

## Kimberley Schools Project - Term 4 2019 Newsletter

### From the Manager – Mark Williams

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2019 and what a year it has been for the Project.

2019 saw another 9 schools join the Project in February followed by a further 3 midyear bringing the total number of schools in the KSP to 22. To ensure that we could continue to provide support to schools we employed a number of new staff and placed them across the region and we now have people in Kununurra, Fitzroy as well as here in Broome.

This year also saw us move more visibly into the Better Early Years Learning and Care area of the Project. Over 50 school-based staff and community members have been trained in 3a to support children and families. Supporting this has been the appointment of a dedicated Aboriginal Coordinator position.

In closing off the year I'd like this opportunity to thank school leaders, school staff and community members for their support and the sheer hard work you've put in to get the Project to where it is today. I'd also like to sincerely thank the KSP team for their wonderful work in your schools and communities. To travel as much as they do and be away from home as often as they are is a huge effort, but we also know that this effort is making a difference to the lives of young people across the Kimberley.

A big thank you also for all the hits on our Twitter page we're up to 164 followers! You can find us at [@kimberley\\_sp](https://twitter.com/kimberley_sp)

2020 promises to be bigger and better for the Project and the team is looking forward to continuing to support schools and communities through professional learning, observation and feedback, resources, workshops and much more.

### Goodbyes

The KSP team is sad to farewell a number of staff who depart at the end of the year. Kate Walker and Kate Carthy will take up positions in Perth and Kate Hopkins will be on maternity leave. We really value the contribution all three of these wonderful people have made in our schools and to the Project and they will be sorely missed by us all.

We are also saying thank you and farewell to Corril Heaysman, our Executive Support Officer based in Statewide Services in Padbury. The position will now be based in Broome and we've appointed Camille Vissouarn to the role who will commence in term 1 next year.

### KSP Hits the Air Waves - Kimberley School of the Air Kate Walker

Along with Jungdranung and Fitzroy Valley DHS, Kimberley School of the Air (KSOTA) also joined the KSP Semester Two this year. The staff at KSOTA have accepted the challenge of delivering the fast-paced pedagogy over the air which includes using microphones and video – Webex. As we know technology can be challenging and innovating solutions to problems such as lag time have been a part of KSOTA's journey. They are now delivering Let's Decode and Daily Reviews of Reading and Spelling.



*Dr Hammond's impact is far reaching*

KSOTA is just one example of the reach the KSP has across the Kimberley. After completing Module One – Let's Decode in Broome, Dr Lorraine Hammond travelled to Derby to deliver Module Two – Explicit Instruction. The school caters for students from Purnululu to Mitchell River to Sandfire and everywhere in between. It is so exciting that students in such remote locations, have access to the same high-quality instruction of other schools that teach their students using the science of reading and retrieval!

The KSOTA students all came together at Broome Camp School in Week Five for swimming lessons and their end of year KSP assessment! The positive results seen in

In partnership with

student data and anecdotally from the parents and tutors, who also travelled with the students from stations and national parks across the Kimberley, was exciting to see in the six months they have been with the Project.

**AIEO and EA’s teaching Let’s Decode in KSP schools -  
Kate Hopkins**

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Valley and Halls Creek schools for making me feel so welcome as the new Valley coach this semester. I have really enjoyed being in your schools and have felt welcomed by each of you. Over the semester I have traveled to 6 of the KSP schools within the Valley and 2 within Halls Creek, I have not only been overwhelmed by the dedication and passion of the teachers, I have also been extremely impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication of the support staff within each school.



I have observed several support staff teaching Let’s Decode in small and intervention groups. The staff have sort feedback and implemented suggestions and tips into their teaching. This collaborative approach is not only paramount to develop our students’ skills in reading but it is also fantastic to see our support staff upskilled and taking on leadership within the classrooms. Thank you to those staff for seeking coaching and support to provide the best Let’s Decode sessions for their students.



**KSP KindiLink**

*Sheridan Lister and Carol Shillingsworth*

This year we have had the opportunity to train 52 educators from KSP KindiLink, KindiLink and partner organisations in the Abecedarian Approach Australia (3a). Training has taken place in Broome; the Fitzroy Valley and Kununurra. Since undertaking the 3a Practitioner training, we have noticed a more Intentional approach in sessions to Language Priority (the overarching element of 3a) as well as support for families/caregivers to gain an understanding of the language/learning intention behind activities. Carol, (Suzie) and I would sincerely like to thank you all for welcoming us into your school communities and look forward to working alongside you in 2020.

*Caitlin and her mum Maree playing a game naming body parts Broome North PS*



*Abecedarian Approach Australia Graduates Fitzroy*



**Term 1 2020 Happenings**

Term One	Date	What	Location
Week 2	12-14 February (other dates to be determined)	Abecedarian Approach Australia (3a) Practitioner training	To be determined
Week 9	To be determined	KSP KindiLink Forum (Fully funded for KSP KindiLink schools)	Broome

We will also continue to visit KSP KindiLink schools to support our 3a Practitioners in their facilitation of supported playgroup sessions.  
Have a safe and happy holiday

#### From the Principal – *Bronwyn Wright*

This term Dr Lorraine Hammond visited many schools to lead observations and feedback sessions. Overall, the quality of instruction emerging is evident with staff building their speed and fluency. With many schools having completed the four modules in the professional learning suite, next year we would expect there to be more opportunities in the calendar to schedule Dr Hammond visits to schools. Also, the 2020 Professional Learning Schedule has been sent out and if you would like to book dates please email [Carolyn.williams@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Carolyn.williams@education.wa.edu.au).

This year's KSP Study Tour to Perth was a great success with staff having the opportunity to visit, observe and hear the journeys of both Dawson Park Primary School and Ellen Stirling Primary School. Katie O'Driscoll shared the Fogarty Foundations EDvance Program, and participants had the opportunity to view some of the positive outcomes experienced by schools adopting an Explicit Instruction pedagogy. Tour participants also had the opportunity to explore their schools approach in building teaching efficacy and shared some of their experiences.

The Dean of Education at Edith Cowan University, Professor Stephen Winn, visited some Project schools this term. He had the opportunity to observe one of the professional learning modules, experience the vastness of the Project and gain insight into the Kimberley context through school visits. He explored and identified some potential opportunities within the undergraduate programs at Edith Cowan University. Thank you to Fitzroy Valley DHS, Djugerari RCS, Wangkatjungka RCS, Dawul RCS for welcoming and hosting this visit.

Our program coordinators have undertaken school case studies this term with a view to build a picture of the journey schools have embarked on since joining the project. This information is really valuable to the coaching team, assists the project by informing our practice, and provides the team with an implementation landscape to review in future years. I would like to thank those Principals and staff who shared their insight and time with our coaches and we intend to continue these studies in 2020 and beyond.

By the end of the year many schools will have trained staff in either MacqLit or Corrective Reading. Jess Salm

will continue to provide support in this area in 2020 and we intend to offer this professional learning again in 2020.

Many schools are implementing explicit instruction programs to further develop mathematics. Kate Burke has collaboratively developed an example K-2 Scope and Sequence that schools may choose to explore and we will continue to support schools in building their instructional skills in this area.

The Kimberley Schools Information Platform (KSIP) continues to improve and we can now select, sort and view progress in different ways. Thank you to staff who have provided feedback for improvement to our team and Carolyn Williams for coordinating the improved changes.

The 2020 Targeted Teaching Assessment Schedule is now available and there are a number of changes next year. The project will support the gathering of On-Entry Year 1 data collection and schools will have the option to gather and enter Year 2 data. Next year we will using the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of DIBELS assessment in Preprimary, Year 1 and Year 2, and schools will be able to enter data from the Westwood Basic Number Facts and PAT Maths.

I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge the commitment and work from staff from across project schools, and also celebrate the dedication and support our coaches have provided this year. This year we bid farewell to Kate Carthy, Kate Walker and Kate Hopkins and I wish them the very best in their new ventures. I know they will be valuable assets to their future schools, but also, missed by many people here in the Kimberley.

I'd like to wish everyone a happy festive season and take the opportunity to relax and refresh ready for an exciting new year.

