



COORARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

2016 Report to the School Community

Presented at the AGM on 15th February 2017



Government of South Australia

Department for Education and
Child Development

Highlights of a Successful Year of Learning @ Coorara



Our first **community event** for 2016 'A Night on the Green' was well attended. The night gave families and staff a chance to connect with each other and build positive home-school relationships.



Three **incursions** were held throughout the year linked to the Arts, Science and Spanish Teaching and learning program. Music is Fun was a highlight for all R-7 students, staff enjoyed joining in as well.



Students actively involved in **purposeful play** at lunchtime at the playshed. A number of strategies were implemented in 2016 to support children to be engaged in purposeful play. Strategies included the **playshed**, **SKIP** (supporting kids in play), **PALS** (play at lunch) and SSOs setting up **playstations**.



Student Leaders for Learners worked together to develop new team names and team colours for the **Sports Days** teams- Red Rosellas, Blue Kookaburras and Yellow Cockatoos.. After much research they decided to name the teams after birds **native** to the local area and to use the state colours. Sports Day was a great success with Cockatoos winning the attitude trophy and Rosellas winning the shield.

Students at Coorara have the opportunity to participate in a number of **sporting experiences** including the Sporting Schools Program (tennis, hockey and athletics), aquatics, swimming and Sports Day. A number of students represented the school by participating in **SAPSASA** events. We came first at the **District Athletics** day. Coorara participated in the **Premier's Be Active Challenge**, it was a great achievement to see so many students achieving an award and being

physically active. Year 5-7 students participated in **Bike Ed**.



Reception to year 5 students participated in **swimming** lessons and year 6-7 students participated in **Aquatics** at Port Noarlunga.



Excursions and **camps** are an important part of the learning program at Coorara. All classes went on excursions throughout the year. JP classes visited the Road Safety Centre, the year 6/7 class went to Flinders University and the middle primary classes went to Port Adelaide. Year 5-7 students had lots of fun at the Wirraway camp. Horseriding was a highlight.

Coorara celebrated **bookweek** in term 3. Dress Up day was lots of fun! Throughout the week children participated in range of literacy activities.

Two successful **Bookfairs** were held. Both were well supported by families with over \$3000 worth of books being sold.

Majority of children participated in the **Premier's Reading Challenge**. The challenge, the bookfairs and bookweek all support our whole school focus on improving reading outcomes.



Children at Coorara are developing a love of Reading. The **café approach to teaching Reading** is being used in all classrooms and we are seeing great results- children are reading more, talking more about books and how they read and the data shows our children are making great progress.

Partners in Print session was held for families of Reception students. Partners in print provided parents an opportunity to learn more about the how children learn to read and to practise supporting their child to read. The children enjoyed the opportunity to show their parents what they are learning at school.





Our preschool to school transition program '**Coorara Cubs**' was a great success again with twenty six children participating. Feedback from families was very positive about the eleven week program.

There was great excitement when the **Channel 7 helicopter** and News team landed at Coorara in October. Jane Doyle was very impressed with the Wakakirri performance and she loved the costumes!



The **fundraising** committee organised a range of successful events to raise funds for the courtyard redevelopment. The celebrity disco was a highlight! Well done everyone we raised \$5354.81 in 2016. Thank you to the fundraising committee.

Stage 1 of the Courtyard redevelopment was completed in term 4 incorporating a sandpit, water play area, deck/outdoor stage, dry creek bed, pergola and stepping stones. This natural playspace has provided an outdoor learning environment for the children where they can develop their social, physical, language and emotional skills. The deck was a great venue for the 'End of Year Celebration' held in December. Stage 1 cost \$74 000 which was funded by school funds and money raised by the school community.



Our **Wakakirri** team performed at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre in August as part of the 2016 National Primary School Dance Program. This is the third year we have participated. Our team of 60 students from years 2-7 performed our story titled 'We are one, we are Australian'. We were awarded four performance awards for cast/ensemble, concept, overall costume design and soundtrack. "Very colourful portrayal of our history, told using a variety of characters and choreography" Valerie Harrold -Judge

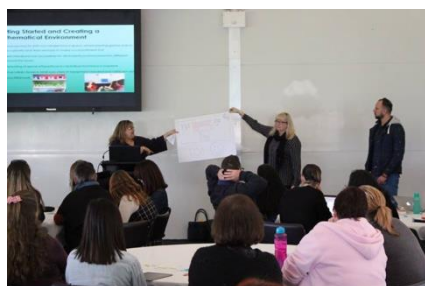


Embedding the use of iPads in all teaching and learning is a focus and innovative technology is embraced across all areas of school life, ensuring we are meeting the needs of our twenty first century learners. Students are further developing their understandings and use of higher order thinking skills using ICT and are working towards developing their critical literacy skills to support their information access. All of our students have access to an iPad for learning throughout the day.



Governing Council responded to parent feedback and introduced a new **school windcheater**.

Staff did lots of **learning** in 2016 too! Staff developed their expertise in teaching reading, numeracy, digital technologies, growth mindset and student feedback for learning. We continued to work with teachers from Pimpala PS and Reynella South PS to moderate student learning.

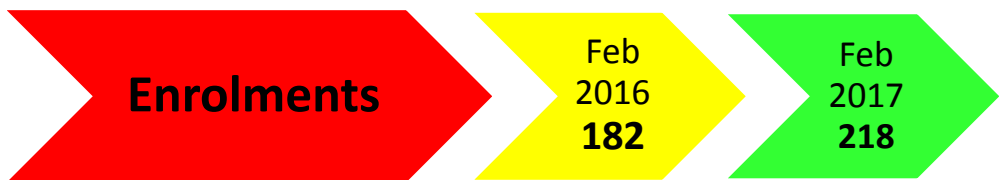
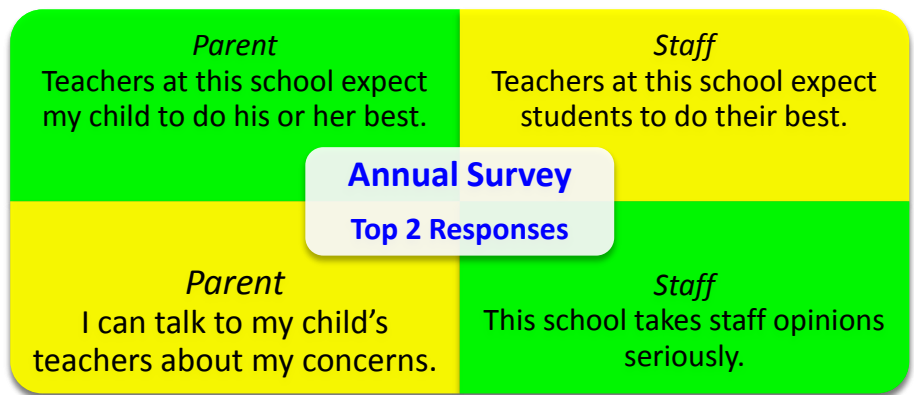
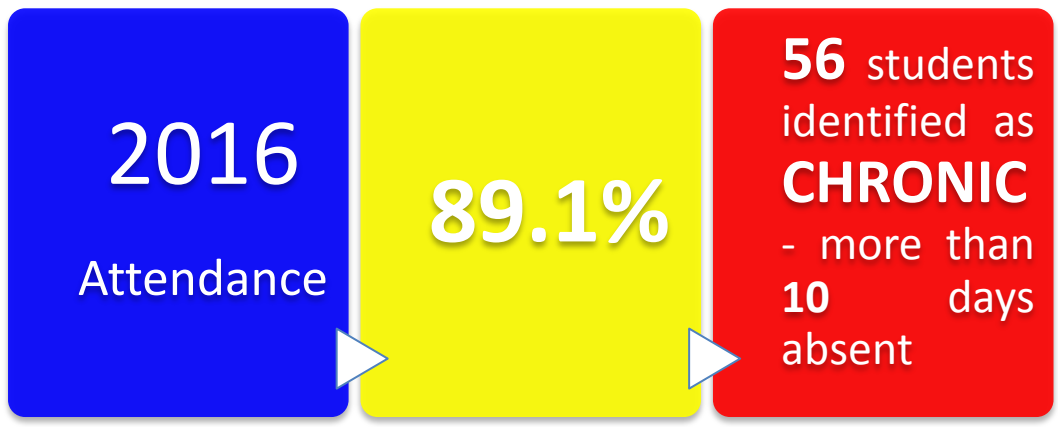


Four teachers, Natalie, Deb, Brianna and Doug shared their learning and teaching practise at the **Partnership Pupil Free Day**. Their presentation focussed on using maths games to increase student engagement in their learning. The 50 participants left with the tools and knowledge to have a go at implementing maths games into their classrooms.

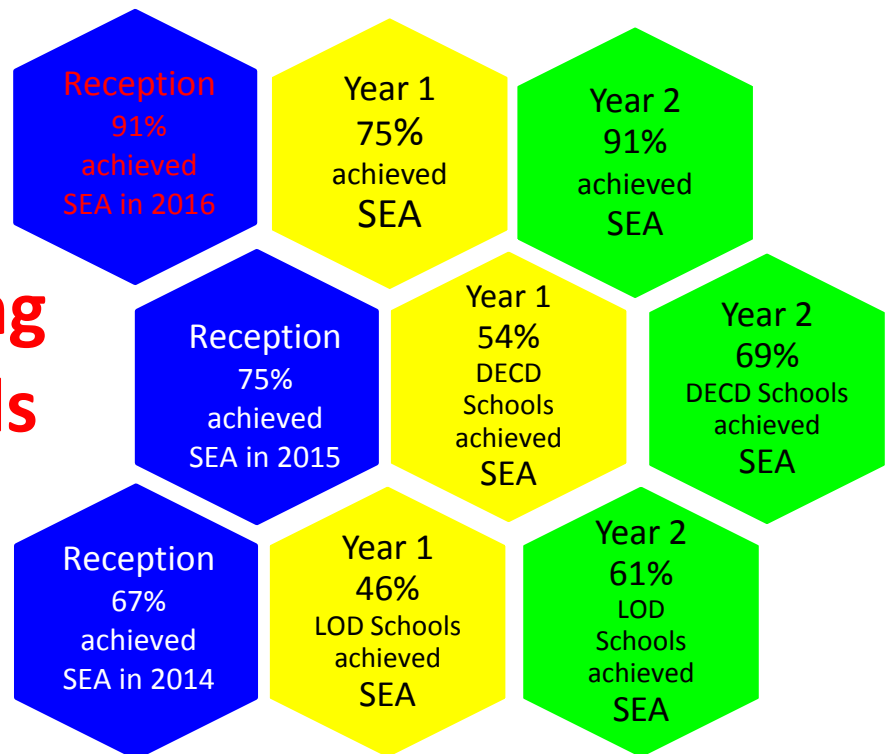
The school year ended with room 6 and 8 participating in the **Onkaparinga Christmas Pageant**, all classes performing at the **end of year celebration**, the **whole school big day out**, the **Year 7 Graduation** and the **final assembly**. At the final assembly we farewelled and thanked Carol Schedlich, Helen Dennis and Kay Langton for their dedication to the school community.



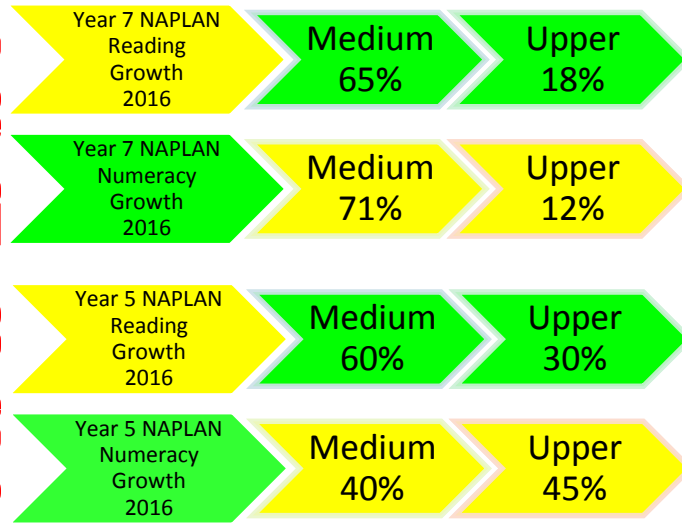
Year 2000



Running Records

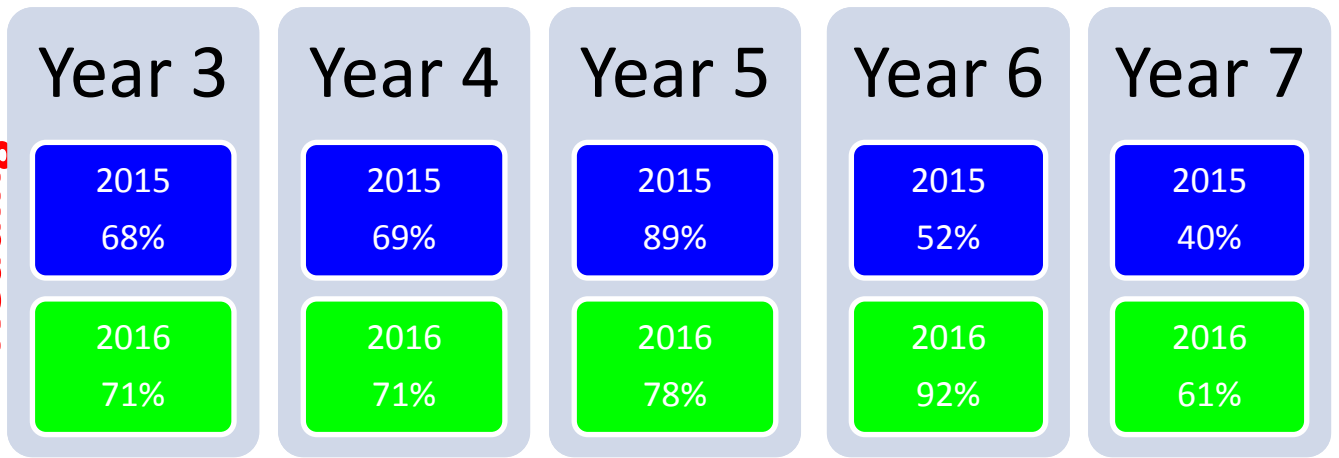


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Reading



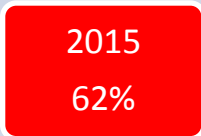
Year 3



Year 4



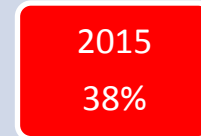
Year 5



Year 6



Year 7



Mathematics

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Perseverance



Low	15	students
Medium	12	students
High	7	students

2016 Middle Years Wellbeing Survey

Emotional engagement with teacher



Low	3	students
Medium	15	students
High	15	students

2016 Middle Years Wellbeing Survey

So what is working.....

- High Expectations for all students- we expect at least twelve months growth for twelve months of learning
- Relentless focus on learning
- Whole school approach to the teaching of Reading
- Explicit teaching of Reading Strategies-whole class, small group and individual
- Tracking and monitoring all students in literacy and numeracy- we know where every child is with their learning and we know their next steps.
- Targeted Teaching: teachers use the information from the assessments to target their teaching so children are being taught what they need to learn
- Literacy Blocks for all classes: 90 minutes per day
- SSO support in classrooms during the literacy block
- Building teacher and leadership capacity to teach numeracy and reading through on going professional learning, deprivatising classrooms, working with schools in our partnership
- Developing growth mindset for staff and students-focussing on developing positive learning dispositions
- Implementing timely effective intervention programs in reading and numeracy
- Individual Education Plans for students receiving intensive support
- Teachers using student feedback to design the teaching and learning program
- Communication with families- facebook, text messages, see-saw, postcards, skoolbag
- Improved facilities – courtyard redevelopment

Our next steps.....

In 2017 the Site Improvement Plan will focus on improved learning outcomes in Numeracy and Literacy. Embedded in the Site Improvement Plan will be strategies to work towards achieving the directions of the 2016 External Review:

Engage and challenge all students in their learning through building the capacity of teachers to design learning based on authentic student feedback.

Improve student growth and achievement in Numeracy by embedding effective evidence-based pedagogy through the influence of professional learning teams.

Engage students further in their learning by making learning intentions explicit, success criteria clear and learner dispositions congruent with community-agreed expectations.