

Principal's Report for the School Board
Term 4, Week 7 2022

Welcome to the final month of the 2022 school year. Reflecting on this year, it can be said that 2022 was the most unpredictable year that we have experienced since COVID became a part of our everyday language in 2020. This year, all of the preparation and planning for a potential wave of the virus actually went into practice. In Term One, the Director General, Lisa Rogers, prepared all of the principals throughout Western Australia that the COVID race was going to be a sprint, not a marathon and she was right. From March, Week Four Term One, up until the end of July, we weathered the storm, and handled it as a community in a proactive and positive way.

Although at the time, we all wondered if this sprint was ever going to be over, with hindsight, there is much to celebrate about how we handled the pandemic in such a large community. I want to thank all staff, students and family members for adhering to the many restrictions that we had to place on the community in order to slow down the infection rates, and for also being so understanding when these restrictions needed to change, sometimes on a 12-hour basis. I want to sincerely thank all of the staff for keeping our doors open and for continuing to progress our student's individual learning journeys whether they were at school or home. Mostly, I want to thank our staff for fronting up into an unknown and ever-changing environment, despite feeling worried and sometimes scared about what they were subjecting themselves and their families to. They are the true heroes this year and as their leader, I am so proud of them all and grateful that they put our children first, despite the unknown landscape they were working in for most of this year.

COVID has certainly given us the space to reflect upon our 12-year journey as a school community and to examine what works well for us as a school and what does not serve us anymore. We have made some changes to how we work and operate our classrooms because of our reflections, and COVID has given us permission to do this. It has certainly allowed us as a community to be more creative in our thinking and innovative in our approaches, which has provided us with some excitement in this challenging year. Most of all, we have ensured that as a community, our Positive Education practices are developed further and will need to be of continual focus, so that we are able to continue to create an environment of not only performance, but high care for our whole community moving forward.

Living now in a VUCA world, '*volatility, uncertainty, complex, ambiguity*' we need to keep our collective vision in mind in order to best prepare our children to be able to flourish in this environment. Although as adults, it can be very challenging to confront and adapt to this new world that we are living in, for many of our children (especially our Early Childhood students) they do not know of anything else. They are adapting, processing and learning so rapidly and we are continually amazed at their achievements, despite what they have weathered in their foundational years. Although we are learning to adapt to our VUCA world, we can maybe look at VUCA through the lens of '*vision, understanding, clarity and agility*.' I feel as though that this suits us as a school community much better and will help us to keep our vision front and centre into our future as we continue our exceptional work with our young people.

I want to thank all members of our school board, for their unwavering commitment to myself, my leadership and our school community throughout 2022. I have heavily relied on the conversations, reflections and opinions of the school board, in order to be guided to make the right decisions for us as a community. The Aubin Grove Primary School Board has governed the school to the highest calibre in a very unpredictable and challenging environment throughout this year, and for this support, I am very grateful. I am looking forward to turning my attention to 2023, and bringing *Kadadjiny* back into front and centre, so we are able to continue on with achieving our targets, goals and milestones that we set for ourselves back in 2021.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxed summer holiday break with your families and loved ones, and I look forward to welcoming you all back to our school in February 2023.

Mesha