Development Cup

Last Friday afternoon and evening a group of dedicated students headed to Barcaldine for the annual development cup. This carnival for both sports gives students the opportunity to play in a safe environment and have a go.

Our netball girls did very well with a massive improvement over the course of the night. Our league boys also did well coming 3rd out of the 6 teams playing on the night.

After the games everyone headed to the Barcaldine State School to bunk down for the night. The next morning was the Central West trials for both these sports. We had a small number of students represent Winton State School in both netball and league.

Congratulations to Mitch Fogarty who gained selection into the Central West Rugby League side to play in the regional trials at Mt. Isa early next term. Well done to Mitch and all other students who played.

A big thank you to Helen Fogarty and Michael Gabriel who helped out over the weekend.
From The Principal

Dear Students, Parents and Friends

It has been a busy and exciting fortnight for us at Winton State School. I am pleased to announce that our students are looking fantastic in their school uniforms. Thank you to everyone for making such a big effort to come in uniform - your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Congratulations must be extended to all that participated last Friday in the Football / Netball Development Cup at Barcaldine. From all accounts you represented our school well and demonstrated great sportsmanship. Special congratulations are extended to Mitch Fogarty who was selected to be the Hooker for the Central West Under 12 Rugby League Team—congratulations Mitch!

With the end of the term quickly approaching I would like to take this opportunity to formally announce a few changes to our human resource plan for term two. Firstly, many of you are already aware Belinda McKeough has been transferred from Winton State School to Barcaldine State School from term two. As Belinda is on maternity leave I have not had the privilege of working with her; from all accounts her diligence and commitment to the children at Winton State School will be dearly missed. We all wish Belinda and her family the very best of fortune in her new posting.

Further, from term two our year 4/5/6 classroom will be able to call Mrs Amanda Girodat their classroom teacher. While through term one Mrs Girodat and Mrs Crapp have been team teaching in this room, from term two Mrs Crapp will be working four and half days each week in her assigned role as Head of Curriculum. By providing Mrs Crapp with more time to fulfil the role of Head of Curriculum we will be providing greater opportunities to all students across the school as her talents and highly enthusiastic commitment to excellence in education is unleashed. If you have any questions about this change please don’t hesitate to make contact with me.

Finally, this afternoon is our P&C meeting and I will be using this opportunity to present our revised actions for the final two years of our National Partnership Agreement. I again welcome everyone to attend the P&C meeting which will be in the new building at 5:00pm.

I hope you are all enjoying term one. If I can be of any assistance please don’t hesitate to make contact.

Yours Sincerely
Mick Lawrance
Principal

Some Proposed Investments
2012/2013

$100 000 for additional teacher and teacher aide time to support our Learning Support Program.

$60 600 towards improving student attendance and behaviour.

$29 000 towards science, literacy and numeracy resources.

$26 000 towards the celebration and development of deeper understandings of Indigenous Australian Cultures.

$21 000 towards senior pathways and student leadership development.

$11 800 towards school community partnerships.

RREAP COMMUNITY ORGANISATION FUNDING

Round One has now closed. All applicants will be advised of their success in round one by Friday, March 24th 2012.

Applications are now being accepted for round two.

A minimum of $1748.00 will be available in round two.

Applications close April 13th 2012.

For your application kit please email the.principal@wintonss.eq.edu.au
News from Prep/1

Wowee! It's already Week 8! Where has the time gone? Lucky the Prep/1 class is still working hard and achieving great things.

In English we have focused on our new sounds, as well as recognising emotion and rhyme in text. This is tying in nicely with practising for the upcoming poetry festival. Thanks to those parents who have been practising at home. I know it can be a bit of a handful but it will pay off in the end.

In maths, the students are now dappling in the wonderful world of subtraction. The students have been subtracting with pirates, counters and naughty sheep that won't stay in the paddock once they've been mustered and drafted.

In technology, the students have been using their ingenuity to construct floating boats, and creature catchers. Some of the inventions haven't worked, but that is all part of the fun and excitement!

In science and SOSE, we have continued to monitor our sunflowers. There have been a few losses along the way, but it has all been a part of learning about ideal living environments. The students have been looking at what can be helpful and damaging to an animal's environment. They have created miniature homes for different animals with different needs, and have come up with some interesting reasons that we need to protect the homes of native animals.

With our Friends program, the students have been looking at ways to make themselves feel better when they or a friend is upset, and some fantastic and fun ways to relax. The milkshake breathing was an absolute hit, even if it was a bit tricky to avoid drinking the water!

Parents don't forget you are welcome into the classroom early every Friday afternoon to look at photos from the week and for the Friday Dance Off!

Year 2/3

We have welcomed three fish into our class as our pets. They are called Goldie, Albert and Spot. This week in English we have been learning about poetry by looking at how some poems use rhyming words and some poems have a specific layout like cinquains. In maths we are looking at patterns and determining what a pattern actually is. In science, we have learnt about the wattle tree and how it is used in the indigenous culture when the tree is living and non-living. Also, last week the year 3’s did a practise NAPLAN test in reading, grammar and mathematics. Finally, I would like to congratulate this week’s spelling superstars Claudia, Blair, Cody, David and Jaylah who all got 100% on their spelling test.
Year 4/5/6 News

Year 4/5/6 have been powering ahead over the last two weeks. In English we are currently learning about how to make our spoken presentations more appealing to our audiences. We have been given a copy of our individual poems to take home and practice. We are asking our parents to remind us when we practice to use: VOICE (pitch, pace, pause and tone), GESTURE, and FACIAL EXPRESSION. These are the three things we will be assessed on for our performance of our poems.

In maths we have had a huge focus on fractions. Some things we can do at home to help us understand fractions better are: helping with the cooking (measuring tools are often in fractions), serving dinner (talking about fair and equal portions, e.g. if there are 5 people in your family, each person needs one fifth of the potato), cutting the sandwiches for lunch (halves and quarters), asking questions such as, “if I have 2/4 of the sandwich, what is the equivalent fraction?”, have a fraction hunt to see if you can find any other examples of fractions at home.

In science and technology, we planned and developed our prototypes of our packages. Next week we will be evaluating our prototypes in order to make any changes that are required to improve the quality and effectiveness of our packages. We will have a particular focus on making our packages environmentally friendly as this was part of our original design brief.

In art we explored symbolism in relation to the opposite aspects of our personalities. We did some great self-portraits to reflect the different sides of our personalities. In SOSE we were fortunate enough to visit the Waltzing Matilda Centre. On Thursday we ventured down to the Waltzing Matilda Centre on our excursion into the past of Winton. We were lucky enough to have our own tour guides Mr John East and Mrs Murphy from the historical society. As you can see we had a lot of fun!

BREAFKFAST CLUB

From this coming Monday our school, in partnership with the local Youth Officer, will be running a Breakfast Club here at Winton State School. From 8:00am each Monday and Friday morning students are welcome to come along for breakfast and enjoy a nutritious breakfast to help them start their day.

Mrs Justine Clarke, one of our awesome teacher aides, and Sheree Miller, local youth support officer, will be running the program from the tuckshop.

We look forward to seeing many of you this coming Monday.

Kindest Regards
Mick Lawrance
Principal
Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 English
Just a note letting you know there will be no spelling homework for the last 2 weeks of term. Instead students should be working on their assessment items, including bush poetry.

Prevocational Maths
Students are going forth in the subject very well. They have already handed in one piece of assessment and are just about to receive another one. Students are reminded that extra work should be done at home to complete assessment and students should complete some homework to ensure they know the content.

English Communication
Students are on track to completing their second piece of assessment. This assessment is a spoken piece and will be completed early next week.

Recreation Studies
Students are half way through their assessment piece. They have to write and implement a tennis lesson plan and reflect and evaluate the effectiveness of the lesson according to all the content that they have learnt throughout the term. Our tennis is definitely improving as well.

7/8 SCIENCE
7/8’s have been learning about properties of materials and how different materials have different purposes. Students have been busy testing a wide range of fabrics to gain an understanding of the properties best suited for a science laboratory coat. We tested natural and synthetic fibres conducting absorbency tests, flammability tests and chemical tests to determine which was the most suitable. As part of their assessment, students will continue to test materials and design a laboratory coat from the ideal fabric according to their testing results. Stay tuned to find out the A grade material!

SECONDARY ART!
Check out some of our artwork from the year 9/10 art class. There has been a focus on portraits, explicitly focussing on facial features and shading. We have some fascinating artists in the 9/10 class. See if you can guess who has been drawn in each picture…
Girls on a mission – Is a program which helps young women develop self worth, a positive identity and change the worrying trends of bullying, poor body image, family conflict and teenage stress. Last year a number of girls participated in “Girls with a Purpose” at the Youth Centre. This year we are changing it up and running ‘Girls on a Mission’ at the school on Tuesdays during first break. The first session will be on Tuesday 24th April. Myself and Karissa from Isa Skills Longreach will be running the program with guest speakers coming in some weeks.

Girls are welcome to bring in lunch during these sessions. A permission form will need to be filled out by parents/guardians in order for your child to attend. I will be handing out these forms at the school this week. ‘Girls on a Mission’ is open to girls in grade 8-12. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me on 4657 2666 or 0427 860 874.

Sheree Miller
Youth Development Officer

North West Rugby League trials a success!

On Friday the 2nd of March, we hosted the North West Rugby League trials for secondary students. I am very pleased to say that these trials were a huge success. A big thank you to all who helped out in some way especially to Dolly Grant and her Winton Junior Rugby League crew who catered for the hungry young men. It is great to see some wonderful Rugby League talent in the North West region come to Winton.

Michael Gabriel
**NEW**

Friday’s 9-11am @ Winton State School Library

From expecting mums & families of children age 0 to 4

Themed Activities Include; Music, Art & Stories

Enclosed Courtyard and Playground

Morning tea, tea & coffee provided for parents

(please bring morning tea for children)

Phone - Emily: 0428464104 or Mandy: 0428 723 403

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Playgroup News

Our first Play Group was a great success! We had 10 gorgeous children and their beautiful mums join in with our ‘Farm’ themed songs, stories and art activity. The children enjoyed the safe, gated court-yard and shaded playground, while the mums enjoyed a cuppa and morning tea. Thank you to Winton State School for sponsoring this group and providing the location, to Reverend Ann for finding the previously purchased toys and equipment, Mick Heslin for moving the stuff for us, and to the mums for getting in there and helping to make the group a success!

We are looking for donations of clean, working toys, puzzles and games (for indoor and outdoor use), for ages 0 – 4 years. We could also use more art and craft supplies, and some crockery. If you can help in any way please contact Emily (0428 464 104) or Mandy (0428 723 403). Thank you.

Please come along and enjoy the great benefits of playgroup. This week’s theme is ‘Jungle’ and next week’s theme is ‘Space.’

Emily & Mandy
Leukaemia Foundation Shave for a Cure

ICY CUPS and CUP CAKES for a CURE!

This time I promise the Icy cups will have set!!!!! Even though they were still a tasty and refreshing treat, I will put them in TODAY so they certainly have more than enough time to set.

There will be icy cups (50c) and cupcakes ($1) available at the first lunch on Friday in the Tuckshop. Please support this great cause!!!! The Easter Sunday that I am shaving it is FAST approaching and I would really like to have made a worthwhile contribution. I can’t do this without your help.

If you could donate some cupcakes for Friday, It would be very, very, very greatly appreciated!