



COORARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

2022 Report to School Community
Presented at the AGM on 20 February 2023



Our Vision: Build a community of curious, creative, resilient and open-minded learner

Principal: Stephanie Tulloch
Governing Council Chairperson: Lanie Zerna

Highlights of a Successful Year of Learning



We started the year with 217 students and nine classes. 29 Reception children started their formal schooling at Coorara.

The year started with Covid online schooling for years 2-6 students for the first 2 weeks, with Receptions and Year 1's starting on the first Wednesday of term 1. We had about 50 students attending school for online learning at school.

Staff managed this with expertise and a really positive attitude, making the most of a less than perfect start



The **Soaring to Success Program** was implemented in the first few weeks of term 1, both face to face and online, focussing on building a community of learners, explicitly teaching our school values and learner dispositions.

A main focus in our professional development was around Behaviour, leading towards our first pupil free day, tailored to this area.

Our beginning of year community event was cancelled due to Covid restrictions, much to everyone's disappointment.

Reception children invited their families to **Magical Memories**. We postponed this until week 9 so that we were able to have parents onsite. The children enjoyed sharing their learning with their families as they created a special keepsake of their first weeks at school.





Harmony Day was celebrated in March with a community sausage sizzle and a touch of orange! Children celebrated how all our differences make Australia a great place to live. Classes all got into the spirit of things, with activities occurring in all rooms.



House leaders did not get to fulfill many roles over the year due to most events being cancelled. Despite this, they represented the school well on some excursions, and led an awesome sports day in Term 3. I was proud of the way they represented themselves. The **winning house** for 2022 was the **Kookaburras**.



In term 3 we tried to get all Year 6 students involved in taking on a leadership role. The roles consisted of House Captain and Fitness Leader, Peer Tutor, SRC, Ground and Civics, Library Leader, Music Leader, IT Leader, and more. Again, due to Covid restrictions it was very hard to get this off the ground. It will be a main focus at the start of 2023.



Developing strong **learning dispositions** gives our students a strong foundation for lifelong learning. Throughout the year students were given many opportunities to build their understanding of the learner dispositions (resilience, curiosity, creativity, open minded and communicator) and to use them across all curriculum areas. Awards were presented at assemblies to students who had demonstrated the learner dispositions.



Max and April represented our school at the **ANZAC DAY Youth Vigil** in the South. Together with other young leaders from our community they helped to keep the ANZAC spirit firmly in our consciousness and will help pass on this understanding and respect of it to future generations.

Dreaming with your eyes open...

The annual **Bookweek** Parade was lots of fun with staff and students dressing up as their favourite book character or in the theme of Book week Dreaming with our eyes open.... It was one of our first whole school gatherings, with parents lining the sides of the units and the children parading from the Red unit to the hall.



Walk to school: What a wonderful turn out to 'Walk to School. We have over 150 children and parents walking with us, with a focus on exercise for health. We arrived at school, with Nat Cook (MP) with us, for a sausage sizzle for breakfast.



play create connect

During 2022 we continued to offer two programs for children aged 0-5 and their parents/carers. Children and parents enjoyed stories, songs and rhyme at Little Bookworms. This programs promotes strong connections with young families in our community and the importance of early literacy development. **play create connect** playgroup was held weekly in the room 5. What a wonderful asset to our school. We have many families attending. And it is a great way to showcase Coorara Primary



During 2022 students had the opportunity to participate in a number of **sporting experiences** including the Sporting Schools Program, Sports Day, aquatics, swimming and weekly PE lesson with a specialist teacher. A number of students represented the school by participating in **SAPSASA** events such as **District Athletics Day**. Coorara participated in the **Premier's Be Active Challenge**, it was a great to see so many students achieving an award and being physically active. **Jump Rope for Heart** was a great success also.



Coorara Bear Hunt: Each year we invite local Kindergartens to come to Coorara Primary for the Bear Hunt. We have a smaller number of students this year due to Covid restrictions, however, a great day was had by all.



Celebrating NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC week was celebrated with a community event. Students and parents got the opportunity to taste bush tucker foods and connect to land. This years theme 'Get up, stand up show up' recognises that Country and our cultural heritage are the essence of who we are. NAIDOC week is also a time to think about our future and this starts with educating our next generation of leaders. During NAIDOC week teachers used the theme of NAIDOC week to grow children's understanding of our history, the culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



The **Performing Arts** program continued to grow and be a point of difference for our school in the local community. In 2022 the school performed a whole school musical 'Moana' at the Hopgood Theatre. Other Performing Arts opportunities included the string ensemble, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Rock Band and excursions. Jam Band came and entertained us also. Classes participated in 2 performing arts lessons per week with our specialist teacher. Three of our Year 6 students were accepted into the Music programme at Aberfoyle High Ignite programme.

We share a positive relationship with the **Coorara Preschool**. Room 9 have taken on the Buddy Class role which is fabulous. Preschool and school children have enjoyed learning in the community garden and looking after the much-loved chooks!



In 2022, 5 of our students graduated from the **Children's University**. It was wonderful to celebrate some of the students' learning journeys at the ceremony at Bonython Hall. With the support of their families, they actively participated in a wide range of learning experiences outside of school and have visited many learning destinations across the city. Thank you to Anthony Parina for supporting the students' learning journeys.

Twenty children participated in '**CooraraCubs**', our preschool to school orientation program. The program ran for 9 weeks in terms 3 and 4. The children got to experience many aspects of school life, meet staff and get to know their classmates. All children received a Starting School Showbag.



The year ended with the **year 6/7 graduation**, **big day out**, the **whole school musical** 'Moana' and the **end of year assembly**.



Our **Site Improvement Plan** describes a small number of goals and targets for improvement. The Site Improvement Plan outlines the precise actions the school will take in order to achieve the goals. Community members can view our Site Improvement Plan on the school website.

The Site Improvement Plan is a three-year plan (2022-2024). Over the three years our goals are to:

1. Increase Student Achievement in Reading R-6
2. Improve student achievement R-6 in writing
3. Increase R-6 student achievement in numeracy

Strategies used to Improve Student Achievement in Reading and Mathematics

- High expectations for all students- we expect at least twelve months growth for twelve months of learning
- Whole school common approaches to the teaching of Reading (eg Synthetic Phonics, using an OG structure) and Mathematics (three part lesson)
- Teachers are intentional- they know the students; the learning intentions are clear and shared with students
- Whole school focus on the explicit teaching of reading comprehension strategies eg. questioning, summarising, inference, determining importance and visualising.
- Teachers meet weekly to plan units of learning so there is consistency of practice across classes
- Teachers use the gradual release of responsibility to explicitly teach the reading comprehension strategies. I do..... We do..... You do.... Teachers use think aloud and anchor charts.
- Tracking and monitoring the progress of all students through common assessments. Teachers and leaders meet once a term to talk about student's achievements and progress. Internal Moderation is implemented each term.
- Reading Intervention Programs (Minilit and Maqlit) and Numeracy Intervention Programs (Quicksmart)
- Professional Learning for Staff

School Performance

Despite not having 2020 NAPLAN data to compare to, we were pleased with our results compared to our SIP aims. As a staff we pulled apart the results for all children who sat the test and found the following:

Writing:

Year 3: **SIP Target 2022:** 80% of students in year 3 to achieve SEA (Band 3) in NAPLAN Writing. 85% of participating students in year 3 achieved SEA (Band 3) or higher in NAPLAN Writing with 51% achieving Band 4 or higher. 22% achieved Band 5 which was pleasing. Our participating Aboriginal student achieved Band 5 (higher bands) also.

Year 5: **SIP Target 2022:** 65% of students in year 5 to achieve SEA (Band 5) in NAPLAN Writing. 43% of participating students in year 5 achieved SEA (Band 5) or higher in NAPLAN Writing with 75% achieving Band 4 or higher. 70% of our students in year 5 who achieved Band 4 were in the upper end of Band 4. 9% achieved Band 6 or higher. All of our participating Aboriginal students achieved Band 5 with 1 of them achieving Band 6.

Numeracy:

Year 3: **SIP Target 2022:** 82% of year 3 students to achieve SEA in NAPLAN Numeracy. 66% of participating students in year 3 achieved SEA (Band 3) or higher in NAPLAN Numeracy with 33% achieving Band 4 or higher. 22% of these students achieved Band 5 or higher. 3% of participating students achieved Band 6. Our 1 participating Aboriginal student achieved Band 5 also. **SIP Target 2022:** 80% of year 5 students (24 out of 30 participating students) to achieve SEA in NAPLAN Numeracy. 80% of participating students in year 5 achieved SEA or higher in NAPLAN Numeracy with 26% achieving Band 6. 6% of participating students in year 5 achieved Band 7. 3 out of 5 of participating Aboriginal students achieved Band 5 or higher with 1 of the 5 of participating Aboriginal students achieving Band 7.

Reading: There was no goal set in the SIP for reading in 2022.

Year 3:

27 students sat NAPLAN Reading. 26% of participating students in year 3 achieved Band 2 in NAPLAN Reading with 11% achieving Band 3. 26% achieved Band 4, and 18.5% achieved Band 5 in NAPLAN Reading. 18.5% of participating students in year 3 achieved Band 6 in NAPLAN Reading.

Year 5:

2 students sat NAPLAN Reading. 21.8% of participating students in year 5 achieved Band 4 in NAPLAN Reading. 48% of participating students in year 5 achieved Band 5 in NAPLAN Reading. 21.8% of participating students in year 5 achieved Band 6 in NAPLAN Reading. 15.6% of participating students in year 5 achieved Band 7 in NAPLAN Reading.

A-E Grades: **SIP Target 2022:** 30% of Year 1-6 students achieve B or better in English for their end of year report

Results for mid year:	end of year
• Year 1: 11%	20%
• Year 2: 33%	43%
• Year 3: 14%	18%
• Year 4: 33%	28%
• Year 5: 12%	17%
• Year 6: 31%	29%

2022 was a very complex year for all students due to increased absences, school closures/lockdowns and general anxiety around the Covid story. Staff have reflected on the results and there is a plan to focus on moderation across the school to ensure consistency, but also work output and quality of student work.

Reflecting on 2022, we have not ensured that there is a literacy / reading goal in the SIP moving forward.

Next Steps in Improving Student Learning at Coorara.....

The school is confident that the teaching and learning strategies and structures are embedded across the school and the student learning will continue to increase. The improving student achievement in Writing has been the 2022 focus with in-depth PD of staff happening through staff meetings and Pupil Free Days. With strong achievement in Reading, we expect to see an increase in the % of students achieving an 'A' or 'B' in 2023 with the sharper focus on Writing.

In 2022 Numeracy will continue to focus for the school. Teachers will prioritise designing learning experiences in Number that promote mathematical thinking and language to stretch and challenge all students to a higher level of learning.

Continuous Improvement in student learning will be achieved by a range of strategies including:

- Professional learning for staff
- Teachers working in professional learning teams to design learning, assess and moderate student learning
- Leaders prioritizing time and space for teachers to work and learn together
- Leaders being visible in classrooms, supporting teachers and providing feedback