



# MOOMBAKI CULTURAL LEARNINGS

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

**DJERAN 2022  
NEWSLETTER**

Ngan kaditj-djinang koora-koora, yey, kidji mila boola norerl, ngalak nyin yey moorditj kadjan wadjuk boodja djinang-iny. We pay respect to all of the past, present and future Elders. We acknowledge their power, passion and good spirit that allows us to be on Wadjuk Boodja.

*The above Acknowledgement was prepared by Prof Cheryl Kickett-Tucker and Elder Aunty Roma (2016). Any reproduction or use is to be referenced accordingly please.*

This project aims to:

- Ensure Aboriginal children engage successfully in school;
- Recognize, value, and strengthen the cultures, languages, and identities of Aboriginal students in school
- Strengthen the self-esteem and well-being of Aboriginal students.

## PROJECT UPDATE DJERAN 2022



Above: Moombaki team members, Charlene Carlisle, and Sophie Karangaroa at a Yarning Circle at Malvern Springs Primary School. Image credit: Cat Ciraulo

## HIGHLIGHTS

Last year we met with Aboriginal Elders, families, community members and school staff who shared valuable insights and ideas on how to better engage with each other. Our yarning sessions also included how we can teach Aboriginal culture, history and values at our schools.

This year, we will be meeting with Aboriginal students at the schools and referring to everyone's ideas, will co-create the Moombaki program. This will be an 8–10-week pilot program to be taught in the three schools next year.

Despite COVID restrictions and home quarantine for some of our community members and their families, we continued our Community and Elders Council (CEC) meetings this term.

A big thank you to the Midvale Hub for allowing us to have yarning sessions at their facilities next to Middle Swan and Clayton View Primary Schools. And thank you to the school leadership at Malvern Springs Primary School for allowing us to use designated space while being COVID safe.

#### Highlights for Term 1:

- 9 CEC meetings held across all schools this term
- Continued yarning sessions with Aboriginal school staff
- Enjoyed 8 yarning sessions with close to 30 Aboriginal students in Years 3 to 6 so far – with 5 further sessions planned this term



*Above: Students at Middle Swan Primary School with their idea for a cover photo for the Moombaki program. Image credit: Cheryl Kickett-Tucker*

The Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers (AIEOs) at the schools are key to connect our Moombaki team, school staff and communities together. Their role is significant, and we acknowledge all the work they do beyond their job description. Thank you to these moorditj AIEOs: Fabian Roberts (Middle Swan Primary School), Kellie Fowler (Clayton View Primary School) and Cat Ciraulo (Malvern Springs Primary School). Happy to report Cat is now contracted for 4 days/week and has a designated room at the school, while Kellie is now permanent 3 days/week as AIEO and also has an allocated space at her school.

## MULTIMODAL MOOMBAKI EXPERIENCE



*Above: Moombaki team members (L to R): Prof Cheryl Kickett-Tucker, Charlene Carlisle and Brad Mesch pictured with Cat Ciraulo (AIEO) in front of the new Wagyl mural and near the new Yarning Circle area at Malvern Springs Primary School. Image credit: Sophie Karangaroa*

This year we will be building virtual resources in partnership with students and academic staff from the School of Design & Built Environment, Faculty of Humanities at Curtin University. Some of the ideas from community, staff and students so far include:

- Aboriginalised version of Minecraft
- Surviving on-Country in traditional times with challenges along the way such as sourcing water, hunting or tool making to provide for families and the community
- Learning Noongar language and dance

## STAKEHOLDERS

Thank you to the Aboriginal Education Teaching and Learning Directorate (Dept. of Education WA) for their ongoing support and invitations to the schools to re-engage and participate in their professional learning sessions this year. This complements the aims of the Moombaki project and will further strengthen the delivery of the program next year.



Left: Students from Clayton View Primary School during a Yarning Session about ideas for the Moombaki program. Image credit: Cheryl Kickett-Tucker

## TIMELINE AND NEXT STEPS

We are planning an excursion for participants to the Virtual Realms – Video games Transformed exhibition at Boola Bardip (WA Museum) early in Term 2. From April-June, we will be co-designing content for the Moombaki program. From June onwards, we will work closely with the Digital Experience Lab at Curtin University to build the virtual resources. We will also have an excursion for student and community members to visit the Digital Experience Lab end of Term 2. They will experience a workshop to see how their ideas will be transformed into digital resources.

To our community members, students and school staff have a safe, fun school holiday break. See you all in Term 2!

## FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE MOOMBAKI CULTURAL LEARNINGS TEAM:

<mailto:CulturalLearnings@curtin.edu.au>

[Moombaki project website](#)



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