Science / Techno Camp!

Last week three students Emelie Williams, August Crapp and Andrea Patterson were selected to attend a science and technology camp at Boyne Island Environmental Education Centre at Gladstone.

Students were pushed to their limits with exhilarating experiences in high ropes, low ropes, heart rate testing, technoteering, speed and velocity measuring, rocky shore and mangrove explorations and blogging.

This camp was extremely valuable as students were exposed to the varying opportunities that science offers them. Students web conferenced with various young female scientists around Queensland who spoke of their experiences as a scientist.

Thank you to Miss Rogers who escorted the girls to Boyne Island and to the girls for representing our school with honour.
From The Principal

Dear Students, Parents and Friends

I am delighted to be able to write to you about the amazing events which have been unfolding here at Winton State School this fortnight. Gifted and Talented Technology Camp, Jump Rope for Heart Presentations, Qld Arts Council and exceptional teaching and learning in our classrooms have all filled the past 10 school days.

It is amazing to think just how many exciting and rewarding opportunities our students at Winton State School are privileged to. The enthusiasm and commitment of our staff ensures that each and every day, every student at our school is treated and catered for as an individual. I think one of the real qualifiers for a great school is simply a place where we all want to come each day. I know that for me personally, Winton State School is a place that I love coming to each day.

The effort shown by our students and the commitment they are all developing to their personal learning journeys is simply outstanding. I am likewise excited by the possibilities we are looking to add to our Senior Schooling Program. Mr Jai Yong Gee, Mrs Rebecca Crapp and myself have been working hard to explore a more rigorous and fruitful senior schooling program for our Year 11/12 students. This will likely include the addition of Certificate Based Courses into our 2013 program.

Last week I spent most of my time doing lesson observations and working with our school staff to continue to improve our school’s teaching and learning programs. I am ecstatic to find that all of our staff have a true commitment to the school’s strategic plan and the actions we have within this; specifically those actions related to explicit teaching practices and embedding of literacy and numeracy across the curriculum.

Our school attendance is steadily on the improve. There is still some work to be done to get our school average above 90% but as each week passes we are getting closer. It is critical that every student attends school every day that they are well enough to attend. The number of students arriving on time and ready for class is now fantastic and I am happy to report that our lunch pass system is seeing many more students choosing to stay at school and enjoy the time here with friends.

Finally, if I can be of any assistance please don’t hesitate to make contact with me. My door is always open and I am more than happy to sit and discuss your thoughts and ideas.

Yours Sincerely
Mick Lawrance
Principal
Puppet Mania

Yesterday, August 28th, we were visited by the Queensland Arts Council's David Hamilton.

David presented Puppet Mania and enthralled students with this fun-filled and interactive performance.

Students from Prep to Year 6 had an amazing time singing, grooving and viewing this fantastic show. The event was funded by the School’s RREAP Program.

The CQ University Mobile Education Trailer

Last week we were visited by the CQ University Mobile Education Trailer (MET). The MET is a travelling education vehicle that builds affiliation with university life through a virtual tour, and expands understanding of career opportunities through stories from high profile role models. This program was delivered to students in years 4-8 and assisted students with: goal setting, understanding the multiple pathways to university and an awareness about the benefits of higher education.
Here at Winton State School we are dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment for our students, including in the online environment. The Learning and Wellbeing Framework for all Queensland state schools incorporates aspects of current practice and supports schools to:

- acknowledge the importance of wellbeing to the learning process
- develop a rich school culture and positive ethos that creates a sense of belonging and self-responsibility, leading to positive behaviour, improved student attendance and achievement
- embed social and emotional capabilities within the general curriculum
- improve educational outcomes for all students.

One of the key aspects that affects our young people across all four of these areas is communication and information technologies. We work with students to help them understand the reach and impact of the technologies that form an everyday part of their social interactions. These include social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Fango etc.

It is important that students understand the appropriate use of ICT when communicating and collaborating online. They need to adhere with social protocols appropriate to the communication context. This means:

- using appropriate language within emails, blogs and discussion forums
- knowing appropriate levels of personal information disclosure for specific online environments, including information within emails, blogs, online chats and discussion forums
- following school policy and protocols and applying netiquette when communicating in online spaces
- following an appropriate course of action in response to inappropriate messages conveyed online
- understanding ethical and unethical use of communication tools and social networking environments
- presenting an appropriate identity when communicating in an online environment e.g. using an avatar image as opposed to a personal photograph.

Parents play a key role in the attitudes and beliefs that young people hold around their use and safety in the online world. The combined efforts of both parents and teachers are essential to reducing unsafe online behaviours.

Some key questions for parents include:
1. Have we set up rules about the use of the online devices?
2. Is the computer/online device in a common area of the house?
3. Does my child know the people they are communicating with online?
4. Am I talking with my child about their online activities?

Online References:
https://classroomconnections.eq.edu.au/topics/Pages/2012/august/online-communication.aspx

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. http://www.triplep.net/cicms/assets/pdfs/pg1as100grsso183.pdf

Rebecca Crapp
Head of Curriculum
Jump Rope for Heart Visit

Last week we were again very lucky to have Amiee from the Heart foundation’s Jump Rope for Heart program come and visit our school. She came along and shared some important information with us regarding heart health and ways to be healthier in our lifestyles. Students then had the opportunity to participate in a skipping session learning some new skills and some new games. This was a great morning and all students had a ball!

GUIDANCE FILES

We all have the right to feel safe all the time
Nothing is so awful that you can’t talk with someone about it

Although many parents alert children to ‘stranger danger’ the reality is that children are more likely to experience abuse from a person who is known to them (a relative, friend or family acquaintance).

Things you can do to help protect your child

- Talk to your child – keep the communication open at every age.
- Discuss with your children about their body – their public and private parts and the proper names for these parts.
- Teach them how to recognise if they are feeling unsafe (eg feeling tense in their body, sweating, stomach pains, feeling sick).
- Use the words ‘safe or unsafe’ when possible to give them clearer understanding of what these words mean and how they feel.
- Talk to your child about ways of being safe eg. going straight home after school, walk in a group, avoid isolated areas, communicate to the parent/teacher/responsible adult, when they have uncomfortable feelings.
- Avoid being an alarmist but have an action plan for those ‘just in case’ situations. This plan should include: people they can talk to at home or school about this; things to do if they are approached eg. walk/run away, scream etc; identify safe places to go to at home or on the way home; what to do if their friend tells them they are feeling unsafe.
- Talk to your child about the dangers of ‘secrets’ that make them or others feel uncomfortable
- Help your child identify who they feel comfortable to talk with. Get them to identify 5 adults from home/school/family/family friends

As a parent it is up to you to put in place everything possible to ensure your child’s safety. If you feel uncertain or uncomfortable about a situation then do what is needed to put your mind at ease even though your child might feel you are over-reacting. It’s more important to have no regrets. Talk to your guidance officer if you need help.

Some helpful contacts include:

- Parent Line: 1300 30 1300
- Department of Communities (Child Safety Services): 1800 811 810
- Lifeline: 13 11 14 (24 hour crisis counselling line)
- Family Planning Queensland: www.fpq.com.au for ideas and resources

Mr. Tony Sinclair
Guidance Officer
Classroom Updates

Prep / Year 1

The Prep/1 class has had a HUGE couple of weeks, with lots of exciting and interesting adventures. Our class had their party to celebrate receiving lots of honour cards throughout the term. We had party food, decorations, music, face painting and pass the parcel. It was a blast!

The class went down to the Waltzing Matilda Centre Regional Art Gallery to take a peek at the new exhibition on display: The Moderns. There were some interesting art works and it was a great opportunity for the students to show off their knowledge of abstract and realistic paintings.

Last week, our class were lucky enough to have a visit from the Fire Brigade so we could have our Fire Ed talk. The students had a great time learning about how to be safe with fire, and what to do in an emergency. We also got to have a photo with Blazer Bear, which was fantastic! As well as that, the P/1s enjoyed a visit from the Jump Rope for Heart group, with the students able to try their hand at doing the long rope. We certainly have some budding skippers!

In SOSE, we have been looking at life in the past, and got to try our hand again, at some games that kids would have played in the past. In English, we have been exploring the Anthony Browne books, and looking at different types of questions, in preparation for our interviews. The Prep/1 class has also been working on mapping in maths, and have had a lot of fun creating mud maps, and playing with the BeeBots.

Well done to the Prep/1 class, who have been working like troopers. Let’s keep up the great work until the end of the term!

Miss Sunny
Prep/1

Year 2/3

In the 2/3 classroom we have been learning about measurement focusing on area, capacity and length. We have also been conducting chance experiments with dice and coins. In English we put the finishing touches on our character biographies and have started to look at letters as a new genre.

Everyone has also been working really hard on their handwriting and have made great improvements in this area. In science we conducted an experiment where we had to measure the temperature of hot chocolate in different cups over time and decide which cup kept the hot chocolate the warmest. The results showed that it was the paper cup that kept the hot chocolate the warmest.

Mrs Howkins and the 2/3 Class
Winner of the Metal Emu Raffle – Nipper Stanley

This week in the Year 4/5/6 class we have been working very hard on our academics. But nothing we did was as exciting as the news Mr Lawrance brought us on Thursday afternoon.

The students wrote letters to an energy company last week who were so happy to receive letters from our students that they contacted us and asked that we keep working hard in our fundraising efforts for camp. They then also said that the company will cover the rest of the costs for camp! YAY!

This means camp will only cost a $10 deposit per child. If you have not paid the deposit and would like your child to attend camp, please send in the money to school ASAP.

Technology

In the 9/10 technology class students have immersed themselves in the latest project and are looking at completing their CO2 dragsters well before expected.

At present the class are applying their layers of paint to reduce surface friction and some students have begun adding colours. At this rate the class will race their cars within the next fortnight.

The year 4/5/6 technology class are underway constructing their bridges. Groups have drawn blue prints and then used their blue prints to increase the drawing size by a scale factor to measure and cut their timber. All groups have taken to this task with enthusiasm and have demonstrated leadership within their groups.

Once again, great work apprentice builders!

Mr. Leigh Holmes
Creative arts

Over the past few months in creative arts, students have been busy at working tiling and spinning at the Creative Arts building in town. Thank you to Nea McQueen for lending us at Winton State School the use of such a wonderful and inspirational setting.

Our second major unit has been working with digital photography. The class successfully learned the ins and outs of sophisticated and technologically advanced equipment to compile and portray beautiful and sometimes humorous environments around us.

Thank you to Gavin at the Winton Newsagency for accommodating our power needs for our camera. Thank you also to the Winton pharmacy for accommodating the use of the printer for Winton State School.

Above: Hibiscus Flower photographed by Bradley

By Michael Girodat

7&8 Arts

In the arts this term we have been learning about masks and the cultures they can come from and have just finished up making our own from paper mache. Our next focus will be using our masks in a mime!

Miss Collett-Dyer
Rehearsals are looking AWESOME! We are well on our way to completing the 6 minute dance routine - then it will be time to polish, polish, polish!

Last week, we started fitting our dance costumes. These were looking good, but they need ‘blinging’ up! I sent home navy cap-sleeve leotards and sequins with the Vogue Inters 2 group. Sequins need to be hand-sewn on the left chest area. These need to be individually sewn (because of the stretch in the fabric), NOT GLUED. I still need to organise the boys’ shirts, and the umbrella groups trousers. The fabric has arrived for the back-drop and I am still waiting on the new umbrellas and hair pieces.

**WORKING BEE**

*We need to have a working bee to put together our backdrop, decorate the umbrellas and more. If you can hold a paint brush or glue-gun, we need you!!*

*Please come along to Winton State School on Sunday 9th September from 9am.*

*Any help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you*

Mrs Lawrance!
Phone 46572333
Email elawr29@eq.edu.au

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**Student Council**

The Student Council will be hosting a Freaky Friday Fun Night early next term. We have been planning games and prizes as well as the Haunted House! There will also be a bottle stall, so we would really appreciate any donations of clean empty bottles, prizes to put into the bottles or pre-filled bottles. During the night we will be fund raising for Canteen as well. So watch this space for future details!

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**MAD Camp 2012**

Artslink Queensland is delivering a week-long, multi-arts intensive residency program for secondary school students in years 10, 11 and 12 during the first week of the 2012 September school holidays.

MAD Camp provides an opportunity for creative young people from all over Queensland to come together to develop and extend their skills and abilities in a range of arts practices. The residency will be held at Ipswich Girls Grammar School (IGGS).

The MAD Camp program consists of:
- Daily sessions in music, art, dance and drama, with recognised industry professionals as tutors
- Master classes with the best of Artslink Queensland’s In Schools Touring Program
- Live performances
- Excursions to the Cultural Precinct at Brisbane’s South Bank
- Backstage tours of theatres and cultural institutions

*The John Villers Trust is offering a subsidy of $200.00 for people attending the full camp.*


*Shereee Miller*
*Youth Development Officer*
Our Early Childhood Studies students have been working over the past few weeks to design and develop a menu suitable for early years students. The task required them to ascertain the likes and dislikes of our students and provide healthy food that the students would eat.

By the absence of food at the end of morning tea I would suggest that the task was achieved successfully, and that Andrea, Makayla and Amy all did an awesome job at providing for our Prep to year 6 students. Well done girls!

OUR BUSIEST PLAYGROUP YET!!
Babies, babies, babies! It was certainly a gorgeous way to start a Friday, seeing so many gorgeous toddlers and babies having a great time! It was our busiest playgroup to date – with 10 families in attendance. We also had the help of Majella, the local family health worker, who was giving lots of baby cuddles and playing with the toddlers on the play equipment.

The theme was pets, and the children got to make colourful paper-plate dog faces. We also sang lots of songs and read lots of stories. It was a fantastic day and we hope to see even more of you there next week!

Winton Playgroup
Fridays 9am
Winton State School Library
SPORTS UPDATE

HPE week
Next week (Week 9) 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 will be some new exciting challenges as we go head to head with other schools around the state in the daily lunch time challenges. For all these events, there will be daily primary and high school prizes as well as the aim to get as much participation as possible!

Check out the program below:

Monday – Basketball Free Throw challenge - Students can see how many shots they can get in from the free throw line in 30 Seconds. Sounds easy but is very hard! Most shots in will win a prize!

Tuesday – Plank hold challenge – Students and staff can have a crack at holding the plank position and get those abs burning. Longest hold will win a prize!

Wednesday – adidas run around the world challenge - 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.

Thursday – Dance challenge (Zumba, Nutbush and Macarena) – Students can have a dance off to see who can pump out the best dance moves and see how many students we can get dancing!

Friday – Futsal challenge – Whole school futsal challenge. Let's see how many students we can get participating!

Student vs Teacher match– In period 7 on Friday there will be another instalment of a teacher vs student match. In previous matches it has been a close affair and I am sure this will be no different. The sport is yet to be announced but it will be a block buster no matter what!

Inter-house Cross Country
On Friday of next week, we will be holding our annual inter-house cross country event. This will take place at 9 am sharp starting from our school oval. Students will then make their way toward the golf course. Our little guys will turn around here and head back while our bigger guys will navigate around the course and then finally finish at school. This will be a great way to finish a great HPE week. Be sure to get into your house team spirit, who will prevail? Will it be the mighty Flynn team or the magnificent Paterson crew? Time will tell!

Footy Colours Day
Footy Colours Day is held on Friday 7th September 2012 (Friday week 9 – next week!) and is the one day in September that you can help fight cancer and change lives. Thousands of Australians unite and don their favourite football team’s colours, be it AFL, NRL, Rugby Union or Soccer – to help raise money for children living with cancer. On this day you can wear your football team’s colours all day— jerseys, scarves, beanies or anything else you have — and make a donation to the Fight Cancer Foundation. Student council will be collecting the gold coin donation and making the contribution to the Fight Cancer Foundation. Wear your team’s colours loud and proud!

Michael Gabriel
HPE Teacher
WHEN: WEDNESDAY 5TH 7 PM FOR PARENTS (OR INTERESTED ADULTS)
THURSDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER TEENS OR TWEENS (if permitted)
WHERE: WINTON YOUTH CENTRE

Both nights will feature an hour long DVD that has a unique mix of wit, charm and personal warmth to deliver this expert information and advice in an approachable, unconfrontational manner,

that won’t make kids or their parents squirm.

“The Talk” DVD talks about sex and relationships in a frank, informed and non-threatening way.

Hosted by Nelly Thomas, the DVD features a mixture of humorous and entertaining sketches, songs, celebrity interviews and comedy, as well as interviews with health and other experts from relevant fields.

Of course The Talk covers off on the physical aspects of sex: the nuts and bolts of anatomy and sexual health; but importantly, it also addresses the emotional aspects of sex: The Talk recognizes that sometimes the hardest part about sex is not about the physical but the mental, and talks about establishing and maintaining respectful relationships.

Suitable for ages 13+
Rated M - mature themes and sexual references

Majella Rayment
Family Support Worker

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FOR CATERING PURPOSES
PLEASE REGISTER your interest with SHEREE OR MAJELLA