can you please complete the enrolment form available from the office, or alternatively contact us and we will email one to you.

2023 3-Ups

This year we are going to be learning exploring the works of author, Eric Carle. Please join us from 10.40am-12.40 pm every second Wednesday of term. You will need to bring a hat, drink bottle and snack. Please also pack a spare set of clothes for your child in case they get wet or messy.



26 July

9 August

23 August

6 September

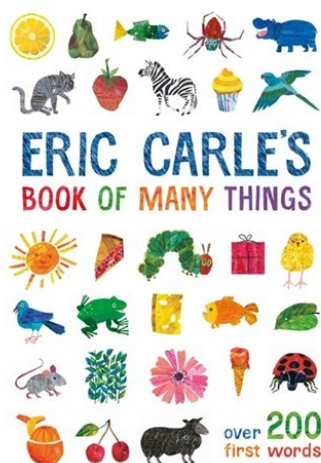
20 September

18 October

1 November

15 November

29 November



Session Timetable

10.40	Arrive
10.40-11.10	Outside play and snack
11.10-12.10	Story, songs, fine motor activities, animal related activities
12.10-12.40	Outside play
12.40	Pick-up



Department of Education

Premier's Reading Challenge

Reading can take you *anywhere*

The Premier's Reading Challenge is a four-month voyage through the enchanting world of books. Fly above the clouds, dive into the depths of the ocean and uncover great mysteries as you explore thousands of amazing stories.

Register at premiersreadingchallenge.wa.edu.au to start your magical journey.



Enrolment packs are available from Coorow Primary School. Please phone the office on 99522800 or email us at coorow.ps@education.wa.edu.au for further information.



Department of
Education

Shaping the future

School enrolments are now open for 2024

If your child is starting **Kindergarten, Pre-primary, Year 7** or **changing schools** you will need to apply to enrol by **21 July 2023**.

Find out more:
education.wa.edu.au/enrol

