COOMANDOOK AREA SCHOOL
Striving to Make the Difference

## From the Principal

We welcome Alana Kahl to the staff. Alana will be working in classrooms alongside students to support them in their learning, or providing support to the whole class so that teachers can work one on one with students who need extra time to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of concepts.

## Athletics

Well done to the 49 students who attended the River Mallee and Districts Interschool Sports Carnival at Karoonda on the $14^{\text {th }}$ March. Congratulations to the following students for their individual successes; Owen Thomas, who was runner up in the 13-year-old boys' competition, Ashlyn Kleinig who was also runner up in the 13 -Year-old girls' category, Chloe Pitt who was the runner up in the Open Girls category, Tyler Peterson and Jake Thomas who won the 14-Year-old and 16-year-old Boys trophies respectively.

## Student Free Day

The staff had a great day at Coonalpyn, 2 weeks ago working with the staff from Tintinara on developing wellbeing practices. Madhavi Parker, who works with many schools and students on wellbeing programs, led the day. There was even a session on using Kung Fu to enhance wellbeing through exercise and mindfulness. The staff that attended all got a great deal from it and will be able to use the knowledge they have gained to support the wellbeing of the students in their classes.

## Annual Report

The Annual Report for 2022 has been approved at the Annual General Meeting and is now online for everyone to read. The school's 2023 Site Improvement Plan and Preschool Quality Improvement Plan are also on the website should you wish to read these.

## CALENDAR DATES

## March

29th PSFM Cluster Rehearsal
31st $\quad$ River Mallee Districts Athletics Carnival

## April

```
3rd}/\mp@subsup{5}{}{\mathrm{ th }}\mathrm{ Year 11/12 Surf Camp
3rd/5th SAPSASA Softball Carnival in Adelaide
4th Primary Football Clinic
7th}\mathrm{ PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY
10th PUBLIC HOLIDAY - EASTER MONDAY
14 th END OF TERM 1 - Early Dismissal
```


## May

## 1st START OF TERM 2 <br> $5^{\text {th }} \quad$ Murray Mallee Swimming <br> $12^{\text {th }} \quad 9$ A Side Football \& Netball

$16^{\text {th }} \quad$ Sport SA Cross Country at Meningie
20th Pedal Prix at Tailem Bend
$22^{\text {nd }} / 4^{\text {th }}$ SAPSASA Softball Championships
24 ${ }^{\text {th }} \quad$ National Simultaneous Storytime

## June

```
8}\mp@subsup{}{}{\mathrm{ th}}\mathrm{ Sports SA Cross Country at Oakbank
9th
124
```


## Parent Teacher Interviews

We are holding Parent Teacher Interviews in the last week of the term, straight after the Easter break on Tuesday April 11 ${ }^{\text {th }}$. There will be a booking sheet on Daymap where you can book your own interviews or contact the front office for support. If you are unable to attend an interview on the date, please contact the front office and we will try to organise a time that is convenient for all parties.
These are a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their teachers) and to explore ways of supporting them in their learning in a much deeper way than is possible from a written report.
In the lead up to these interviews, we will be putting our Traffic Light reports up on Daymap as well. If your child gets an Amber or Red traffic light in any area, the teacher will be contacting you to request an interview, but even if your child gets all green lights, these interviews are still very valuable.

## NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 have just completed NAPLAN testing for this year. This testing has been run much earlier than it has in the past so it will be a challenge to be able to compare this data from previous years. However, as we will get the information back much earlier, it will allow teachers to use it more effectively to provide support for student learning where it is required and to challenge those students who are tracking above what is expected.
The information gained from this testing should be back to you shortly, but it will look different to what it has in the past. From 2023 each student's NAPLAN report will show how they're tracking against 4 levels of achievement, known as proficiency standards. These will replace the 10 NAPLAN bands.

The standards are:

- Exceeding
- Strong
- Developing
- Needs additional support.

The standards are set at a challenging but reasonable standard of literacy and numeracy expected for the child at the time of testing. Reporting will include clear descriptions for teachers and families about student progress against these levels of achievement. Expert teachers will develop those descriptions.

## Harmony Day

Thank you to Mrs. Scott and the SRC for their work in putting on Harmony Day events during the past week.

## Pupil Free Day

Staff travelled to Coonalpyn and combined with Tintinara Area School staff on the Pupil Free Day for training in building the well-being of both staff and students.

Part of the day was an energetic session with a King Fu Instructor.


## From The Coop

Crystal Bering

Germinating seeds.
To follow on from our plum and peach seed germination, we germinated some lupin seeds.
We placed our seeds in a Ziploc bag with some wet paper towel and placed them on the window. When we came back to preschool 6 days later, we discovered the lupin seeds had sprouted. $\mathfrak{Z}$
We took our shovels and wheelbarrows to the kitchen garden to get some soil and placed it in a large tub. We then planted the lupin sprouts into the soil.
Now we can watch them grow into a plant and see where lupin seeds come from. When asked what they think will happen to the lupin seeds, here were their responses: Mav: "They're going to grow into more lupins. They grow from their pods."
Allie: "They run out of water. They're going to grow into plants."
Tom: "They're going to transform into flowers. But first these one's (lupin seeds) are going to turn into these one's (lupin sprout)
Declan: "They are going to grow into flowers. Big flowers"
Ned: "I think they're going to grow into a flower. Maybe a big yellow flower."



The preschool children were asked to draw what they thought our lupin plants would look like.
They did an excellent job at documenting their thinking and being able to represent their thinking in different ways


Respect
Honesty
Persistence

## F/1/2 Class

James Millard

Children should do chores!
As a pre-assessment task in the junior primary class, students were asked to convince us that children should do chores at home... or not!
After lots of discussion, our youngest learners impressed with some of their reasoning here are some of their responses:

Everly - Foundation
"Children should do chores to get money and help."


Harmony - Year 1
"...so they can get in the best room. (Children should) do chores so they can get some Christmas presents and they can open (them) now."


Levi - Year 2
"Children should do chores because its goodfor you because you can learn a lot of being kind. If children do chores they get smarter and better and you get money and dollars."


## Lego Club

James Millard

Recently in Lego Club we have had a lot of interest from students on building their flying creations, with some flying houses, cars and planes being built that look great! Have a look at our proud makers and their awesome creativity. Our next theme, starting in week 9, is 'one colour'. Hmm.....
We have also enjoyed continuing to build the Woolies Brick sets, with lots of students adding to and constructing this. If you have any spare bags, feel free to donate them to Tracey in the library.
We have also made some great progress on our first Harry Potter Art piece, which was completed last week.
It is now on display in the front office, so please check it out next time you pop in. Completed by; Jackson M, Levi M, Nellie K, Esther N, Ashlyn K, Laquisha W, Leo S, Rory K, Ken D, August K, Charlie W. Apologies if we missed anyone in the list!

After a vote, the next to be built is the Slytherin house shield. Come along to Lego Club, every week on a Thursday lunch (whole lunch) in the library to join in!


## 3 / 4 Class

Julie Frahm


Last week we started reading the book "Accidentally Kelly Street" by Briony Stewart. The words are from the song lyrics by the same name. Do you remember the group Frente?
The actual story in the book is told through the pictures, making it quite a different book to "read".
We started by looking at the front/back cover. Looking carefully at all of the clues on the pages each student then created their own version of the front cover. They had to infer what they thought the kids might be saying to each other. They also had to predict what they thought the book was going to be about.
After that we played the song. We enjoyed dancing to the music so much that we played "Pass the Move" where each student had to do a dance move for everyone to copy. After a little while the next person had to create another dance move for everyone to copy. It was lots of fun.


Respect Honesty Persistence

## 5/6 Class

Valerie Tweedie

Marcus has been learning about subtraction, focusing on borrowing. He did such a wonderful job that Miss Lee


## English

Step Lee

On Thursday the $9^{\text {th }}$ March, Miss Lee and Mr Wallis took the Year 10, 11, 12 English classes down to Adelaide to see some shows that were a part of the Adelaide Fringe Festival. Students saw two shows- one called Electric Dreams: Torrent, which was an infusion of dance, AR, poetry and visuals, and Watson, a one- man show about Sherlock Holmes' sidekick. We also went down Rundle Mall for lunch, walked past the Garden of Unearthly Delights and went to the Botanic Gardens where they had art exhibition on called 'See the Invisible'. Overall, it was a great day, and we were even complimented on how well we behaved by one of the actors!


## Maths

Daniel Irvine

Mathematics Professional Learning We probably can all remember our maths teachers telling us a neat trick or showing us a short cut to help us complete an operation or jump to an answer. An important article by Karen Karp, Sarah Bush and Barbara Dougherty has pointed out that overgeneralizing commonly accepted strategies, using imprecise vocabulary and relying on tricks and tips that do not promote conceptual understanding can lead to lots of misunderstandings later on. In their work "13 Rules that Expire" they share a selection of "rules" that students are often taught that prove to be less helpful later on. This reading was the basis of the first of five sessions in mathematics professional learning undertaken at the Orbis Centre for Teaching Excellence to try to help build a pedagogy of conceptual understanding within our classrooms.
A selection of the rules are shared here. I wonder how many are familiar to you?
Rule 1: When you multiply a number by ten, just add a zero to the end of the number. This "rule" is often taught when students are learning to multiply a whole number times ten. However, this directive is not true when multiplying decimals (e.g., $0.25 \times 10=2.5$, not 0.250 ). Although this statement may reflect a regular pattern that students identify with whole numbers, it is not generalizable to other types of numbers.
Rule 3. You cannot take a bigger number from a smaller number.
Students might hear this phrase as they first learn to subtract whole numbers. When students are restricted to only the set of whole numbers, subtracting a larger number from a smaller one results in a negative number, an integer that is not in the set of
whole numbers, so this rule is true. Later, when students encounter application or word problems involving contexts that include integers, students learn that this "rule" is not true for all problems. For example, a grocery store manager keeps the temperature of the produce section at 4 degrees Celsius, but this is 22 degrees too hot for the frozen food section. What must the temperature be in the frozen food section? In this case, the answer is a negative number, $\left.(40-220=-18)^{\circ}\right)$.t
Rule 4. Addition and multiplication make numbers bigger.
When students begin learning about the operations of addition and multiplication, they are often given this rule to develop a generalization relative to operation sense. However, the rule has multiple counterexamples. Addition with zero does not create a sum larger than either addend. It is also untrue when adding two negative numbers (e.g., $-3+-2=-5$ ), because -5 is less than both addends.
In the case of the equation below, the product is smaller than either factor. $1 / 4 \times 1 / 3=1 / 12$.
This is also the case when one of the factors is a negative number and the other factor is positive, such as $-3 \times 8=-24$.
Rule 6. You always divide the larger number by the smaller number.
This rule may be true when students begin to learn their basic facts for whole-number division and the computations are not contextually based. An example is, if the problem states that Kate has 2 cookies to divide among herself and two friends, then the portion for each person is $2 \div 3$. Similarly, it is possible to have a problem in which one number might be a fraction: Jayne has $1 / 2$ of a pizza and wants to share it with her brother. What portion of the whole pizza will each get? In this case, the computation is as follows: $1 / 2$ $\div 2=1 / 4$.

## Rule 13. The equal sign means Find the answer or Write the answer.

An equal sign is a relational symbol. It indicates that the two quantities on either side of it represent the same amount. It is not a signal prompting the answer through an announcement to "do something". In an equation, students may see an equal sign that expresses the relationship that cannot be interpreted as Find the answer. For example, in the equations below, the equal sign provides no indication of an answer.
$6=\square+4$
$3+x=5+2 x$


## Music/Art

## Tiffany Leng

Over the last few weeks in music students have been developing their musical skills around a range of songs. Ask your children to teach you the ones they know below. The F/1/2 class has been playing with 'Engine, Engine No. 9'. It is helping them to learn a chant with their 'speaking voice' to keep a steady beat. They have also been using the song to explore 'tempo' or the speed of music and LOVE being slow and fast trains moving around the room.

## Engine, EnGInE, No. 9

Engine, engine, number 9, Going down the railway line. If the train goes off the track, Will I get my money back? Whooooo!

The 3/4 and 5/6 classes have been using the song and game 'We are Dancing' to develop their melodic skills around me, so and la (3 different notes/pitches). This is preparing them towards notation of music. The 3/4 class has also been using the song to develop their skills around dynamics (loud and soft), whilst the $5 / 6$ class has been exploring the use of tempo (fast and slow). They are very clever to be learning sooooo many different languages at school! Not only are they learning English and German but our newly found language is Italian!

## We Are Dancing

We are dancing in the forest, While the wolf is far away. Who knows what will happen to us, If he finds us at our play.
Are you there, wolf?

The 5/6 class has also been developing their 'inner hearing' using the song 'Ford Car'. This is a really important skill to develop. We need to be able to hear and read music in our heads in the same way we need to read a book in our head. This song is sung similarly to the song BINGO that most of you would be very familiar with from your childhoods.

## FORD CAR

I've got a car that's made of tin, Nobody knows what shape it's in.
Got four wheels and a running board.
It's a four door, it's a Ford.
Honk, honk
Rattle, rattle,
Toot, crash,
Beep, beep (x3)
Honk, honk.


Respect
Honesty
Persistence
The year 9 class have been developing their aural skills over the last few weeks, distinguishing both the rhythm and notes of a short piece of music and have even begun dictation! They are continuing to develop reading music in both treble and bass clef and have begun work around major and minor scales and their relationship to each other. Each student is working on preparing a piece of solo music on their chosen instrument and have just begun working on an ensemble piece as well.

The year 9 Visual Art students have now completed their 'Shaded Cones' Op Art piece including a written review/critique component. They are continuing to hone their written skills by analysing artworks by Bridget Riley and are now moving into their next piece of work by researching pieces of Op Art that inspire them.

The Year 7/8 Visual Arts class has continued their work around 'Graffiti' and have begun a short artist study around Graffiti Artist 'Banksy'. Last week they began to create their own 'Banksy Stencils' by refining their cutting and fine motor skills using scalpels. I was impressed with their level of concentration and at how well they were able to cut out their given images.

Due to NAPLAN only the year 8's have moved onto the 'stenciling' side of these works so far. They all thought it was going to be super easy! Little did they know how controlled
 they would need to be with their wet paint filled sponges and stenciling brushes. Many attempts were made to refine some students' works...but in the end they got there, and they look fantastic!


## Harmony Week

## SRC Scavenger Hunt

On Friday week 8 we held our year 3 to 10 scavenger hunt. Students were put into teams of one student from each year level. In their teams, each group would go around the school looking for a country's fact sheet. The countries included India, Africa, England, China and Afghanistan. All the teams did very well but "The W's" came out victorious. When asked how they did it Jackson spoke up and said co-operation and teamwork. Well done to all the students and their efforts.

On Wednesday week 8 we ran the F-2 scavenger hunt with help from the 7 to 9 master class. Master class students were asked to get in groups of 3 with one student from each year level, then they were budded up with 2 younger students. Each group had to make their way around the buildings and write down an observation from different flags. Did you know that America's flag has 50 stars. Each one represents a different state. Once all the teams had finished and returned to home base, we finished the afternoon with tunnel ball.

## PRC

Hannah Scott


## Science

Hannah Scott


## Agriculture

For further information, visit the website at https://agcareerstart.com.au/


Respect Honesty Persistence

## Lego Club Photos



## Home Economics

Angela Thorley

Year 12 students are investigating the current trend of Small Plates and Shared Dining. Last week, they made savoury dishes, mostly of Spanish origin. Each student made a different dish using half recipe, after which, they experienced the shared dining experience by trying each other's dish. This week a collection of sweet dishes of a Croatian origin were made. They made Fritule (fritters), Krostule (fried bows of sweet pastry) and klasune (sweet buttery biscuits with a chocolate walnut filling). All delectable to be shared with coffee or tea.


Year 9 Home Economics class will be holding a burger day at lunch on Thursday $6^{\text {th }}$ April in Week 10. Order forms went home with the eldest in the family. Orders need to be returned by $30^{\text {th }}$ March with money.

## Lost Property

Two towels were left at Coonalpyn after the CAS swimming carnival. Please collect from the front office if one belongs to you.

## Classroom Reminder

## Drink Bottle Reminder

Students are reminded to bring a drink bottle into school. While we have drinking fountains, these are meant to be used at recess and lunch to fill up bottles. Teachers will not accept students being late to class or leaving class because they need to get a drink from the fountain.

## Community News





## Centacare Supporting Children and Youth

 (SCY) ProgramThe Centacare Supporting Children and Youth (SCY) program would like to raise awareness of our program to you if your child/ teen is experiencing challenges that may be affecting their mental wellbeing. We are here for children and youth to provide early intervention counselling to support young people to overcome challenges in their life to enhance their resilience and improve mental wellbeing. The (SCY) program offers 1-1 Counselling in office-based and school-based settings. If you have, concerns please contact us on 82156320 and we can discuss making a referral for the young person to access the Centacare SCY program to receive support. murraybridge@centrecare.org.au www.centacare.org.au


Respect Honesty Persistence

## PLANNED ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

Name: $\qquad$ Year Level: $\qquad$

Homegroup Teacher: $\qquad$
The above named student will be absent from school on: (please list date/s)
Reason: $\qquad$
Signed: $\qquad$ (Parent / Caregiver)


## BUS TRAVEL SLIP

Student Name : $\qquad$ Year Level: $\qquad$
The above named student would like to travel on the $\qquad$ bus run On (dates) $\qquad$ (am) $\qquad$ (pm) $\qquad$
Travelling with $\qquad$ Reason: $\qquad$
Parent Signature

## BUS TRAVEL SLIP

Student Name : $\qquad$ Year Level: $\qquad$
The above named student would like to travel on the $\qquad$ bus run

On (dates) $\qquad$ (am) $\qquad$ (pm) $\qquad$
Travelling with $\qquad$ Reason: $\qquad$
Parent Signature

