Welcome to our School

Recently at Winton State School we have been joined by some remarkable individuals who further value add to our school community. Constable Chris Wallis has now been assigned as our school’s Adopt a Cop, Reverend Anne has joined us as School Chaplain and Miss Fleur has joined us as a Teacher Aid.

All have made fabulous starts in these roles engaging with our school in positive and supportive ways. Constable Chris and Miss Fleur even assisted the staff soccer team last Friday in their victorious win over the student team.

Reverend Anne has been busy enthusiastically getting involved wherever she can: rat dissections, basketball, manual arts and chatting with our P-3’s at lunch are all activities we have caught her doing.

Coming Events

- September 14th: Year 4/5/6 return from Camp
- September 17th: Year 10 Work Experience Starts
  Prep/1 Fire Education Wet Day
- September 21st: Last Day of Term 3
- September 21st: Attendance Raffle Drawn.
- September 21st: Prep/1 Excursion to Art Gallery
- October 8th: First Day Term 4
- October 12th: Rock Pop Mime Competition
Dear Students, Parents and Friends

This will be our final newsletter for term three. I am so delighted to be able to write to you all about the amazing events, learning and activities which have been occurring this term. Our students have improved greatly in all aspects of their schooling and let me put it up front that I am personally so very proud of each and every one of them.

This fortnight that has passed has been action packed. While our classroom learning continues to be our number one focus, our extra curricula activities have firmly enhanced this learning. Last week we saw a wide array of lunchtime activities for HPE Week. This was an amazing event thanks to the leadership and dedication of our school staff especially Mr Gabriel and Miss Rogers.

The CSIRO visited last week and enhanced our science program with a great range of hands on learning opportunities. On Monday this week our secondary students were treated to a fabulous production by Motivational Media. This production showcased the impact that risk taking behaviours have on our lives.

Our Year 4/5/6 class are currently away on camp and from all reports they are having a wonderful time at Lake Fairbairn. It is almost certain Mrs Girodat and Mr Heslin will return this Friday looking exhausted and worn, but also having had a stack of fun with our fantastic students in the 4/5/6 class.

Next week is our last week of the school term and I am looking really forward to drawing the Term 3 attendance raffle. This draw will take place at assembly in the last period of the day. Students will need to be present all day to be eligible to win a prize.

Don’t forget that our breakfast club is running every Monday and Friday from our school tuckshop. This is a free service to all students who are looking for a good start to their day. Thank you very much to Miss Karrin, Sheree Miller and Majella Rayment who have all been running breakfast club.

Finally, 25 of our students will be travelling to Mt Isa early next term for the 2012 Rock Pop Mime Competition. This event will showcase the wonderful talent we have in our school. Last weekend, students, staff and community members rallied together to create and finalise props and alike for this event. Many thanks to all involved and particularly to Mrs Lawrance, Miss Erin, Miss Janelle Miss Fleur for their leadership and commitment to this wonderful opportunity.

Yours Sincerely
Mick Lawrance
Principal
Last week, Katie from the CSIRO visited Winton State School and helped students to work scientifically through many experiments. The prep - year 3 students worked with physics, investigating magnets, rubber bands, balloons, light and sound. Year 4-12 students worked through experiments from various strands of science. They studied water turbidity, how the mass of a car affects distance travelled, sugar content of various drinks, dissolving rate of sugar cubes with different surface areas, magnetic strength and many more. It was fantastic to see students engaging with science! Katie was thoroughly impressed with the scientific skills that students at Winton State School presented during experimentation.
HOC SPOT

IT’S OUR PREP OPEN DAY!

Over the last few years, Winton State School has increased its focus on the transition of our youngest learners as they begin their schooling journey. We have built productive partnerships with the early childhood sector in the community and have been engaging in an action research project around increasing the success levels of the transition process. A key element of the research involves the collection stories about each child from the people who know them best, before they even start school. The stories are then analysed to find out each child’s strength areas. This gives our prep teacher the best possible information to ensure each child is being individually catered for from the very first day of school. We are starting to see the results of this translating into higher levels of academic success for our students. If anyone would like any further information about our action research project, please feel free to contact me.

Today is our prep open day. This is the first step in ensuring a successful transition to “Big School”. We are delighted in 2012 to be offering this in conjunction with the staff from “Little Swaggies”. Throughout term 4 we will be running “Transition Days” each Wednesday morning so that our incoming 2012 prep students can get to know their teacher, teacher aides, other staff and other students, whilst still spending most of their time in a familiar environment. Families are the most important part of this transition process. Below are some tips for helping your prep student experience a successful start to the next step in their lives.

1. Start health checks (eye, dental, hearing). Ensure immunisation is up to date.
2. Practise independent skills with your child (going to the toilet and dressing independently, being responsible for their own clothes and toys).
3. Complete enrolment forms and return them to the school, along with a copy of your child’s birth certificate.
4. Meet with other parents by joining in at playgroup – held in the Winton State School library at 9am each Friday.
5. Buy uniforms (available from Searles) and label everything!
6. Practise eating lunch with a lunch box, opening drinks and putting things back in a school bag – taking a picnic to the park in a lunchbox is a fun holiday/weekend activity to practise this!
7. Practise walking to school.
8. Check your school’s start date for next year.
9. In January practise morning routines and wearing uniforms…and be positive!

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. http://www.triplep.net/cicms/assets/pdfs/pg1as100gr5so183.pdf

Rebecca Crapp
Head of Curriculum
Effective Discipline

Psychological research has shown that following up a person’s behaviour with something positive makes it more likely that the behaviour will happen again. Praise and other kinds of acknowledgement are motivating, and are often needed to help children change their behaviour.

Sounds too easy?

What else might be needed?

Is what you have asked the child to do clear enough? Saying “I want you to pick up the clothes off the floor in your room before you go out to play” is clearer than saying “I want you to tidy your room”.

Are you asking for behaviour that your child can do? Sometimes we ask children to do things that are too difficult for them to do without help.

Are you asking them to do too many things at once?

Do you find that you are getting angry with your child for things not done more often than praising his or her efforts?

You can help children to learn positive behaviours by telling them clearly what you want and praising or rewarding them when they do it.

Catch Your Child Being Good

Keep a record of the behaviours you are pleased about. Reading them over together from time to time will be a positive experience for both you and your child. You may ask: “Is praise enough to motivate my child?” Praise and acknowledgement work in most cases, but sometimes you may need to add an incentive plan with rewards to help change behaviour. If you do add an incentive plan, think carefully about your choice of reward.

Ideas for a reward menu:

⇒ play game with parent
⇒ favourite (healthy) meal
⇒ stay up late (to a reasonable time)
⇒ have a friend over
⇒ sports equipment use
It is only a matter of weeks until Winton State School goes to Mt Isa to represent our community at the Rock Pop Mime Eisteddfod. This eisteddfod is based on the very successful and long running high school Rock Eisteddfod competition. A team of up to 35 students create a 6 minute mimed dance routine with a theme and compete against other schools from around Central West Queensland. It is a huge annual event; with full hair, make-up, costumes, props and backdrops.

Winton State School’s theme is ‘There’s Something in the Water’. Twenty-two students have been working very hard to create a very professional act. They are dancing with props (which is very hard to do) and demonstrating a range of dance styles. With long rehearsals, the group has come together and completed a piece that will show the rest of the region just how talented our local kids are!

Last Sunday we held a working bee. Here, the students, staff and parents who came along worked tirelessly to create an amazing backdrop, stage prop and handheld props. The Men’s Shed came on board with the project and created an amazing set piece for us. Tony Cant from Winton Painting Services donated lots of colourful paint! We are so very lucky to have such generous people in our community. Thank you.

We are competing on October the 12th in Mt Isa, and will be leaving here very early in the morning to get there for our only stage rehearsal. Wednesday 10th October, we will be showcasing our final production for the community. This will be at the Winton Council Hall from 6:30pm. The students will showcase the full production as it will be performed in Mt Isa. We hope to see as many locals coming along to see what our Winton kids are made of!
Prep / Year 1

Once again, it has been a HUGE couple of weeks for those of us in the Prep/1 class. As a class, and as part of the primary school, we were lucky enough to experience the wonderful puppet show that was presented to us. As an audience we were able to enjoy the show and some of us were even invited up to help volunteer. The students and teachers also learnt lots of interesting ways to bring ordinary household items to life as PUPPETS. To cap off the show the students did their own rendition of the famous “Waltzing Matilda”. We were also given the opportunity to test out our scientific knowledge, with a visit from CSIRO. The students had an absolute ball exploring all of the mini experiments.

Our class has also been treated to a wonderful morning tea, provided by the senior students, which we thoroughly enjoyed and found extremely delicious! Thanks to the seniors!

In maths, the students have been looking at mapping, and have had to follow both mud maps, and aerial maps around the school grounds. As a class, we are all now very good at working out how we each travel to school. In English, we are completing our interviews, based on the Anthony Browne books we have read in class. We have some up and coming Sunrise presenters for sure!

In SOSE we have been looking at life in the past, and we were lucky to catch hold of Mrs Greenwood to tell us what it was like for her when she was six. Our class couldn’t get over the fact that back then, there was NO plastic!!! Very interesting!

Finally, a big shout out goes to all the people who helped out with the cross country on Friday! Prep/1 had a fantastic time running to the golf course and back and being spoilt with a slushie AND a sausage! How spoilt?!!!

Miss Sunny
Prep/1

Year 2/3

Last week we were lucky enough to spend the morning with the CSIRO conducting science experiments based on physics that included looking at light, electricity and sound. In our own science lessons we have been learning about heat conductors and insulators. In English we have been deconstructing letters written by other people and highlighting the verbs, nouns and conjunctions within the writing. We have also been focusing on using verbs, nouns and conjunctions in our own writing. In maths we have been conducting chance experiments and looking at addition and subtraction where you have to regroup numbers to solve the sum. In technology we have started our assessment item called Lunch For a Friend. Students have to research different types of sandwiches and make one for a friend based on their likes and dislikes. Just a friendly reminder that with the weather heating up all students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school and are allowed to drink water in class.

Mrs Lisa Howkins
2/3 Teacher
YEARS 4/5/6

4/5/6 have been very busy in science this term learning all about weathering and erosion. For the first half of the term we investigated evidence of erosion around our school and proposed possible solutions, just like a soil scientist would. The second half of the term has focussed on extreme weather events that cause erosion. We had a few things we had to learn first; such as "What is Weather?" (Many of us were surprised to learn that an earthquake and a tsunami are NOT examples of weather!) The extreme weather event we have honed in on is cyclones. We modelled the function of a cyclone using two softdrink bottles and a simple device called and "tornado connector". We threw in some food colouring and some glitter to model what air does in a cyclone. Check out the photos!

Last Friday we took our knowledge of cyclones to the next level by learning about "Convection Currents". This is the scientific language for what happens when warm and cool air meet (warm air rises and the cool air goes underneath). We also learnt how to read a "thermograph" and built our understanding of the difference between onshore and offshore breezes (these are caused by convection currents). In our final assessment piece for this term, we will be modelling convection currents and interpreting some scientific information (including thermographs) from when Cyclone Yasi visited Queensland. Given that we are on camp this week, this assessment piece may run into the beginning of term 4. More scientific modelling to come!

From Mrs C and the budding 4/5/6 Scientists!

Hello from Camp Fairbairn

We arrived safely yesterday afternoon and David our teacher gave us the ‘run down’ of the school’s rules and a quick guided tour.

Afterwards we got stuck into doing a team work activity which was a bit tricky but we got better each time we tried.

We were split into two teams and we were told to stand on the telegraph pole. Then we needed to get each team to the other end of the pole without falling off!

Tomorrow we are in for a big day canoeing and setting up camp for the night. Stay tuned for more exciting camp news in the next newsletter.
7-10 SCIENCE
Throughout this term students in years 7-10 have investigated how the human body functions and its complicated structure of cells, tissues, organs and organ systems. We have studied mostly internal anatomy and function, focussing on digestive, nervous, circulatory, skeletal, respiratory and reproductive systems. As a way of comparison to human anatomy, students had the opportunity to dissect rats. Each class was given two male, two female not pregnant and three pregnant female rats to investigate. This was an extremely valuable learning experience as students used higher order thinking to compare and contrast rats’ anatomy and function to humans. Students loved the practical component and were eager to continue to investigate once the demonstration was over.

Congratulations to all students who conducted themselves in a mature and safe manner throughout the dissection.

Year 10 Work Experience
Next week (17th -21st September) the year 10 students will participate in a week of work experience with a number of local businesses. This week allows students the opportunity to test personal vocational preferences through performing tasks in a workplace. Students have selected placements according to their future occupational aspirations.

This week will hopefully provide students with experience that will provide clarification of their employment goals and first-hand information about what it means to work, work processes of the organisation and the work environment.

Student Council
The Student Council will be hosting a Freaky Friday Fun Night (October 19th). 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!
The Junior Technology Class completed their gifts in time for the father’s day weekend. Injarra Harbour suggested the idea for the tool holder after he saw something similar in use in the workshop. Mick Heslin prepared the timber then the class marked and drilled all holes, sanded and glued the project together with assistance from Reverend Anne and Miss Erin. 

Thanks to everybody for their effort over the duration of the project.

In the 9/10 Technology our Co2 cars are ready to race, the track has safely been laid out, and the cars have been paired with racing opponents. As these cars are capable of traveling 120km/h, students stand in designated areas: “pit crew”, “on deck”, “Spectator area” and “time keepers”. After minor adjustments, the race track lit up with rocketing cars. Not before long the class came to the conclusion that the 20 metre track was not long enough as the timekeepers timed the cars at 10 metres in less than 0.35 seconds, which later we calculated as speeds of 102.34 km/h. Next week the class will lengthen the track to assist with their evaluation of their Co2 car designs.

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**Jock and Geek Clubs**

Students have been attending two clubs on Wednesday and Thursday offered by Winton State School. The geeks of geek club have been having fun defeating Mr. Girodat through problem solving in real time strategy through various means on the personal computer.

Through literacy, micro skills, and enthusiasm, students have been able to work together. Cody and Thomas have taken a leadership role to organise students and keep track of statistics through leader boards. Cody helped keep track of ratios to help us balance our teams and always keep the game fun and fair. Thank you to Cody and Thomas for showing initiative through leadership skills at Winton State School.

The jocks of jock club have been playing Basketball on Wednesdays and we had our first meeting last week with everyone there on time after school. Students enjoyed games of bump followed by Indiana ball and various shooting games like pig, horse and donkey. We are beginning to start ladder competitions centred on 1on1 and shooting games.

**General information:**

Clubs start straight after school and run to approximately 5pm. Students from year 6 up are encouraged to attend.

*Special thanks to our cleaners that work on Thursdays for allowing us to have an easy exit.*

Mr. Girodat
Stay safe from swooping magpies

Please be aware that Magpies are beginning to swoop at various locations through the town.

For more information on ways to protect yourself visit www.derm.qld.gov.au

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**Teachers vs. Students Soccer Game**

HPE week finished with a blast with the students taking on a staff team in a game of soccer. It was a rather tight affair to begin with but before long the teacher team had pulled away to a 2-0 victory! It is not surprising with Racing Rogers, Furious Fogarty, Lightning Lawrance, Juggling Girodat and Youthful Yong Gee (just to name a few) some of the standouts for the staff team! It was a high intensity game and played in great spirit by both teams. We look forward to another match up next term where the students can hopefully restore some pride!

Thanks for everyone for their great sportsmanship and the brilliant cheering from the early years crew!

Michael Gabriel
HPE Teacher

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As the weather warms even more, the children are really enjoying the outdoors. We set up the new kids tables in the shaded courtyard with different activities – playdough, toy cars and puzzles. These kept the children busy until it was time for music.

We had a few keen soloist with little Bella singing us Baa Baa Black Sheep. We got the one year olds involved with Row Row Row Your Boat, holding hands and rowing with their older siblings. Taking water out to the sandpit was also a big hit. Lots more water play will be incorporated as it continues to warm up. Majella, Winton’s local Family Support Worker joined us again, and was a fabulous help. Thanks Majella.

The school holidays are approaching. Next week will be our last Play Group until Friday 12th October. If you haven’t been along yet, we would love to meet you!

Emily
HPE Week Success!

Last week was HPE week and it was a huge success! We had a great week attempting the head to head challenges that were set. Check out how we went!

**Monday – Basketball shootout competition.** Jakk Jones took out this competition with a huge high score of 10 shots in 30 seconds. As a school we scored over 51 goals throughout the lunch time activity.

**Tuesday – Plank hold.** 45 students participated in this event. Carlin Ellis took out this competition holding a plank position for 6 minutes! We had some great efforts from our little guys as well with Blair Williams clocking up over 5 minutes! As a school we held the plank position for a combined total of 88.6 minutes.

**Wednesday – Adidas run around the world challenge.** Chris Patterson led the way with this challenge and ran a total of 2.4km. 38 students participated and ran a combined total of 38.4km which averages out to be over 1km each person. This would have contributed to the record attempt along with many other students around the country on national HPE day.

**Thursday – Zumba.** 26 committed students enjoyed the lunch time Zumba with many getting involved and working up a sweat! Both boys and girls were very energetic and enthusiastic. Thanks so much to Ms Emily Lawrance who conducted the session.

**Friday – Cross Country and Teacher vs. Student soccer.** Friday was successful with the annual inter-house cross country and the teacher vs. student soccer game. Please read on for further information.

A massive thank you must go to Miss Ebonny Rogers along with many other committed staff members for helping organise and run the events during this week. It was great to see so many students participating and making physical activity a priority!

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<tr>
<th>Boys Age Champion</th>
<th>Girls age champions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Open boys – Billy Smith</td>
<td>Open girls – No champion</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 years – Jimmy Harbour</td>
<td>15 years – Heidi Laffin</td>
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<td>14 years – Daniel Barnfield</td>
<td>14 years – Rachael Nutting</td>
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<td>13 years – Liam Philip</td>
<td>13 years – Tara Jones</td>
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<td>12 years – Mitch Fogarty</td>
<td>12 years – Patrice Woodman</td>
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<td>11 years – Joe Fanciscus</td>
<td>11 years – Stacie Mitchell</td>
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<td>10 years – No Champion</td>
<td>10 years – Kimberley Stanley</td>
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<td>9 years – Mason Stanley</td>
<td>9 years – Lexie Mitchell</td>
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<td>8 years – Kailen Paterson</td>
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<td>7 years – David Crapp</td>
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<td>6 years – Harley McCalman</td>
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<td>5 years – Maddix Hampton</td>
<td>5 years – Shakira Porter</td>
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