

William Ross State High School Newsletter



From The Science Department



WONDER OF SCIENCE

On the 19th of September, 16 students from across year 8 and 9 competed in the Wonder of Science program. This program aims to develop passion and enthusiasm for science and technology in school children from grades 6 to 9 whilst providing opportunities for young people to experience science at a university level. The students showed exemplary behaviour and scientific knowledge and were great ambassadors of the school. The scientific judges (mostly PHD students) were very impressed with the calibre of their presentations and had asked the students to give them quick tutorials on presenting using Prezi. The students had to compete against other schools in the appropriate year level category. I am pleased to announce that all teams did a fantastic job and all teams finished in the top four of their category.

In Year 8, after designing a Rube Goldberg Machine and under the guidance of Miss Wescombe - team 8(1) consisting of Harmmeet Singh, Gemma Goulding, Morgan Kirkham, and Kayleigh Farrell came second to a team they did not compete against and team 8(2) consisting of Kyle Dinnison, Connor Sander, Thom Vandermast and Zac Pope came in a close fourth.

In Year 9, students had to design an experiment that tested changing salinity levels in ecosystems. It was a hotly contested battle against Thuringowa High, Kirwan High and our own teams competing against each other for title glory. Team 2 consisting of Shaun Bolton, Jarod Brown, Cody Eastaugffe, and Kaylee Webster came in at a close second. Team 1 consisting of Kate Ahnfeldt, Olivia Broxham, Brittany Foster and Reece Phillips came out on top, winning the grand prize of a \$5000 resource pack full of science resources that will be delivered to the school shortly.

Big congratulations go to all students who participated in the program and we know that you have gained invaluable experience and scientific skills from attending the program. We are very proud of you all! Also a big thank you goes to Mr Frost, Mr Dove and Miss Emily Chick for your awesome contributions throughout the competition.



Tara-Lee PARKER
Science Teacher
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DATES TO REMEMBER

21 October	Yr 7 Leading Learner Test
28 October	Awards Night
6-8 November	Yr 12 Exam Block
12 November	Instrumental Music Tour Cluster Schools
12 November	Yr 11 & 12 Merit Awards Ceremony
13 November	Year 12 Practice Ceremony 9:00 -10:30am
13 November	Year 12 Presentation Ceremony 6:15pm
13 November	Year 12 Formal Dinner 7.30pm to Midnight

From the Principal



WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to all parents / carers and students to what is undeniably the busiest time in the school calendar. These ten weeks will involve a variety of events and activities that will see all students, teachers and parents / carers included in

school related behaviours to celebrate student success, advance understanding in curriculum and to create a positive learning environment.

Most prominent on our school calendar is our annual Awards Night – Monday 28th October at the Civic Theatre – I would invite all parents / carers, friends and families to our night of academic and sporting excellence, a time when students are recognised and their efforts and successes celebrated within their chosen fields of study.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT WRSHS TERM 4

There will be many school-related events centred around student participation in activities outside the classroom this term. Notices and information related to such events are distributed directly to students. I would encourage all students to discuss with their parents the upcoming events, well in advance. Those events will include special event evenings, year level camps and excursions away from the school site and it is vital that parents and carers have adequate notice.

Below is a brief summary of such issues:

Week 2:

Tuesday 15th October “Year 12 – *Leaving School, I’m Outta Here*” Evening”

Wednesday 16th October – P&C Meeting, Administration Building

Week 3:

Monday 21st October – Student Free Day

Week 4:

Monday 28th October - Awards Night, Civic Theatre

Week 5:

Tuesday 5th November - Year 11 Practice QCS Test.

Wednesday 6th November – Friday 8th November – Year 12 Block Exams

Week 6:

Tuesday 12th November – Year 11 & 12 Merit Awards Ceremony

Wednesday 13th November - Year 12 Formal

Friday 15th November – Year 12 Final Day

Week 7:

Tuesday 19th November-Friday 22nd November – Year 11 Block Exams

Week 8:

Tuesday 26th November-Wednesday 27th November – Year 7 into 8 Transition Days

Tuesday 26th November-Friday 29th November – Year 11 Senior Leadership Camp

Friday 29th November – Year 10 Final Day

Week 9:

Tuesday 3rd December – Wednesday 4th December – Year 7 into 8 Transition Days

Week 10:

Tuesday 10th December – Semester 2 Reports Issued (by mail)

Friday 13th December – Year 8 & 9 Final Day

As we move into this term I would alert all parents to our school’s position on information. William Ross State High provides two formal Report Cards (end of each semester) and formal Parent/Teacher Interviews each year, what is not formal is our position on parent contact. For any information you require around the education of your child you are most welcome to contact the school or classroom teacher and discuss or arrange a meeting to clarify and seek assistance in your child’s education. Parents may seek more feedback from teachers when examining potential subject choices for our Year 8 and Year 9 students as they move into higher year levels in 2014.

Allan EVANS

Principal

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From the Deputy Principal



ASOT – OUR PEDAGOGICAL FRAMEWORK

William Ross State High School is well on the way to cementing its reputation as the first choice education provider for families in the Townsville community.

We are creating a school expectation and culture where

every young learner develops a sense of belonging and is inspired to shape their preferred future.

The School mantra, **Success Through Commitment**, provides a focus for students, parents, teachers and the school community. To realise this vision, there is an expectation for all teachers to become expert practitioners and a commitment that “every day in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving within a safe, supportive, inclusive and disciplined learning

environment" (United in the Pursuit of Excellence – Education Queensland's Agenda for Improvement 2011-2015).

The Teaching and Learning Framework adopted by William Ross State High School is based on the Art and Science of Teaching (ASOT), a pedagogical framework based on the work of Robert Marzano. "The words art and science were carefully selected to convey a message – effective teaching in both the art and science" (Marzano, 2007).

At William Ross State High School, we started our professional development journey with the Art and Science of Teaching at the beginning of 2013. All teaching staff at the School commit to regular and scheduled professional development engaging in ASOT. These meetings are a time for teachers to learn new skills, reflect on professional practice and share success in the classroom. The Art and Science of Teaching presented as 10 design questions. Teachers examine each design question to develop their knowledge and skills, as well as reflecting on their current beliefs and practices. Teachers at William Ross State High School strive to achieve that dynamic mixture of art and science that results in exceptional teaching and outstanding student outcomes through our School's pedagogical and learning framework: The Art and Science of Teaching.

Pam PRICHARD
Deputy Principal
ppric10@eq.edu.au

From the Year 11 Co-ordinator



This has been a very busy term for the Year 11 and 12 Active Volunteering students. All of the students completed projects that were designed to raise money for their chosen organisation. These projects raised much needed awareness in the school community. The projects

included:

- Biscuit drive for Beyond Blue and suicide prevention raising \$130
- Sausage sizzle for Anti-Depression Association Australia raising \$333
- Slushies for AEIOU (Autism Awareness) raising \$309
- A cupcake stall for Leukaemia Foundation \$46.
- Jeans for Genes raising \$5020
- Cupcakes for the RSPCA raising \$ 214
- Sausage sizzle for Prostate Cancer raising \$89

- A taco stall for the Starlight Foundation raising \$359
- Sausage sizzle for National Breast Cancer Foundation raising \$158
- Sale of merchandise for Act for Kids raising \$91



We also had a number of groups who opted to raise awareness through the school. These included: Australian Lung Cancer Foundation, The Fred Hollows Foundation, National Juvenile Diabetes Association and the Salvation Army. Year 11 and 12 students participated in the Relay for Life where the school raised \$1500 and had a fantastic evening.

I am in the process of organising the senior jerseys for 2014. This term Year 11 students will have the opportunity to order a jersey for the following year. Students are eligible to order a jersey once all school fees have been paid for the 2013 school year.

I am pleased to announce that from 2014, the senior camp will be held in Week 8 (the final week for Year 11 students) - 26th to 29th November. The camp will be held at Mungalli Falls, in the Atherton Tablelands. Students will be eligible to attend camp once all 2013 school fees have been paid.

Charlene JACKSON
Year 11 Co-ordinator
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From the Society, Business & Environment Department



“Producing big ideas - and leaders who use them to create value – is what business education should be all about.”

*Peter Blair Henry
Economist and Author*

For this term William Ross State High School students from the Year 10 Business Studies classes have been learning about what it takes to be a successful business entrepreneur by developing their own business proposals in collaborative groups. „We have been organising a Market Day to sell our products to potential customers within the school and we get to donate our profits to *Delta Dogs* who promote animal therapy and bring joy to people’s lives,” explained student Sierra Brown.

After producing a sales pitch using multi-modal presentation skills and a professional enterprise report students are to participate in the selling of their product using sales and communication techniques developed in class. Daniel Abbot enjoyed learning, „about workplace procedures, leadership skills, and promotional strategies about how shares work and how to target specific markets”.

Students were required to generate enterprising ideas, develop an enterprise report, and undertake the venture. This rich task created opportunities for students to manage production procedures that reflect commercial and industrial standards and evaluate the outcomes.

In particular students have gained knowledge on the Four P’s of Marketing (Price, Place, Product and Promotion); and learnt about the roles and responsibilities in a business team utilising their skills and attributes. „We learnt how to organise a company’s structure and how to attract customers to buy our products using our knowledge of marketing and customer service,” said Sierra Brown.

Zach explained, „The aspects I enjoyed in this unit were working in a team and being able to produce our own team logo and slogan. I like that it relates to the real world and life outside of school because we were actually able to sell our products to other students and teachers. Also, having our team donate the profit to a charity was a rewarding task.”

Students have utilised their Market Day experiences to assist with subject selections, as Sierra Brown said, „This experience has helped me decide what subjects I want to study in senior and potentially the line of work I want to pursue after school.”

This unit also had a social responsibility element incorporated which included waste management strategies, where one business team developed an idea to trade coke cans for their product at a discounted price.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the William Ross SHS Market Day.

Daniel Abbot, Zach Barnes, Sierra Brown



Natalie ANDERSON
Teacher (BSE Department)
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From the Sports Officer



NQ ATHLETES

The following students were outstanding competitors at the Interschool Athletics Carnival and were selected in the Northern Region Athletics Squad:

Jameekah Howard 400m
Tayla Dinnison 1500m
Arianna Meroni Long Jump/ Triple Jump
Nick Armstrong 400m
Carl Malan Shot Put

Brenton Foster and **Riley Eastwell** were unable to attend the carnival but have also made the NQ squad with state qualifying times and heights.

We look forward to hearing how our athletes fare at the Queensland School Athletics Championships which will be held in Brisbane in week 3.

BLOCK SPORT TERM 4

Week 2 sees the start of Term 4 Block Sport. The Rhino Squads who will be competing against other schools this term are our Year 8 boys and girls football (soccer), Year 8 AFL, U15 AFL, Open boys and Open girls AFL, and Open girls Water polo. Check out staffroom two notice board for draw times and locations. Any students who have not joined a team and are interested in signing up see Ms Newton in staffroom two.

Please ensure that permission forms and any money required have been given to the office prior to the commencement of their first game.

A very big thank you to the coaches and managers and parents for their support and time to ensure our students are able to participate at these interschool games.

Ann NEWTON
Sports Officer
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From The Arts Department**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC:
AUDITIONS FOR NEW
ENROLMENTS**

The audition date for new enrolments is on the third Saturday of this term, 26th October. Please contact the office or instrumental teachers for an enrolment and audition form.

Auditions are held in the Music block. Complete the audition form and return it to WRSHS. The coordinator, Lisa Arnold will then make contact with you to select a specific audition time.

The audition is a unique time for parents and students to meet the Instrumental team on a one to one basis, find out about the instrumental program offered at William Ross and for the instrumental teachers to become familiar with each student's interests and ability.

For further information contact Lisa Arnold larno36@eq.edu.au Ph: 4727 6666.

ARTS EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

The Arts Excellence Program offered for Year 8 students at WRSHS provides students with an opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of art processes in an environment where excellence is expected. How to apply for the "Excellence in Art Program":

1. Complete the booking form at the school administration office and collect an application folio. Interview bookings need to be made in person as soon as possible at the office.
2. Complete the folio by filling out the forms and inserting examples of art works.
3. Drop the folio in at the office ASAP.
4. Interviews are on the third Saturday of this term, 26th October.

For further information contact Dyasley Tuck dtuck14@eq.edu.au Ph: 47267653.

Dyasley TUCK
HOD (The Arts)
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From The P&C Committee**WRSHS CHRISTMAS CENT SALE
SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2013
DOORS OPEN NOON FOR A 1PM START**

The P&C Committee will be holding a cent sale in the school PA Block on Sunday 10 November. This fundraiser will help the committee raise funds for the many P&C school projects currently underway, including the uniform shop and sound system for the PA block.

To enable a successful afternoon we are desperately seeking items to be used as cent sale prizes. Items can include goods like: food tins, plants, lollies, wine, sprits, beer, soft drinks, bedroom items, laundry items, make up / beauty items, toys, unwanted gifts, garden items, vehicle car products etc. would be greatly appreciated.

If you know of any organisation that may be able to assist us with donations for the cent sale (items like gift vouchers - last year we even had dental vouchers donated), anything donated will be utilised. If you need a P & C member to help or require a P&C donation request letter to send to a business, feel free to contact me on the details below.

We are also seeking some parent helpers to assist on the day of the cent sale. If you are able to donate a few hours of your time it would be much appreciated.

Please call Linda on 0427 783 934 or email lindai65@bigpond.com if you can help on the day or have items / donations that need collecting.