Reading Wins

Our recent collection of reading data has returned exceptional results. Every five weeks our school formally conducts a data capture of student achievement. At the end of week five this term our students in P-6 showed tremendous improvement.

The collection of this data measures the effectiveness of our learning programs against each student's progress. For the majority of our students our learning program is proving to be outstanding, yielding results greater than 3 times the expected progression rate.

Our biggest movers and groovers in the area of reading for the last five week period were: Joselle Hampton and Ellie Kypridis. A massive congratulation to Blake Mitchell who has shown the greatest improvement since the beginning of this year.

Finally, a massive thank you to our hard working teachers, teacher aides and parent helpers who are working tirelessly - to make student learning at Winton State School great!
Dear Students, Parents and Friends

We are now halfway through term three and the school is bustling. I am delighted to be able to report that our last 5 weekly data capture for primary reading results has returned exceptional results.

Every five weeks our school formally captures data on reading levels of our primary students. This allows us to monitor the improvement in student results and measure the effectiveness of learning programs on student learning. This cycle our results have indicated that our reading program is slightly higher than 4 times the expected average. Further, our reading support program is measuring approximately 24 times higher than the recognised educationally researched average (Hattie 2008.)

With such fantastic results I would like to congratulate all of our teachers, teacher aides, parent volunteers and students on the brilliant energy and effort that is going into improving reading in our school.

Our attendance raffle is well underway and students have been receiving their attendance tickets. An additional element has been added to the raffle to allow bonus tickets to be given to either the boys or girls each Friday – this is determined by the average percentage rate of the boy and girl groups across the term. Last week the girls were in front of the boys by 1.1%. As of yesterday the boys had closed this gap and are now only 0.3% behind the girls. Come on boys you can get the bonus tickets this week!

Our school photos will be taken next Monday, August 20th. Please ensure your child has returned their photo payment slip and is dressed in school uniform for this occasion. Also next week, our school will be affected by new school zone times. This will mean that motorist travelling around our school will need to be extra vigilant and reduce their speed between the hours of 7:00am - 9:00am and 2:00pm and 4:00pm. Thank you for making the roads around our school a safer place for students.

Finally, let me again congratulate all of our students on their superb efforts. It is so pleasing to see so many of our students setting personal academic goals, and making enormous efforts to work towards classroom and school wide goals. One of our goals at the moment is to work at improving the presentation of our book work. Thank you everyone for your efforts and commitment to this goal.

Keep working hard and if I can be of any assistance please don't hesitate to make contact.

Yours Sincerely
Mick Lawrance
Principal

Every Day Counts
Is your child at school today?

At Winton State School we recognise that every day counts. Research shows that students who attend school the most have the greatest chance of academic improvement.

The purpose of this article is simply to draw your attention to the fact that our school has a target of 90% - 95% attendance. In the event that your child is away it is required that you contact the school to inform the reason for your child’s absence and the length of time they are expected to be away. If we do not hear from you one of our staff will contact you to ascertain this information. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Attendance Data—Term Three!

The Top Three Year Levels

Year 1 - 92.4%
Year 7 - 91.8%
Year 6 - 91.4%

Boys v Girls (as at Tuesday 14th August)

Girls 86.7%
Boys 86.4%

Coincidentally, today’s attendance rate is the best for the entire term. 95.6% - Great!

P&C Meeting

Notice is given that the next meeting of the Winton State School P&C Committee will be on:

September 12th 2012
We have recently had an upgrade of our telecommunication system. As a result our phone number has changed and we have added a new student absence line.

Please note the following numbers for your future reference.

**School Administration (main number)**  (07) 4657 2333
Use this line for general enquiries or if you wish to talk to be transferred to a particular staff member.

**Student Absence Line**  (07) 4657 2366
Use this line if you wish to advise the school that your child is going to be absent. When calling the student absence line you will be greeted by a voice service and asked to leave a message detailing the name of your child, their class and the reason for the absence and how long they are expected to be away for.

You may call the school at any time of the day and night. If the office is unattended you will be greeted by a voice service and asked to leave a message.
As I have had the pleasure of visiting our classrooms this term, I have been really impressed with the obvious increase in effort coming from all our students. There are some key questions I like to ask as I am moving around. These questions can also be useful at home for starting conversations about your child’s day.

1. What is our job when we are at school?
2. What are you learning?
3. What is your teacher looking for?
4. How do you get a good mark in this subject?

The response to question one; to learn, is one of the most powerful. It doesn’t matter if we are not the best at something, as long as we are putting in 100% effort and learning as much as we can.

Our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (available on our website) outlines the school expectations for being safe, responsible and respectful as leaders and learners in our school. I have included the extract below for what this looks like in our classrooms. It is always great to talk with your child about how school behaviour is different from home behaviour (for example – we don’t have to put our hand up to speak at the dinner table, but we do when we are at school).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>We are Safe</th>
<th>We are Responsible</th>
<th>We are Respectful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>While Learning</td>
<td>Behave sensibly</td>
<td>Participate in all aspects of the school program</td>
<td>Follow teachers’ classroom routines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>we:</td>
<td>Know about and obey fire and lockdown procedures</td>
<td>Follow staff directions</td>
<td>Value others’ differences and opinions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Report damage and injuries to a staff member</td>
<td>Do our best</td>
<td>Recognise others’ right to learn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Put away all equipment after use</td>
<td>Raise hands before speaking</td>
<td>Are respectful of own, school and others’ property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow the classroom rules</td>
<td>Work independently</td>
<td>Speak in a respectful manner to teachers and peers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow health and safety rules</td>
<td>Submit assessment on the due date</td>
<td>Ask appropriate questions and add to discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Have a broad brimmed hat for sport and outdoor learning</td>
<td>Are on time to class with appropriate materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. [http://www.triplep.net/cicms/assets/pdfs/pg1as100gr5so183.pdf](http://www.triplep.net/cicms/assets/pdfs/pg1as100gr5so183.pdf)

Rebecca Crapp
Head of Curriculum
This term in Early Childhood, the girls have been learning how to care for a baby. All of the girls have taken our ‘virtual babies’ home for two days and one night. I’m pleased to say that both girls and babies survived and most passed with flying colours!

Thanks to the families for putting up with the addition to their families for the night.

One of our in class activities was looking at various baby foods and the girls tried guessing which foods were which with some hilarious results!

Last week the girls had to demonstrate their knowledge of bathing, dressing and wrapping a baby (Thanks to Matilda for lending us ‘Jessie’!).

For the next part of their assessment, the girls will be providing a morning tea for students from the Prep/1 class. This will happen on Wednesday 29th August. The girls are in the process of finalising their menus.
Prep / Year 1

The Prep/1 class is busy as always! Not only did we have a great time at the tennis skills day, and the Olympic Dress up Day, but we have also been working hard in class. In English, we are looking at stories involving animal characters. We are also asking lots of questions. We are learning how to use “Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?” to ask all sorts of interesting questions.

In maths, we have finished focusing on money and addition/subtraction stories. We are now looking at numbers in the teens and different ways to represent them.

In science, we have been doing lots of different experiments, to see how we can change the properties of materials. Our latest experiment involved seeing which items of food and drink would melt in the sun. Let’s just say, it got a bit messy!

For SOSE, the students are continuing to look at the differences between now and life in the past! The students enjoyed experiencing some games that were popular decades ago, and some that are still popular now. Please keep sharing stories about life in the past with your children as they make for very interesting and informative class conversations.

For art we are continuing to look at famous paintings, deciding whether they are abstract or realistic and doing our own versions of these paintings.

Miss Sunny

Year 2/3

Wow – week six already! Time sure does fly when we are all having fun!

Firstly I’d like to congratulate all the students in the 2/3 classroom for all improving in their reading! I am very proud of everyone’s hard work and their 100% effort everyday in every subject! Keep up the fantastic work!

This week in maths we have been looking at how to represent multiplication as repeated quantities and as arrays. We have discovered that multiplication is repeated addition and we do this by skip counting on a number line!

In English this week we have been performing verb and adjective word hunts within the text of *Old Pig* and *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*. We have also been constructing character profiles on Fox, Magpie & Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge. Students have been focusing on using verbs, adjectives and emotive words to best describe their characters appearance, behaviour, actions and traits.

This week in science we looked at heat sources. We looked at different types of chemical, electrical and rubbing heat sources and how they produce heat. Did you know that lightening is a natural form of electricity?

In history we have continued to learn about local historical sites within Winton and the region. We’ve started to conduct a site study on Skull Hole. The students are researching the significance of Skull Hole in our local community.

On Friday the whole class participated in a class party as part of the school positive behaviour plan. Students who reached 35 or more honours cards were awarded by participating in the class party. The 2/3s decided to watch ‘The Little Rascals’, enjoy free time on the ipads, while eating popcorn and drinking cordial. We all had a blast!

Miss Stanley & year 2/3
YEARS 4/5/6

English – We have finished our diary entries this week and have been writing letters to Xstrata and Exoma mining to ask for a corporate giving to assist in raising funds for our school camp to Camp Fairbairn.

Maths – This week our focus has been on transformations. We have looked at how transformations are in shapes and also identifying transformations in real life; turning the key in our door, sliding our windows open or putting a dvd in our dvd player and flipping the pages of our books. We created regular and semi-regular patterns using transformations. Wow, they look great!

Last week we were lucky enough to have a tennis coach visit our school to teach us the fundamental skills of tennis. There were a few bumps and bruises but all in all it was a great day.

The year 4/5/6 students and their parents are still madly fundraising for our school camp in September. On the 24th of August we will be drawing the winner of the Metal Emu’s kindly donation by Jack Fogarty. Don’t forget to get your winning ticket before next Friday. Tickets can be bought from Angie Porter, students of year 4/5/6 or in the main office at school.

Also on the 25th of August the parents of year 4/5/6 will be hosting a cake stall. Donations of eggs, packet cakes or made cakes would be greatly appreciated by the year 4/5/6 students to raise funds for camp. Donations can be dropped off at school or to Cassie Martyr.

Until next time,
Mrs Amanda Girodat

YEAR 10 MATHEMATICS

The year 10 class have been putting in a great effort over the semester. Last week the class sat through an assignment which allowed the class to demonstrate their knowledge of Pythagoras and Trigonometry. Thank you to the parents who encouraged their sons and daughters to attend school and complete all homework set. This collaboration allowed the students to produce quality work and receive a grade to reflect their effort.

This week, year 10 maths students will begin a short course in numeracy. This course has been developed for Year 10 students who want to meet the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) numeracy requirements but do not wish to study senior mathematics subjects (Provocation Mathematics or Mathematics A) in Years 11 and 12. The first assignment task is to produce a travel report where students will become familiar with reading maps and using online resources to find the most economical means of travel. Once again, a high level of student attendance will ensure all requirements are meet to complete this course and to receive a passing grade for mathematics on their year 10 report.

TECHNOLOGY

The year 9/10 class entered the workshop for the first time this semester. The class was eager to get cracking on their CO2 dragster cars after weeks of investigations and design development. The class really enjoyed themselves in the work shop. They used machinery that they have used in previous years and demonstrated confidence using the machines as well as a high level of patience while waiting for their turn. Great work year 9/10.
11/12 CONSTRUCTION

The class have been clearing and levelling an area behind the welding shed to construct the chicken coop. Carlin Ellis is happier than ever, he is back on the tractor demonstrating responsible operation techniques. Bradley Coupe and Cody Philip have been putting their minds and skills into constructing right angles for the perimeter of the chicken coop. Chris Patterson has continually provided the class with useful information and ideas about housing chickens and ways to keep chickens safe from predators. This task has required the class to record a video diary of their work. Thanks to Mick Heslin who has also been around helping with the project.

SPORTS UPDATE

Tennis QLD Visit

Last week on Thursday we were very lucky to have a couple of representatives from Tennis QLD come to our school and run some short skills clinics for our primary students and lower secondary students. From all accounts this was a huge success and all students learnt a lot in a fun and active environment. Thanks to Travis for coming out and visiting us here in Winton and thanks to all students and staff for getting involved!

HPE week and Inter-house Cross Country

Week 9 this term will be HPE week here at Winton State School as well as around the state of QLD. This has been a massive success for our school over the last couple of years with tremendous interest and participation rates. We also won a prize last year! This year there will be some new exciting challenges including the adidas run around the world event. This event requires schools to participate by running, jogging or walking on National HPE Day to create an Australian record. The goal is to have a minimum of 40,100 students involved in running, jogging, walking and smiling for no less than 1km each - equivalent to one full lap around the world. We will also have a prize for the longest time for the ‘plank’ or ‘bridge’. Below is a picture of how to perform this painful position. Get practicing! We will also have a teacher vs student match and our annual inter-house cross country during this week. Stay tuned for more information and get practicing getting those abs burning!

Michael Gabriel
HPE Teacher
This year we are planning to enter Winton State School into the Mt Isa Rock Pop Mime Eisteddfod!

This is an alcohol and drug-free school based competition where each school is to perform a six-minute themed and mimed dance routine. Rock Pop Mime is a Mount Isa Apex initiative to give a performance opportunity to the school children of North West Queensland that they would otherwise not get. Rock Pop Mime is based on the high school version of ‘Rock Eisteddfod’!

In 2008 I coached Miles State High School to a place in the Queensland final of the Rock Eisteddfod, and I saw the benefits of the students working hard as a team. It is a huge amount of fun where kids will make lifelong memories! It is also a great event for the community to get involved with. While we are unsure of some aspects going into this event – if all goes well, we can make this an annual or bi-annual event for our school!

The Eisteddfod will be held in Mt Isa on Friday the 12th of October. We have decided to enter the High School section of the competition, as our lead performers are from grades 9-11. Students have already been invited into the team and rehearsals begin this week.

We are still looking into somewhere to stay in Mt Isa on the night, and need to work out a cost effective mode of transport. We need the community to get involved. If you can help with making props, hand sewing, hot glue gunning, or can donate any means of transport of food goods, every little bit helps!

This is going to ROCK!!!!!!!!!

Mrs Lawrance!
Email elawr29@eq.edu.au

Photo – School Of The Air students getting ready for their Mt Isa Rock Pop Mime performance (2008)
PRIMARY LIBRARY

We are down to the last couple of weeks of the Premiers Reading Challenge which finishes the first week in September.

The Prep/1 class have reached their goal of 20 books each through what they have read at home, in class and in library lessons. Well done!!!

Many of the students in the Year 2/3 class have also reached their goal of 20 books with special mention going to Jaylah and Blair who have read the most books in the school.

Students in the Year 4/5/6 class have some more reading to do before reaching their goal of 20 books (Year 4) or 15 books (Year 5/6) so if your child has been reading at home, remind them to write down the name of their book and author.

Keep up the great work and Happy Reading Everyone!

Mandy Smith

RREAP COMMUNITY FUNDS

Please be aware that a sum of $5868.23 is available for round four applications.

Applications close on October 5th 2012 and are to be emailed to the.principal@wintonss.eq.edu.au or sent to:

The Principal
Winton State School
PO BOX 298
Winton Qld 4735

Application packages can be collected from the Winton State School or by contacting Mick Lawrance at the.principal@wintonss.eq.edu.au

P&C Meeting

Notice is given that the next meeting of the Winton State School P&C Committee will be on:

September 12th 2012
at
3:30pm
At
The School Administration Building
FOUR SEASONS IN ONE DAY! This week we had the theme of Seasons. The chilly winds blew but lots of beautiful faces came along for another great day! We started our morning singing lots of our favourite songs, then we sang Happy Birthday to Harry and Ashley. Each boy got a present and everyone shared their birthday cake.

We thawed out in the playground before coming in for art. We made beautiful mobiles; with a snowflake, sun, red leaf and flower to represent the seasons. High school student Makayla assisted throughout the morning, which was really helpful. Thank you. We finished the session with the classic book, ‘The Day the Wind Changed’!

The numbers are growing, and so are the beautiful giggles and smiles. We hope to see you all soon at the Winton State School Library on Fridays from 9am.

Emily
ALL WINTON PARENTS AND TEENAGERS INVITED TO A FREE

SAFE PARTY & PIZZA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST 6PM AT THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE TRAINING VENUE

ALL ENQUIRIES TO:

Majella Rayment
Family Support Worker

Ph: 07 4657 1877

Dave Kerrigan from QLD Health ATODS will be presenting DVDs, Slideshows about serious issues confronting young people

- One Punch Can Kill
- Misuse of Mobile Phones
- Risky Behavior when affected by Drugs
- Social Responsibility