



March 6 2025  
Edition 65



# 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.

Dear parents

It is hard to believe that first term is half over already. It seems like only yesterday that the children were clambering off the bus in their shiny new school uniforms on the first day of the school year.

The school is a lovely place to be working and learning. Recent visitors have commented on the positive 'vibe' of the school and of the excellent attitude and manners of our students. I have been so proud of our senior students who have matured so much over the holidays. They have been working very hard for Miss Stevens and setting an excellent example in the playground for the other students.

Thank you

I would like to sincerely thank Daniel Birch for offering to remove and find a way to dispose of the tyres that are still left over from the Coorakar rally. Left on the ground, these tyres become a snake trap and fire hazard. I didn't know how to get rid of them and I am relieved that they will be going! Thank you, Daniel.

## Leadership News

The seniors have a 'leadership meeting' every second Thursday morning, run by Mrs Morcombe and Ms Whyte. They are participating very actively in all the activities, and we have been able to see them applying what they have learned. We were unable to run a leadership camp this year, due to financial constraints. However, the P&C feel that this is a very valuable event and have offered to fund one if we are able to organise it. We are currently investigating options for a bit later in the year and we will keep you up to date with progress.

## More P&C News

The P&C has generously agreed to fund *Elements of Drama*, an amazing, term-long drama and visual arts incursion that Miss Stevens has planned for the children. Everyone from Pre-Primary to Yr 6 will be involved. Face-to-face and online sessions about all the elements of film & TV, including things such as costumes and props, will provide many exciting learning opportunities. Thank you to Miss Stevens for organising this huge project and a huge thank you to the P&C for making it possible.

## Dates to remember



Thursday 13 March	Faction Swimming Carnival—Coorow
Friday 28 March	Inter Swimming Carnival— TS
Tuesday 1 April	School Photos
Tuesday 8 April	Assembly
Friday 11 April	Last day of Term 1

**ACTION Respect**

Our school has been among a small group of schools selected to receive a grant from the Education Department to help us plan and implement a whole-school approach to respectful relationships education. This will support students to develop the behaviours, attitudes and skills that will make it more likely that they will have healthy, safe and respectful relationships throughout their entire lives.

The first stage of this project is to find out exactly what our community – the school, our families, and the town - wants and needs. Then we will be assisted to analyse the data that we collect and supported to design a meaningful response that meets those needs.

This is a long-term project that will take at least two years to develop and implement. Ms Whyte and Mrs Millsteed met with staff from the Education Department Tuesday, 25 February to discuss the first stages of the project. It is going to be challenging but we are feeling positive and excited at the prospect of making such an important contribution to the children's lives. Watch this space (and Audiri and the miniQuill) for more information!

**Picking your Children up from School / Leaving Early / Delivering Messages**

Recently, we have had a number of parents entering classrooms during learning time, and this can be very disruptive to our teaching program. Let us do the hard work for you while you wait in our pleasant air-conditioning!

Everybody has times when they need to pick children up from school early, because they have an appointment or family commitments. At those times, please come to the office and sign your children out. A staff member will collect them from the classroom for you. (Sometimes classes are not in their classrooms, so letting us know that you will be coming in can be very helpful! It also means that we can make sure that they have their bags packed and are ready to go, which will make your wait time shorter.)

Sometimes arrangements change and you need to get a message to your children. If you phone the office, we will ensure that the message is delivered.

If you need to check on your child's health or wellbeing so need to see them and speak directly to them, please come to the office and a staff member will get them from the classroom for you.

If it just an ordinary school day and you are waiting for your children, please wait under the arbor between the ECE (early childhood education room) and the office, or in the undercover area outside the staff room. Please don't go on to the verandahs near the classrooms windows and doors, as the children see you and this disrupts the usual pack up routine. It can cause classes to be delayed and dismissed well after the bell.

Mrs McIver will not allow kindy or pre-primary students to leave the room until she has seen their grown-ups, so if someone else is picking up your child on a particular day, please let us know. If someone regularly picks them up (nanny or grandma for example), Mrs McIver will recognise them and allow the students to go to them.

If you are picking up your child and you are running late, please give us a call. We can reassure your child that they have not been forgotten. Children can wait with the bus duty teacher in the playground, or on very hot or wet afternoons, in Room 4 (the red door at the far end of the verandah.) After school, you do not need to sign children out, but please let the office know that you have arrived before you head down to collect them.

### Bus Changes - Notification to the School and Bus Drivers

Just a reminder to parents to please advise both the school office and the bus drivers if your child/ren will not be on the bus because for example, a parent is picking up or they are walking to the pool after school. This is especially important on Tuesday afternoons when many parents pick their children up for sport, and on days when we have a school event and there are many parents onsite. It can become chaotic and unsafe for students if duty teachers do not know where children are and whether children should be on the bus or not.

East / Marchagee Bus Run (Ricky West) 0427 521 155

West Bus Run (Gerry O'Callaghan) 0427 600 539

Carnamah Bus Run (Deb Hannington) 0488 144 366



### French

This year, the Year 3-6 students are learning French online through SIDE (the School of Isolated and Distance Education). Many small country schools learn languages this way, as it is difficult to source language teachers. The lessons are supervised by Ms Whyte who remains in the room to ensure students concentrate and participate in the lesson and to provide learning support to students if they need it.

SIDE have also begun to provide support to smaller schools in teaching maths and science to older students in multi-age classrooms (classes that have 3 or more grade levels.) That means that the teacher can be teaching a lesson to some of the students while the older students are in the same room but receiving an online lesson appropriate to their level. Schools in our area including Chapman Valley, Leeman and Eneabba are trialling that program and we are watching the space with interest.

### Faction Swimming Carnival

Coorow is hosting the faction swimming carnival this year, so it will be held at our wonderful new pool on THURSDAY 13 MARCH. Please update your term planners if you have not done so already. Information and permission notes were posted on Audiri yesterday. Please read the information on the note carefully, especially if your child is in pre-primary to Year 2, as we need information about your child's confidence in the water.

Kindergarten students do not attend school on Thursdays, so they do not participate in this event. Kindies are, of course, welcome to attend with their parents - parents are reminded that they are responsible for the supervision of their kindy children and other pre-school-aged children at the carnival. As usual, as a safety requirement the baby and middle pool areas will be closed for the day.

Due to Education Department regulations, I may need parent volunteers to act as supervisors to help ensure students' safety in and around the water. If you hold a bronze medallion qualification, a swimming teacher qualification, or a current first aid certificate with CPR, you would like a front row spot beside the pool, and you will not be supervising young children on the day, please let the school know as soon as possible.



## School Values and Behaviour

Coorow Primary School is committed to practices that promote positive student behaviour. We know that when students don't know how to read, we teach them, and when students don't know how to do their mathematics work, we teach them. The same belief applies to behaviour. Our students are young and many of them are still learning to manage their emotions and behaviour, especially when they don't have their grown-ups around to support them and they have to do it on their own. It is our role to work in partnership with parents, teaching and supporting the children as they learn to manage themselves independently.

We support the children to demonstrate appropriate behaviour through our four school values: I am responsible, I am brave, I am resourceful, and I am a learner.

Being **responsible** means do the right thing even when no-one is watching. It means being honest, thinking about others, looking after everyone's property and the environment.

Being **brave** means making good choices even when it's hard. It means having the confidence and courage to stand up for what's right, learn from your mistakes, and try new things.

Being **resourceful** means being a problem-solver and thinking for yourself. It means knowing where and when to seek help. It means looking after our world and using resources wisely.

Being a **learner** means striving to improve and always doing your best. It means thinking hard and persisting, even when the work is difficult. It means accepting that people learn differently and helping everyone to do their best.



Our values form the base of our behaviour expectation matrix. Each week, we select a focus value and expectation. Teachers explicitly teach the expected behaviour, then continue to model and guide students' behaviour throughout the week, using a range of positive strategies. When students are seen demonstrating our school values and expectations, they are 'noticed' by staff, encouraged and praised. Students who need help to demonstrate the values are supported as they learn to do so independently.

You will soon see more signage going up around our school with our magpie mascots encouraging students' positive behaviours in different areas of the school. I'd like to give each of the four magpie mascots a name, so if you can think of any catchy little names, please send them in to me!

Thank you, Jancy Whyte

Principal



As we welcome 8 kindy kids to Coorow Primary School this year, it can be a scary time for them so they were lucky enough to have received a very special gift - a handmade Huggy-Bear, a special companion for times when they are feeling a bit lost and lonely at school. (Special bears are waiting at school for children who were away)

Very special thanks to Carolyn and her team of Huggy Bear knitters who knit hundreds of bears each year and donate them to kindergarten children at a growing number of schools, and who drove all the way to Coorow and Perenjori to bring the beautiful bears and introduce them to their new owners.





Charlotte - 12 February  
Jasper - 29th March  
Lara - 30th March



### Honour Certificates - 4th March 2025

**Patrick** for being a learner by completing all activities to the best of his ability.

**Olive** for being a learner by actively listening and following all instructions given.

**James** for having a positive start to Year 2. It is wonderful to see you working so hard and approaching all activities with a smile on your face. Keep up the great work, James!

**Khloé** for always working extremely hard, creating well-thought-out writing pieces, and consistently completing work with full-sentence answers. I am super impressed with the effort you are putting into your work, Khloé!

**Luca** for demonstrating resilience both in the classroom and around the school. You have created a toolkit of strategies that work for you and are using them sensibly to assist yourself to stay focused on being the best you that you can be. We all love seeing the leader you are becoming around the school, and I can't wait to see where you go from here.

**Blake** for your dedication to improving your daily writing this year. You are setting yourself goals and working hard to achieve them every day. Keep up the good work. Remember, if you are determined to learn, no one can stop you!

## Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to the families that have already paid their voluntary contributions this year!

The voluntary contributions are only \$50 per child per year – that's less than the total cost of one cup of coffee each month – but they make a big difference to helping us provide learning opportunities for your children.

If you would like to set up a payment plan please contact Denise Monday to Thursday.

You can make your payment in the office, or by direct deposit:

**BSB: 066040 Account: 19908075**

**Please note new bank account details**

Reference: Lastname



What should you do if you have a question or a problem? Do you know who to contact, or the best way to contact them? Please remember that speaking directly with the school is the best way of getting the correct information and ensuring that your problem is dealt with quickly and effectively.

Your question or problem	Who to approach
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 (attached to this newsletter) 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 or homework	Class teacher - by note, email, appointment, or by phone after 3.05pm

Dear School Community,

The Geraldton based mobile School Dental Service to your school is currently unavailable.

Should you have an enquiry or require urgent care for your child/children, you are welcomed to contact the following Dental Therapy Centers for more information during normal business hours (8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday). Please do not present to clinics without an appointment.

Allendale Dental Therapy Centre 9921 4218

[AllendaleDTC@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:AllendaleDTC@health.wa.gov.au)

Bluff Point Dental Therapy Centre 9923 1289

[BluffPointDTC@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:BluffPointDTC@health.wa.gov.au)

Rangeway Dental Therapy Centre 9921 4373

[RangewayDTC@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:RangewayDTC@health.wa.gov.au)

**After hours** urgent care can be accessed by;

- Contacting a private dentist of your choice. Fees and charges will apply.
- Telephoning the on call emergency advice service on 1800 098 818 during 6.30pm to 8.00am every day of the week

Your local area health service or Geraldton Regional Hospital 08 9956 2222

Kind regards

Phyllis Walker |Area Dental Therapist | Dental Health Services



Receive up to  
**\$500 from ANZ for  
education costs**

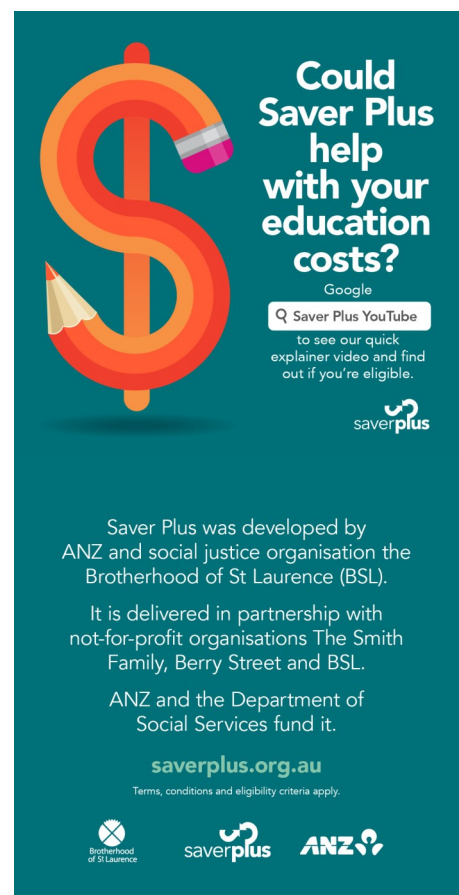
Apply here

**Achieve a savings goal for 10 months and ANZ will match it up to \$500. You need to:**

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops

Terms and conditions apply.

**saverplus**  
saverplus.org.au  
1300 610 355



Could Saver Plus help with your education costs?

Google

Q Saver Plus YouTube

to see our quick explainer video and find out if you're eligible.

**saverplus**

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and social justice organisation the Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL). It is delivered in partnership with not-for-profit organisations The Smith Family, Berry Street and BSL. ANZ and the Department of Social Services fund it.

**saverplus.org.au**  
Terms, conditions and eligibility criteria apply.

Brotherhood of St Laurence | saverplus | ANZ

## Saver Plus Information Sessions

We are running Information sessions for anyone thinking about joining the program and wants to learn more about how Saver Plus works.

Eligibility, income and participation criteria. To find out more head to <https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/>.



# COME AND BE PART OF A GREAT SPORTING COMMUNITY

Coorow-Latham is looking for junior players for Football, Hockey and Netball this year.

**Season Start: Saturday,  
April 26th**



**Junior Training Start:  
Date and Times TBA**



Please contact Renae Johns if your child is interested in playing a sport this year  
0428 521 055



## COOROW-LATHAM AUSKICK 2025



### PRE-PRIMARY UP TO YEAR 2

WE ARE ON THE HUNT FOR AN AUSKICK COACH/COORDINATOR TO HELP GUIDE THE NEXT GENERATION OF MAGPIES! 🏈 ✨

EARLY SIGNS ARE LOOKING GREAT WITH STRONG INTEREST FROM KIDS KEEN TO GET INVOLVED, BUT WE NEED SOMEONE PASSIONATE TO LEAD THE WAY!

AUSKICK IS WHERE IT ALL STARTS. IT'S ABOUT FUN, FRIENDSHIPS, AND FOOTY FUNDAMENTALS, HELPING YOUNG KIDS BUILD CONFIDENCE AND SKILLS IN A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

NO COACHING EXPERIENCE? NO WORRIES! WE JUST NEED SOMEONE WHO IS WILLING TO HAVE A GO AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR LITTLE LEGENDS!

IF YOU ARE KEEN OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE, GET IN TOUCH WITH US TODAY! LET'S KEEP FOOTY STRONG IN OUR COMMUNITY! MESSAGE US HERE OR CONTACT JYE 0437 431 376 OR JAKE 0447 908 859 TO FIND OUT MORE!





## Free & Confidential Service

# Rural Support Services for Children, Young People & Mature Minors

*Servicing the North Midlands region, including Dongara, Mingenew, Mullewa, Yalgoo, Morawa, Coorow, Perenjori, Carnamah, Three Springs, and Eneabba.*

Desert Blue Connect offers free counselling and support services to children, young people and mature minors in the North Midlands region. Our services can be tailored to the individual, group or setting.

### Counselling

Our confidential child counselling services is for children, young people and mature minors who have experienced family and domestic violence or sexual abuse, or are displaying problematic or abusive sexualised behaviours. Our counselling promotes safety, empowerment, healing, and recovery.

### Protective Behaviours

Our child counsellor also provides child focused sexual abuse prevention, education and early intervention.

### Make An Appointment

Phone: (08) 9964 2742

Mobile: 0499 732 281

Email: [info@desertblueconnect.org.au](mailto:info@desertblueconnect.org.au)

### Other Support Services

Your local GP

GRAMS: (08) 9956 6555

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800

Parenting WA: (08) 6279 1200 or

1800 654 432

Lifeline Counselling Service: 131 114





Government of Western Australia  
WA Country Health Service

# Art Competition



## Calling all young artists!

Unleash your creativity and inspire health and wellbeing

We are looking for artwork that celebrates what being healthy and safe means to young people living in regional WA.

**Theme: Promoting health, safety and wellbeing**  
**Age categories: 4-12 years and 13-17 years**

The winning entries will be used to help us promote health, safety and wellbeing for children and young people right around country WA!



## Get involved and create!

Submit your artwork by Friday 11 April 2025  
For more information scan the QR code or contact  
[wachsconsumerengagement@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:wachsconsumerengagement@health.wa.gov.au)



# 100,000 temporary jobs

Register to work at the federal election.



All jobs are paid  
no experience is needed



Training is provided and you're paid



Work before, on and after election day

**Register now**  
[aec.gov.au/electionjobs](http://aec.gov.au/electionjobs)

If you registered before July 2024, you need to re-register.



AEC24/2064