The Winton Way

Winton's Big Showcase

Last night our school partnered with the Winton Shire Council’s Youth Centre and Creative Pathways to present THE WINTON BIG SHOWCASE. The night was of epic proportions and was of a high quality. Students from all year levels were represented well as they showcased their talents within the areas of drama, dance, singing and digital expression.

Congratulations to all involved as the first ever Big Showcase was a massive success. Next year we will continue to invest and build on the many talents we have in our school as we begin the implementation of a Dance Excellence Program. You will find more information about the program on page 6.

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Coming Events

Today: Last Day for Years 10 and 11
Today: Report Cards out
Next week: Parent Teacher Meetings (call the school to make an appointment)
December 7: Last Day for P—9
January 29: School resumes for 2013
Dear Students, Parents and Friends

This is our final newsletter for 2012. I want to take the opportunity to thank all of the wonderful students in our school for your hard work and dedication this year.

Recently at our Annual Speech Night I talked about how proud I was to be the Principal of this great school. I am delighted to say that this pride grows each day as more and more of the students at our school continue to showcase exceptional sportsmanship, academic effort, artistic talent and all round safe, responsible and respectful traits.

I also would like to take the chance to thank my wonderful staff. The enthusiasm, dedication and diligence shown by all staff at Winton State School is really second to none. While we close the year and say goodbye and good luck to Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel, Mrs. Howkins and Mr. and Mrs. Girodat, we will also be saying hello to new enthusiastic staff that will soon be part of the Winton State School family.

Mr and Mrs Girodat this week learnt of their success in gaining new positions at Barcaldine State School. Mrs Girodat has been successful in gaining a promotion to the role of Acting Head of Special Education Services and Mr Girodat has been fortunate enough to secure a role as District Relief Teacher. We wish you both the best of luck in your new roles.

This week we received the first of our new furniture. New tables have arrived for the secondary classrooms and we are still waiting on new science desks, new chairs and new furnishings for our year 7/8 classroom. This weekend construction work will start in the new 7/8 classroom. Students will return next year to a freshly painted, carpeted and refurbished classroom.

This week we also received delivery of our new dance floor. This will be installed later next week in our new Dance and Arts Room. This room will be the location of our new Dance Excellence Program. Lead by Mrs Emily Lawrance from 2013, the program will provide opportunities for students for all ages to participate in an exceptional arts program here at Winton State School. More details about this program are located on page 4 of this newsletter.

As the holidays are quickly coming I urge you all to keep a close eye on our school this festive season. If you notice anything suspicious happening please contact School Watch immediately. School watch can be contacted on 131 788.

Finally, let me take the final formal opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and a very happy new year. Stay safe these holidays, play hard and have fun. Most of all enjoy the time with your family.

I look forward to seeing you all on day one next year. School resumes January 29th 2013.

Yours Sincerely
Mick Lawrance
Principal.

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Every Day Counts

Is your child at school today?

Top Attending Year Levels for:

**Term 4:** Year 6, Year 1, Year 8

**2012:** Year 7, Year 3, Year 1

Boys v Girls

1st Boys
2nd Girls

In term four male attendance has been 3.5% better than female attendance.

For the whole of 2012 female attendance has been 0.8% better than male attendance.

Above: An attendance Super Star and her Shopping Spree Bounty.

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Term Four Attendance Raffle.

Our Term Four Attendance Raffle will be drawn on the last Friday of this term at our assembly. Assembly will be held in the last period of the day. Students must be present all day and at the raffle to be eligible to win a prize.

Prize 1 - $250 online or local shopping spree.
Prize 2 - $100 online or local shopping spree.
Prize 3 - $50 online or local shopping spree.

Prize 1 - All students with Term 4 attendance of 97% +
Prize 2 - All students with Term 4 attendance of 92% +
Prize 3 - All students with Term 4 attendance of 88% +

and all students with random attendance day tickets

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New Phone Numbers for Winton State School

Please remember that our school has new phone numbers.

School Administration (main number) (07) 4657 2333
Student Absence Line (07) 4657 2366
TOP 10 TIPS FOR PARENTS

1. When your child wants to show you something, stop what you are doing and pay attention to your child. It is important to spend frequent, small amounts of time with your child doing things that you both enjoy.

2. Give your child lots of physical affection – children often like hugs, cuddles, and holding hands.

3. Talk to your child about things he/she is interested in and share aspects of your day with your child.

4. Give your child lots of descriptive praise when they do something that you would like to see more of, e.g., “Thank you for doing what I asked straight away”.

5. Children are more likely to misbehave when they are bored so provide lots of engaging indoor and outdoor activities for your child, e.g., playdough, colouring in, cardboard boxes, dress ups, cubby houses, etc.

6. Teach your child new skills by first showing the skill yourself, then giving your child opportunities to learn the new skill. For example, speak politely to each other in the home. Then, prompt your child to speak politely (e.g., say “please” or “thank you”), and praise your child for their efforts.

7. Set clear limits on your child’s behaviour. Sit down and have a family discussion on the rules in the home. Let your child know what the consequences will be if they break the rules.

8. If your child misbehaves, stay calm and give them a clear instruction to stop misbehaving and tell them what you would like them to do instead (e.g., “Stop fighting; play nicely with each other.”) Praise your child if they stop. If they do not stop, follow through with an appropriate consequence.

9. Have realistic expectations. All children misbehave at times and it is inevitable that you will have some discipline hassles. Trying to be the perfect parent can set you up for frustration and disappointment.

10. Look after yourself. It is difficult to be a calm, relaxed parent if you are stressed, anxious, or depressed. Try to find time every week to let yourself unwind or do something that you enjoy.
Winton BIG SHOWCASE
DANCE EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME COMING TO WINTON STATE SCHOOL

After the great success at the Mt Isa Rock Pop Mime Eisteddfod, Dance Excellence will now be introduced to Winton State School in 2013.

Dance and singing teacher, Emily Lawrance, will be joining Winton State School as a full time primary teacher as of next year. As part of the curriculum team, she will be offering a diverse dance programme, spanning 5 days a week in an air-conditioned dance room.

Classes will include;

**GLEE** – This is a singing and dancing class where students will learn the difficult skill of singing and dancing together. Students will learn vocal techniques, including how to harmonise as a group, performance and dance skills – all set to Top 40 pop music!

**PRIMARY DANCE** – This group will learn a variety of dance styles including Jazz, Funk, Modern Ballet and Musical Theatre. They will develop their dance technique and performance skills, and learn to work as a team in a fun environment.

**ROCK POP MIME** – After winning every category at our debut Rock Pop Mime performance, this class will run again so we can return to defend our title. The students will learn dance and mime skills, as well as production development including lighting design, costume and make-up design. The 2012 team thoroughly enjoyed this entire experience, with every student saying they will return for 2013.

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4/5/6 in 2013

I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new 4/5/6 classroom teacher in 2013.

Most of you know me for my dance teaching, but not everyone knows that I am a fully qualified and experienced primary school teacher. This year, I have been working here as a part time learning support teacher – working with students from grades Prep to year 10, in the learning areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Science.

I am transferring in from Kenmore South State School where I taught grade 5 one year then grade 6 the next. I have also had experience teaching multi-aged classrooms; a year 6/7 and a couple of different 4/5/6/7 classes. I have a real passion for maths, and really value the importance of teaching reading strategies.

I carry high expectations for my students. From good manners to tidy bookwork; all form part of a smooth running and quality classroom environment. I do love to have fun though, so there will still be lots of smiles and laughs! I really look forward to having a fabulous year with the new 4/5/6 Legends!!!!

Mrs Emily Lawrance
7/8 Science

Throughout Science this term, we've investigated forces and impacts. As a culminating activity, students had to design a device that would prevent a full water balloon from bursting on impact from a three meter height. Some were successful, some failed and some persisted to ensure that they met the challenge. Students then had to reflect upon why their device was successful or unsuccessful and what materials were responsible for absorbing the impact.

Year 9/10 Technology

The last couple of weeks in the workshop have been chaotic with questions, noise and movement. The chaos has led to students producing some quality ornamental items and a lot of useful pieces of furniture that will see happy long lasting lives.

I would like to thank the support of a couple of people who are regularly in the workshop assisting with the operation of the Year 9/10 class—thank you so much Reverend Anne and Mick Heslin.
What a fantastic year it has been for Winton Playgroup! Early this year, Winton Playgroup was rekindled so the families of Winton had a weekly event they could take their little ones to. This first task was to find a great location. The local library was great – but we were making a lot of noise and mess! The park was also great, but with the unpredictable weather and lack of infant toys, it wasn’t quite right. Then, Winton State School offered their library, courtyard and playground. This was perfect. We had a place to store our things, air-conditioned comfort inside, and a gated playground outside. The next task was to track down the old toys from the last time playgroup was in action. This was a little bit of a mission, but all was found in great condition at the Saint Paul’s Rectory – Thanks Rev. Anne. The school came on board with sponsorship, and before we knew it, we had a range of toys, music and crafts.

We only started with a couple of regular families, and even traveling families. Each week we would sing songs, have morning tea, do a craft activity, have outside play and then finish up with story time. Eventually playgroup grew – recently we had 12 children attend. From newborns to 4 year olds, it is a really great way for parents of young ones to get out and stay in touch, while the little ones get to develop their social and emotional skills in a fun and safe way.

Winton’s Family Support Worker, Majella, also joined the team, coming along most weeks to support the parents and help out with the children. She has taken the initiative to make sure we have all of the equipment we need to keep running, including supplying a fridge. She has been a wonderful asset and a great person to have around. Thank you Majella.

The final playgroup for 2012 will run on Friday 7th of December at 9am. Here we will have a Christmas themed session. We will have Christmas dancing and singing, a Christmas themed morning tea, and even a visit from Santa! We hope you can come along and help us celebrate what has been a great year for Winton Playgroup. Thank you to all of the volunteers, parents who supplied delicious cakes, and for the donations to the group.

In 2013, playgroup will return when school returns and Majella will be the new contact person and coordinator. The sessions will still run on Friday mornings from 9am at Winton State School’s Library. It will still continue to grow and be a fabulous asset to the town of Winton.
PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

With secondary student report cards going home today and primary reports going home on Monday we would like to take this opportunity to invite parents to have a parent teacher meeting to discuss their child’s progress this year.

If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher/s please contact the school office on 4657 2333 to arrange a time.

Thank you all for your support and contribution towards student learning at Winton State School in 2012

SPECIAL LAST BREAKFAST CLUB FOR 2012

There will be a SPECIAL FINAL BREAKFAST CLUB for 2012 next Friday (December 7th) morning at the school tuckshop.

From 8:00am bacon, eggs, cereal and toast will be served by the wonderful: Miss Karrin, Majella and Sheree.

Thank you to all that have supported Breakfast Club this year.

STUDENT TEACHER DODGEBALL

Congratulations to the TEACHERS who today won the final student teacher event for the year. The teachers dodged, ducked, dived and weaved their way to victory. Thank you to all that participated and cheered for both super teams in today’s showdown.
Higher Temperatures Predicted for Central West

With high temperatures expected across central western Queensland in coming days, the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) is anticipating an increase in calls to people suffering heat related illness.

The central west areas can expect temperatures up to 45 degrees Celsius over the weekend and early next week.

QAS Winton Officer in Charge, Heather Mumme said past experience has shown an increase in temperature meant an increase in workload for the ambulance service.

“By following a few simple guidelines you can avoid heat related illness,” Mrs Mumme said.

“Keep cool and stay healthy by:

- Drinking several glasses of water a day, more if you are working outdoors or exercising.
- Avoid alcohol and excessive amounts of coffee. Both will dehydrate you.
- Wear light, loose clothing.
- Stay in the shade if outdoors and wear sunscreen and a hat.
- Avoid the sun between 11am and 3pm when it is at its strongest.
- If you are on medication that has to be taken with food, continue taking it and eat light meals regularly.
- Make use of fans and air conditioners.
- Take extra care with children and the elderly; they can really suffer in the heat.

Check on elderly relatives and neighbours to see how they are coping.

“Signs of heat exhaustion include; flushed or pale skin, cramps, nausea, headache, dizziness, disorientation, drowsiness, fainting or collapse.

“If you suspect someone is suffering heat exhaustion call triple zero (000) immediately.”

This Sunday night there will be Christmas Carols at Patricia Bucknell Park.

A BBQ will be running from 6pm

Carols begin at 7:00pm.

Please come along and support this great local event.
Mr and Mrs Gabriel

I recently announced that Mr and Mrs Gabriel will be departing our school at the end of this year. I would like to again thank them both for their incredible efforts and dedication towards the students, staff and community here at Winton State School. You are both true professionals and I know that the future holds incredible things for both of you. I am certain that your enthusiasm will be dearly missed by many.

Mrs Howkins

As Mrs Howkins and her lovely family head to Brisbane to start their new lives we should remember the massive smile and warm hearted kindness that Mrs Howkins brought to the students at our school over the past years. I am sure everyone will join me in wishing the Howkins family all the best on their new adventure. Also, we wish you the very best of luck with the coming birth of your new baby.

Mr. and Mrs. Girodat

This week more exciting but sad news struck our school. Mrs Girodat has been successful in gaining a promotion to Barcaldine State School as Acting Head of Special Education Services. Congratulations Mrs Girodat on your new appointment. With Mrs Girodat leaving, Mr Girodat has also been successful in gaining a transfer to the role of District Relief Teacher based at Barcaldine State School. I hope you both enjoy the challenges and excitement of your new roles and on behalf of the school community I thank you both for your support and dedication towards Winton State School over the past years.

We are currently in the process of finding exceptional staff to fill two vacancies in our school. More will be revealed in a special publication next week.

THANK YOU & FAREWELL!

With the end of our fourth year in Winton approaching, we’d like to take this opportunity to thank the Winton community for all of your support during our time here. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time in Winton, made some wonderful friends and shared some unforgettable memories.

We are heading to the coast, Tannum Sands, and look to pursue our careers in teaching in this area. We will really miss the students from Winton State School and look forward to visiting in the near future and seeing you mature into successful young adults.

Thank you again and farewell!
Michael & Ebonny Gabriel
MOVING INTO HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION DAY

WHEN? Monday 3rd December, 2012 (WEEK 9)

WHERE? Winton State School

WHO? All students currently in year 6 or 7

As we are approaching the end of the year, it’s important that we consider the transitions that will be occurring in 2013. As high school is just around the corner for students currently in year 6&7, we are having a ‘moving into high school transition day’ at Winton State School. This will enable students to have a taste of subjects offered in a high school as well as ensure a smooth transition for all students in Winton to begin high school in 2013.

Below is a timetable of the classes that students will take part in:

8.50-9.00 Form
Lesson 1. Maths
Lesson 2. English
Lesson 3. Home Economics
Lesson 4. SOSE
Lesson 5. Manual Arts
Lesson 6. Science
Lesson 7. HPE
Finish at 2.55pm

If your child is currently in year 6 or 7 and has not yet experienced school life in a high school setting, please send them along to join in with their friends for a fun transition day. If you have any questions regarding the transition day or the process of transition, please don’t hesitate to contact the school.