Coming Events

October 19th   Freaky Friday Fete
October 22nd   Pupil Free Day
14th November  Speech Night
6th December   Winton Spectacular
7th December   Last Day Term 4
Dear Students, Parents and Friends

Welcome back to the final term for 2012. Term four is always an exciting time in schools and this year looks to be the same. Rock Pop Mime, Speech Night, Spectacular and report cards are but some of the exciting events which will occupy this term.

Let me firstly congratulate the Rock Pop Mime Team who attended Mt Isa last week and brought four trophies home; winning all four categories - best costumes, best make-up, best choreography and best overall performance. This event and the spectacular results are testament to the hard work and dedication shown by our students towards this great event. Many thanks must also go to Mrs Lawrance for her mammoth effort directing this event, Miss Erin, Miss Fleur and Mr Heslin for their enthusiasm and support, and the multitude community members, businesses and parents who all contributed to this year’s event. I am really looking forward to seeing just how great we can make the 2013 performance. I am so proud of all of you!

Over the holidays Mrs Howkins had to make a quick departure from our school due to personal circumstances. We wish her the very best of luck at her new school in 2013 as she has been successful in gaining a transfer from Winton. Mr and Mrs Gabriel also have been successful in gaining transfers for 2013 and I wish them both the best of luck in Gladstone and extend a heartfelt thanks for all their dedication to Winton State School.

With these departures we have also got some welcomes to make. Mrs Emily Lawrance has been successful in gaining a fulltime-permanent transfer to Winton in 2013. Also, we welcome Mr Kurt Barrow who will join our secondary teaching team. Mr Barrow will be joining us from Meridian State College. Finally we also welcome Mrs Cassie Martyr who has been successful in gaining a permanent appointment to Winton State School in 2013. Mrs Martyr will be joining us after leaving St Patricks School Winton.

With these changes we are set to have an awesome 2013. Sports, dance and performance programs as well as an exceptional Primary and Secondary Teaching Team is just the start to the education revolution which is coming to Winton in 2013. To be part of something amazing contact our school today to talk about your child’s future enrolment.

Yours Sincerely

Mick Lawrance
Principal
“BEST ACT OF THE NIGHT” This is what a judge told us after the Rock Pop Mime competition in Mt Isa!

Friday we had a very early start. We needed to get to our stage rehearsal in Mt Isa which was scheduled for just after lunch. We drilled through our routine and positions for the hour, ready for the night’s competition. We headed back to our accommodation, the PCYC, and started piling on make-up, glitter, hairspray and gorgeous costumes.

During the day we had claimed a great position on the grass near the stage – this was a good idea as the crowd was 3500 strong. We had ordered 15 pizzas (much to the envy of everyone sitting around us!), and pigged out while enjoying the pre-show entertainment. There were 17 acts on prior to our own. Some were absolutely amazing. There were some great costumes and backdrops, and great ideas throughout. The students really enjoyed watching and critiquing these, as we had no idea what to expect.

Finally we headed back stage to prepare for our act, only to be told that we would have to wait until after the fireworks display. This ended up being a blessing as it pumped the kids up again prior to their performance. And what a performance it was. The students were absolutely stunning. They came on stage looking like professional performers. Everything about them looked so refined and full of energy. Our theme, ‘There’s Something in the Rain,’ was a lovely, happy way to end a long night.

The kids were thrilled when they left the stage. Really happy with how they performed. Then it was time for the judge’s announcements. We heard the results from the other age groups, then ours was next…

- Best Choreography – Winton State School
- Best Costumes – Winton State School
- Best Backdrop – Winton State School
- Overall Winners – Winton State School

The kids were elated. Screaming and hugging and cheering. A clean sweep at our first Rock Pop Mime! One of the judges approached our trophy holders back stage and said that it was the best act of the night!

After what was turning into a 20 hour day there were a lot of exhausted kids. After showers and mid-night snacks of left over cake and pizzas, all of our little winners went straight to sleep.

What a way to create a life-long memory. Winton State School will be back next year to defend its title – something we are already looking forward to.
As we head into the final term for the year, we continue as a school to focus on **excellence in our delivery of the curriculum**. All of our staff have been undergoing professional development and reflection on their practice all year. It is important that we all continue to learn new things, no matter how young or old we are!

We have had a **relentless focus on improving the teaching of reading**, in all subject areas. We have even seen mathematics students doing comprehension questions on their maths problems. This is to make sure the students understand what the problem is really asking them to do.

In science, we have been using the guided reading format. This not only helps us to improve our scientific knowledge but also to improve our literacy skills as a whole.

Our reinvigorated focus on **maths** has resulted in a streamlined, ability grouped approach to maths being implemented this term for years 3-6. Each small group has a dedicated adult for the whole of the maths time, ensuring that every minute of learning time is used effectively. The year 2s are working with me for the rest of the year.

Term 4 is when we start to **forward plan** for the following year. As Mick mentioned in his Principal report, we farewell some long standing dedicated staff from our school at the end of this year. We also welcome some new, very experienced staff members who will be a fantastic addition to our team. With these additions, we are able to offer a minimum of 3 primary classes, of small size, to maximise student learning in 2013.

**The year 10s** also become a priority this term as we work with them on their SET plans and help them choose the best individual pathway for them through their senior schooling years. We are still working hard to ensure a great selection of both school and non-school based learning opportunities to count towards their QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education).

The pre-prep transition process has also kicked off very successfully and we look forward throughout the term to meeting more of our pre-preps and helping them with this most exciting new time in their young lives.

Rebecca Crapp
Head of Curriculum
Winton State School would like to invite you to an evening of fun!

There will be games, prizes, a haunted house and food! 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. Please take donations to the year 3-6 class room.

During the night we will be fundraising for Canteen as well!

When: 19th of October, 5-7pm
Where: The Shed, Winton State School

*Note: We will be using a token system for all stalls, you will need to exchange your money for tokens at the front desk in the shed.*

**Lost Property**

There is a fair collection of lost property within the school. All jumpers, towels, lunch boxes and hats etc. have been hung outside the Teacher Resource Room. Please check this collection to see if it contains any of your child's property. All unclaimed property left at the end of the year will be donated to Charity.

**A THANK YOU!**

Former student, Joe-Jack Elliott, has remembered his old school with the donation to our library of some of the 'Oh No Mo!' series of books written by his friend, Simon J. Noble. This series explains in simple text how to stay safe in various situations and how to help others. The books that Joe-Jack have donated are particularly suitable for Early Years readers and are much appreciated. Thank you Joe-Jack for your kind donation.

**There is a Pupil Free Day next Monday October 22nd.**
Dear Families,

My name is Tammy Brown. I am a full time university student studying a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood at Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. I commenced a four week field experience block of teaching on the 8th of October 2012 at Winton State School in Miss Sunny's prep-one-two class.

I chose to complete this field experience in a rural location because I hope to move to a rural area when I complete my degree in 2014. I believe that this experience will facilitate me in developing critical teaching skills that will be integral to my development as a pre-service teacher.

I have a strong commitment to developing my skills as a pre-service teacher. I am excited by the opportunity to be able to participate and learn many new skills and knowledge through collaborating with your children, educators and yourselves. I look forward to working with your children at their own individual level and gaining some rewarding experiences.

Many Thanks
Tammy Brown

Welcome back to Term 4! What a great term it is. We have already had such wonderful things happening around our classroom.

The year 4/5/6 Hollywood class has now been lucky enough to have year 3 join them until the end of the year. I am constantly being blown away by their wonderful behaviour and excellent transition into our class.

Our streamline maths groups are streaking ahead with all students working in small groups at their individual levels. This is allowing each student to increase their skill and mathematical understanding in a more individual learning environment which is an incredible benefit the primary sector are now able to offer.

Mrs Girodat
Being a Friend versus Being a Parent

It’s interesting the number of people both children and adults alike who believe that a Mum or Dad should be a friend in preference to being a parent. The job of being a parent is so much more than being a friend and holds a great deal of responsibility. It is worth investigating this.

What Does Being a Parent Mean:

- Being there for your child – to talk with them, take them places, stay up late waiting for them to come home to know they are safe, helping them with homework that sometimes is beyond your own knowledge, having school meetings with teachers, preparing lunches for years on end (this alone would test any friendship)

- Being with them to celebrate the good times but also to help them through the difficult times (and at times the difficult times out weigh the good times)

- Even when they say “I hate you” you give them unconditional love by answering ‘I love you’ (not many friends would last the distance if they felt unloved).

- Using tough love when needed (especially if they don’t want to go to school)

- Letting them know what they are doing well but also letting them know what they may need to improve on (which they may not want to hear)

- Being honest but not harsh e.g. if an outfit is inappropriate who better to tell them than a parent (a friend most probably wouldn’t)

- Being the shoulder to cry on but eager to talk through the issue causing the problem

- Modelling good behaviour and educating your child with skills needed for them to be ready for living in the community

In drastic times - dropping everything and coming to their aid – at these times putting their needs before your own.

It takes more than a friend to be a parent. It takes love, commitment, selflessness, and endurance. Let’s congratulate ourselves for lasting the distance.

Tony Sinclair
Guidance Officer
Year 4/5/6 School Camp

In the early hours of Monday the 10th of September, 14 children waved goodbye to their parents and carers and set out with Mr Heslin and Mrs Girodat on the adventure of the year to Camp Fairbairn. The bus was buzzing with excitement and chatter about all the activities we would be doing during the week.

Our trip was relatively smooth and we reached Camp Fairbairn mid-afternoon. David, our camp teacher for the week ran us through the house rules straight away and we headed off for our first challenge. The rest of the week was jam packed with activities that challenged us physically and mentally. I am very proud of all of my students for their motivation to succeed and achieve their personal goals.

Thank you to all the parents who worked so hard to fundraise for camp. The students of year 4/5/6 and I truly appreciated all the hard work you put in leading up to the camp.

Year 11/12 Construction

The construction class have began a unit of work that will require them to rebuild the inside of a large caravan. The caravan belongs to the Winton Shire Council and men will be living in the caravan for weeks at a time.

The class will make a living area with a separate sleeping area with a clothes washer included. The caravan is located at the Men’s Shed and has been organised and site supervised by Wesso. Thanks in advance to Wesso for the work over the coming term.

Leigh Holmes
Students in the year 7 and 8 Maths class have been hard at work figuring out the problem: How many year 7 and 8s can fit into 1 m cube, or a cubic metre. Students had a go at estimating, guesses ranged from 2 to 100!!

Have a look at some great team work orchestrated by Ms. Karrin.

Mr Girodat and the 7/8 mathematics class
Year 10 Work Experience

During the final week of term 3, Winton State School’s year 10 students completed a week of work sampling with local businesses. This gave students an excellent opportunity to spend some time working in their chosen field of interest and get a taste first hand of what it is like to spend a full working week in that industry. Despite some mixed reactions, to what was for many their first full week of work, all students agreed that it was an invaluable experience that has helped clarify a few questions students had about post schooling options.

This experience could not have happened without the support from local industry and I would like to thank the following businesses for their support and taking the time to mentor the students involved; Central Motors, Searle’s, Winton Butchers, Australian Age of Dinosaurs, Mann Made Construction, Ludwick Mechanical and Longreach Veterinary.

Secondary Science

Over the past week, students in 9-10 have been investigating the world of physics. Students have calculated the speed at which they stroll, speed walk and run using distance and time. We’ve looked at Newton’s three laws of motion and how to relate these to life scenarios. On Friday, students experimented with tackling pads to experience the how the force equation feels when put into practice. Force = mass x acceleration. Students experienced how the different mass of an individual and how fast they move towards each other can affect the amount of force on impact. Throughout the term, students will continue to experiment with various objects to understand the physics equations. They will be required to create an object that moves at speed and collides with the ground or a wall and measure the impact force as part of their assessment this term.

Students in 7-8 have also been studying forces and how they act on us every day. They have experimented with magnetism, gravity, push & pulls. Students are able to identify balanced and unbalanced forces and represent these diagrammatically. Students will be designing a balloon powered vehicle and alter it after experimentation to change the speed of it as their assessment for this term.
Active After School Program

This AFTERNOON!
This activity is free of charge

Where: Your child will be collected from school and given a healthy afternoon tea at the park outside the pool.

When: On Tuesday and Thursday Afternoons, two staff members will supervise these children.

How long: 7 weeks of the term

Starts: 16th Oct - 29th of Nov 2012

Time: 3.00pm to 4.15pm

Who: School aged children only

Activity: Swimming for both days (This group will only have 14 children, for safety reasons).

Healthy afternoon tea supplied
New Children (not with the group last term) will need ring to confirm a place and to fill in new forms.
If you are interested in this program for your child please contact Dana at Little Swaggies on 4657 1522

Pupil Free Day
Monday October 22nd

There is a pupil free day next Monday October 22nd 2012.

Trick or Treat

Halloween is coming again. Children 2 to 10 years old are invited to a trick or treat outing, in full fancy dress, don't forget your bags.
Parents or guardians must accompany their children (you can dress up too, please). If you have a child outside the age range we encourage them to participate by nominating, dressing up and decorating their house.

When: Saturday 27th October at 7.00pm meeting at the Pool

Most importantly

For this event to be successful, we need community members to nominate your residence as one the children can visit on the night. An item will be supplied to mark your house. Children will be identified with an armband. Thank you to those who support this event each year.

If you would like your children to participate you must register. Children not registered will not be catered for. Armbands issued this year, no armband no treats.
Please phone Kylie Britton 46573969 or Carol Corn 0427571754 for more information.
Please register by 24th October so a safe planned route can be organized and children can be catered for.

This is a non profit event organized solely for the enjoyment of the children of Winton as a bit of fun.
Experience mornings at “BIG SCHOOL” as part of the Winton State School Transition process. Winton State School places a strong emphasis on the transition process before the kids start prep. Our data proves that our transition process is highly effective. Our small class sizes allow students to receive the full attention that each and every one of them deserves in order to reach their full potential.

We offer support services that are second to none including; a Students With Disabilities teacher, A district level Gifted Education mentor, an experienced Guidance Officer, and a support teacher: literacy and numeracy. We also offer school based access to additional experts as needed, including; Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapy and a school health nurse.

Our curriculum is exemplary, being one of the first schools in Queensland to implement the new Australian Curriculum, beginning in 2011. While some school are still coming to terms with how to implement the already released curriculum areas—we are already there!

Our whole school reading and mathematics structures ensure all students are progressing to the best of their ability. As a School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support School, we focus on teaching and reteaching of appropriate school behaviours in a supportive environment.

Is your Child born between 1st July 2007 and 30th June 2008?

Where

Prep/1 Classroom
Winton State School

Contact

Miss Sunny Mutton
Our AWESOME Early Years Teacher
PH: 07 4657 2333