



# Welcome to Cooma Public School



*Working together to improve outcomes in a safe and  
inclusive environment*





Cooma Public School has an excellent location in the centre of town. The school has a proud history of providing quality education on the Monaro since 1863. We are a comprehensive, state primary school which provides a range of learning experiences for our 263 students.

We are committed to preparing our students for life beyond school by providing challenging and enriching learning opportunities and supporting all students to achieve their best.

The staff work consistently to develop a deep understanding of the students and to instill a sense of pride in their efforts and achievements. We provide a safe friendly environment that promotes creativity, collaboration and communication. Innovative and flexible teaching and learning programs allows us to meet the needs of all students.

We have a highly supportive community which has high expectations of the educational programs provided for the students. The staff highly values the collaborative relationship that exists between school and community.

We have an active P & C that contributes significantly to the success of education programs and initiatives.





## A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Cooma Public School. We pride ourselves on our ability to build strong relationships with our students, their families and the wider community. We promote and encourage parent and community involvement in all areas of school life. An important factor in supporting students with their learning is the strength of home school partnerships. A priority here at Cooma Public School is keeping parents informed through clear communication.

Our students have a sense of pride and belonging to a learning environment which is positive, engaging and supportive. Staff at Cooma Public School guide students to communicate, respond and act in ways that are respectful and fair. Students have opportunities every day to see themselves as learners in a variety of contexts. Our students are always encouraged to have a go and to learn new skills and concepts even when this can be challenging. We currently have 10 mainstream and 3 specialist support classes. This class structure enables us to successfully meet the needs of the students in our community.

Our focus is to create learners who can communicate, collaborate and innovate. Students have opportunities to develop these skills here at Cooma Public School through our quality teaching and learning programs as well as the many other successful initiatives undertaken in our school, including band, transition to school/high school and sporting activities.

As new parents to our school we welcome and encourage your involvement and participation in our school community. We look forward to sharing the learning journey of your child/children with your family.

Mrs Wendy Attwood





### **Principal**

Mrs Wendy Attwood

### **Deputy Principal Instructional Leader**

Mrs Deb Geach

### **Assistant Principals**

Mrs Catrine Doyle

Mrs Diane Rourke

Mr Sean Smith

### **Learning Support Teacher**

Mrs Kellie Branscomb

### **Library Teacher**

Mr John Chapman

### **Music Teacher**

Mr Phil Horneman

### **Classroom Teachers**

Mrs Grace Bligh

Mrs Liz Dwyer

Ms Donna Esbensen

Mrs Emily Geelan

Mrs Emily Neilson

Mrs Anja Bartell

Mrs Louise Jenkins

Mr Ian Leadbitter

Mrs Sonya Rossiter

Mr Tom Smith

Mrs Kate Xenochristou

Miss Jessica Field

### **Administration Manager**

Ms Cherie Smith

### **Administration Officer**

Mrs Amanda Sturgeon

### **Learning Support Officers**

Mrs Alison Bond

Mrs Monique Barnes

Mrs Susan Langdon

Ms Kylie Paske

Ms Mary Stewart

### **General Assistant**

Mr David Phillips



## P&C AT COOMA PUBLIC SCHOOL

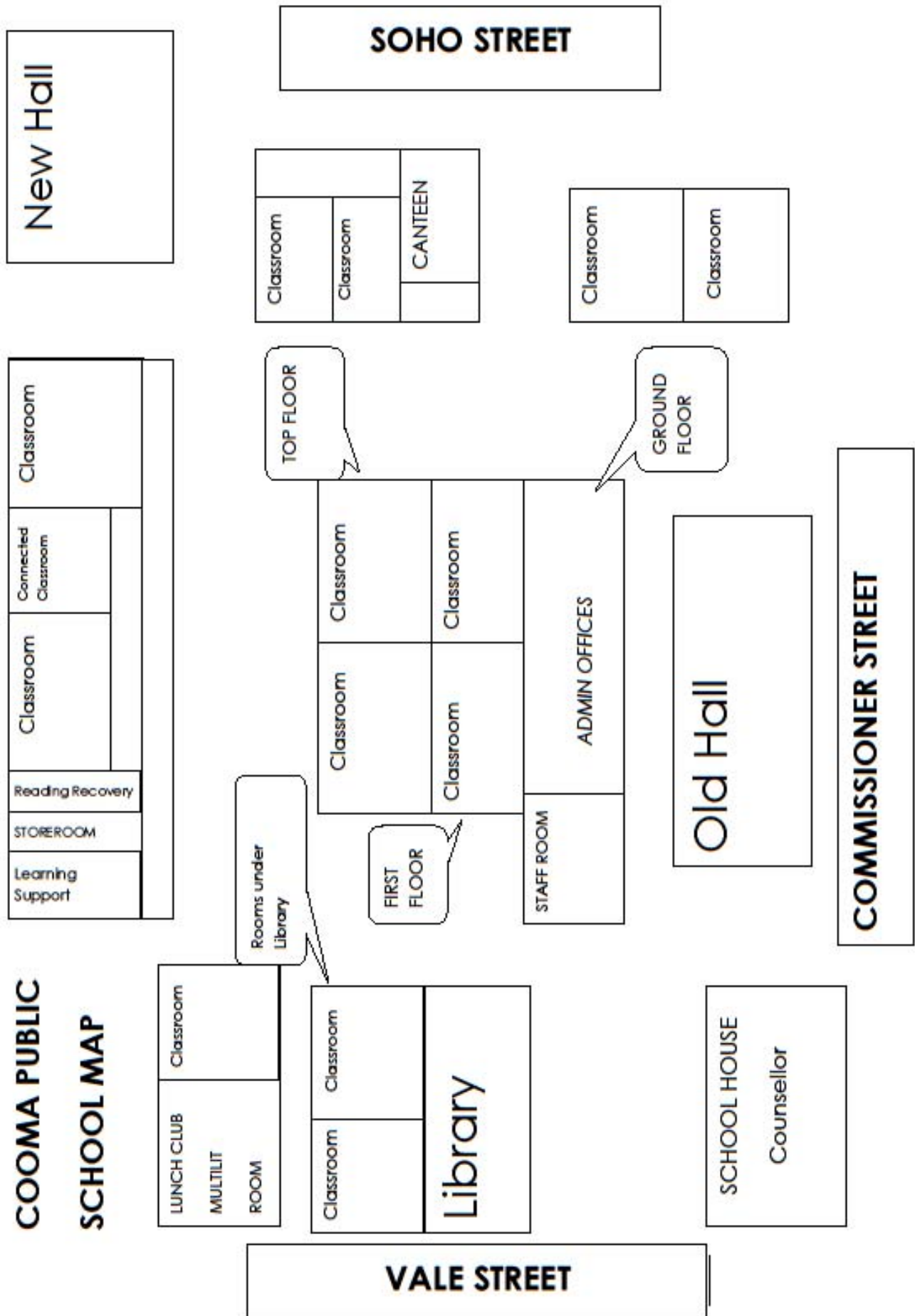
Parents as partners in the education process have a right and a responsibility to play an active role in the education of their children. By becoming actively involved in our P&C will provide you with the way to achieve this. At P&C meetings, parents are kept informed of key developments and initiatives across the school as well as provided with many opportunities to become involved in various aspects of school.

Our P&C meets on the first Monday of the month at 7pm in the staffroom. We encourage all families to come along to the P&C and contribute to school life here at CPS.

Our school canteen is run by the P&C and is a major source of fundraising for our school community. The CPS P&C is also a significant contributor to subsidising school events including swimming and school camps.



## SCHOOL MAP





## ENROLMENT

Children who are 5 years old by 31<sup>st</sup> July may be enrolled in Kindergarten. All children are enrolled at the beginning of the year. Evidence of date of birth along with immunisation details and residential address must be produced upon enrolment.



## SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Please subscribe on our website to receive school notes. You can also download the free app called "School Enews" on your smartphone to receive instant notifications. Any note that requires a signature will still be sent home with your child. These notes can also be accessed on the school's website. To keep up to date with all school events please like us on Facebook.

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

These are currently \$40.00 per annum for one child at school and \$70.00 for more than one. These contributions greatly assist the school to provide extra resources. Invoices will be sent home to families. Sometimes there may be a request to buy another book eg. Handwriting, Maths Mentals, Diary etc.

## ASSEMBLY

Years K-2 and 3-6 have a fortnightly assembly, where students receive recognition for excellent behaviour and good work. Parents are invited to attend these.

## BELL TIMES

Supervision from 8.40am

School commences 9.10am

Recess 11.10am to 11.45am

Lunch 1.15pm to 2.00pm

School finishes 3.10pm





## OOSH - OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CHILD CARE

Cooma Public School provides quality out of school hours child care.

We provide before school care from 7.30am to 9.30am and after school care from 3.00pm to 6.00pm Monday to Friday during the school term. Vacation care is available during the school holidays. The opening times for vacation care is 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday.



## CANTEEN

The school canteen operates on Fridays. Our school canteen is a "Nut aware" Canteen. Voluntary parent helpers arrange rosters of parent support, and run the school canteen. Please contact the office or the canteen coordinator if you are available to help, even for one day a term. Menus are available on the schools website.

## STUDENT BANKING

Children are encouraged to operate a Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite Savings Account. Money is deposited each Thursday by leaving it with the bank book in a class bag. A volunteer parent processes the deposits. The school receives a small commission from the bank for this service.

## SCRIPTURE CLASSES

Scripture classes are held at school every Tuesday afternoon. The separate Scripture groups are Catholic and Protestant. Clergy and lay people are involved in teaching Scripture and Ethics to students. All students are encouraged to attend a scripture class.



## UNIFORM

School colours are blue and gold. All children are encouraged to wear school uniform and take pride in their appearance.

### Girls' Summer

School Dress

Navy tailored skirt or shorts

Gold polo shirt

Navy jumper with school crest

Black shoes

CPS hat

### Girls' Winter

Navy slacks or navy tracksuit pants

Gold polo or long sleeve shirt

Navy jumper with school crest

Black shoes

CPS beanie or hat

### Boys' Summer

Navy Shorts

Gold Polo shirt

Navy jumper with school crest

Black shoes

CPS hat

### Boys' Winter

Navy track pants or long trousers

Gold polo or long sleeve shirt

Navy jumper with school crest

Black shoes

CPS beanie or hat



CPS hats and beanies are available from the school office. Uniforms are available at Your Workwear or Hip Pocket Workwear in Cooma. School dresses are available at the office through the P & C committee.

If coats, parkas or polar fleeces are worn, please encourage navy. ALL CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A SCHOOL HAT FOR PROTECTION FROM THE SUN. As far as possible please encourage navy hats with wide brims available from the school office. During the hot summers months we implement "no hat, play in the shade".



## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Students have a strong understanding of expectations with this whole school approach. Students are encouraged to make sensible choices with their behaviour. The school has strong routines based on the Positive Behaviour for Learning Program (PBL) - of Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be a Learner. Merit Certificates are given to students who are displaying achievements in these areas as well as for academic, sporting achievements, etc. Staff and students use the same language to discuss PBL from K-6. This ensures consistency across all classes in our approach to student wellbeing.



## CRUNCH & SIP

Every class has crunch and sip each morning at 10.00am. Students are encouraged to eat raw fruit and vegetables. Crunch and Sip helps if students have not eaten for 2 or 3 hours. It also supports our Healthy School's policy and encourages healthy choices.



## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

The SRC at CPS enables us to build student leadership capacity across the learning community. Through the SRC, students have increased opportunity to perceive themselves as leaders through engagement with initiatives and programs across the school. Two students from each class in Years 2—6 are peer elected to represent their class group for a given year. The students represent their class at scheduled regular SRC meetings.



## EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

Cooma Public School offers a variety of programs including robotics, debating, public speaking, drama and sports activities. These activities are optional and students can join these groups to further develop skills or simply for fun.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club operates on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 8.40am in our school canteen. Breakfast Club is run by a wonderful team of volunteers. Students can come along if they have missed breakfast, had breakfast too early or feel like something a little extra. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend.





## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

All students are exposed to information and communication technology from their entry into Kindergarten. The school is networked throughout, with a very functional computer laboratory containing 30 computers which are used constantly for explicit teaching of computer skills and accessing information resources. Kindergarten students are timetabled to use this facility from Term 1. All classrooms have computers which connect to the school's network and the World Wide Web. Other computer activities include: programs to research, to drill, to revise and to reinforce classroom programs in literacy, numeracy and theme work. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards, catering for our digital generation. Kindergarten children are taught from day 1 to log on with a password.

We have a number of notebook computers and iPads to supplement technology in classrooms.



## LIBRARY

Our library is a wonderful building with lots of space for groups to work and research in. It has a mini computer lab of 15 computers and an interactive white board for demonstrating the research tasks set for the students. It is also the science hub of Cooma Public with many displays of specimens and models made by the students. Bright airy and with constantly changing displays it is a place the students love to go to.

## KEY LEARNING AREAS

There are six Key Learning Areas (KLA's) for which teachers program for their class or Stage level. Students are taught and assessed in stages of learning.

Early Stage 1 (K), Stage 1 (1-2), Stage 2 (3-4) and Stage 3 (5-6). We assess students according to syllabus outcomes.

The six KLA's are :

**English-** Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, Writing and Representing.

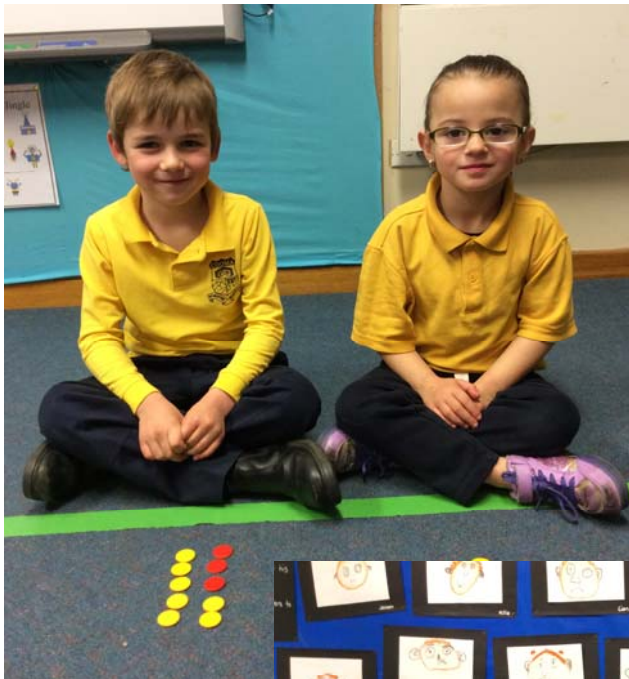
**Mathematics-** Areas of Number, Space and Geometry, Data, Patterns, Algebra, Measurement and Working Mathematically.

**Science and Technology-** Investigating, Designing, Making and Using Technology.

**Human Society and Its Environment-** Change and Continuity, Cultures, Environments, Social Systems and Structures.

**Creative and Practical Arts-** Music, Drama, Dance and Visual Arts.

**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education-** Healthy Lifestyle, Self Esteem, Social Responsibility, Fitness and Sport.





## LEARNING AND SUPPORT

At Cooma Public School we have an active learning support team that assists and supports students in their classes. Meetings are held weekly to consider the areas of need our students and teachers require. Students are supported in their classroom by School Learning Support Officers and Learning Support Teachers.

We have several teachers trained in the Reading Recovery program at Cooma Public School. This program targets students in Year 1 who are experiencing difficulty with their reading. Students work with a trained teacher on a 1:1 basis each day, for a period of 15 to 18 weeks.

For students in years 3-6, the programs of MULTILIT and MINILIT for Years 1-2, are available for students who would benefit with consolidation of their reading.

We have three specialist support classes at Cooma Public School. These classes strategically meet the needs of students with additional learning needs.



## SCHOOL BAND

Students have an opportunity to learn a musical instrument and become part of our school band. Mr Phillip Horneman coordinates this program every Thursday.

The band perform at various school and community events throughout the year.

If you would like your child to be involved in this program please see your child's teacher.





## EXCURSIONS

We have a number of planned excursions and camps throughout the year. All excursions have a sound educational purpose. We encourage all students to attend these organised events as they are planned to enhance learning and development which is happening within classrooms. Notes for excursions are sent home. Money is collected through the office.





## EXCURSION AND SPORT ACTIVITIES





## "School Pledge"

We promise to be truthful and honest

To respect the rights and property of others

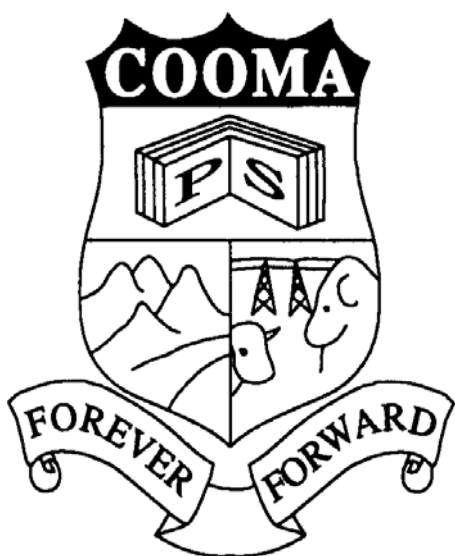
To care for and help each other

To make the school a safe and happy place

To always do our best

To be polite, well mannered and kind to everyone





## Enquiries Welcome

T: 02 6452 1933

F: 02 6452 2980

E: [cooma-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cooma-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

W: [www.cooma-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cooma-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

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