Term 3, September 2019

# **Head Teacher Report**

After a busy term of planning, we have passed the first stage of NESA registration for WRCS delivering Stage 6. We are able at this stage to accept expressions of interest for students for 2020 Stage 6. If you are, or know someone who may be interested in enrolling in Stage 6 next year, please feel free to contact us with your name. We will let you know as soon as we receive our final sign off.

Again, this has been a very busy term for everyone at WRCS. Early in the term a group of students went on an excursion to **Billabong Ranch at Echuca**. Although the weather was quite cold, all students participated in most of the activities provided, putting many of them outside their comfort zones. Activities included horse and camel rides, trampolining, commando course and lasooing. Students had a fun and challenging time and were quite exhausted on the bus home!!

We celebrated **NAIDOC** with an Open Day, cooking up a feast of Johnny Cakes followed by a BBQ. Many visitors enjoyed the day, commencing with a morning tea, Acknowledgement of Country by Kadie and Olivia, followed by activities and lunch. Students prepared for the day, producing a display of beautiful art and craftwork. On the day, they shared their skills of jewellery making, stone painting, assisting with the cooking and some children's activities.

A visit to the library later in the term to listen to local author, Jeremy Lachlan. Jeremy was successful in winning 'Book of the Year for Older Children' at the Australian Book Industry Awards with his book 'Jane Doe and the Cradle of All Worlds'. Our students were intrigued by Jeremy's story and perhaps he has inspired some potential authors in our group.

Our last Assembly for the term and reward lunch was held on Tuesday Week 10. Subject Awards were presented as well as Gold Silver and Bronze Awards. 21 of our 23 students achieved their Bronze Awards. Silver Awards went to Liam Blakemore, Sharna Collins, Haylie Jackson, Olivia Johnson, Katesha Kay, Faith Setu, Kyla Rand, Shakira Carberry and Hayden Parisotto. Congratulations to all these students. Congratulations goes to Kyla Rand, who received her Gold Award this term. Well done!!



Lachlan and Alex riding camel at Echuca excursion



Boys on trampoline at Echuca excursion



Olivia participating in NAIDOC day activities



Shannon creating some pasta jewelry on NAIDOC day

#### New staff

We welcome 2 new staff members to our ever growing team next term.

Kirsty Wood is our new Classroom Teacher Support. A great big welcome to Kirsty who is very keen to use her expertise as a Primary/English teacher.

Lauren Forner is our new teacher. Lauren's training and experience in Psychology and English will provide support for all our students on a daily basis.

## **NEWSLETTER**



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## **Student Activities**

#### **Maths**

The 3 Maths classes continue to work well and students are all working at their own pace with significant progress being made last term.

Two classes looked at data analysis and probability. They completed a research task on professions within Australia, comparing working hours and looking to determine if a gender pay gap exists.

The other class has looked at some geometry and basic number, with an emphasis on speed in mental maths calculations.

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They have been learning many skills they were previously unfamiliar with.

#### **English**

This term, students have been working on a unit called "A Picture Tells a Thousand Words", in which they have studied how meaning is made through pictures. They've looked at two specific books "FOX" and "The Dream of the Thylacine" by Ron Brooks and Margaret Wild.

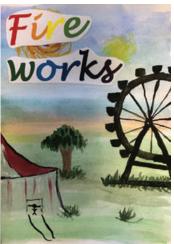
Students have learnt about a range of visual literacy techniques and have learnt how to analyse these techniques and discuss the meaning made. They've completed analytical paragraphs in which they've demonstrated their skills in composing extended responses.

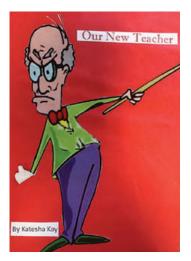
For their assessment, they are using a given poem and creating a picture book using a variety of mediums. They will then have to analyse the images in their books, and demonstrate their knowledge" of the techniques.

Our students should be really proud of their effort this term, as they have been learning many skills they were previously unfamiliar with. Well done!

Jaz Dossetor (English Teacher)







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## **NEWSLETTER**



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## Student Activities Continued

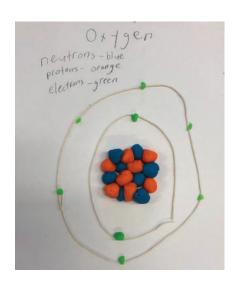
#### Science

We have had an interesting and productive time in Science during
Term 3. We have welcomed new teacher
Brenda McKinnon to the Science faculty
and she brings a wealth of knowledge and skill to this subject. In Science during Term
3 we have studied the topics 'DNA and Genetics' and the 'Periodic Table'.

The students have been involved in a variety of hands-on practical activities to gain a deeper understanding of the concepts delivered. We will continue our work on the 'Periodic Table' into Term 4, and also start a new topic on 'Chemical Reactions'.

We are very proud of the work students have been doing and the increasing effort they are putting into their work. We look forward to another great term ahead. Well done everyone.

Shannon O'Mara (Science Teacher)



#### Personal Development, Health, Physical Education

Congratulations to all students on completion of a term learning about the challenges they will come across as they transition into higher education, employment, possibility of moving out of home, peer pressure etc. They have learnt positive ways to deal with the challenges life throws at them and how they need to become resilient, have a positive attitude and to always remember to talk to someone if they have any problems.

All students completed an assignment on someone who has learnt to overcome adversity and challenges, and live a happy and successful life eg. Anh Do.

I have been extremely impressed in the way all students are beginning to become more active and participate in practical PE. We have been visiting the Indoor Centre and playing soccer, some students have worked on resistance training and some have become avid walkers. Being outside and exercising is not only essential in improving our physical health and fitness but also has been proven to be very helpful in improving our wellbeing and state of mental health.

Lyn Muntz (PDHPE Teacher)

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We are very **proud** of the work students have been doing and the **increasing effort** they are putting into their work.

## **NEWSLETTER**



Term 3, September 2019

### Student Activities Continued

#### Geography

In Term 3 we have studied how humans change and manage the environment. We have looked at a local issue involving the management of the Murray Darling Basin and the various viewpoints and need for water for the communities, landholders, traditional owners and the environment. We have identified the ways in which the aboriginal people managed the river system traditionally. We have also visited a Murray Cod farming operation to see how water can be used in a different way and to protect these native fish.

All students have made a pleasing effort to have their classwork and topic notes up to date at the end of the term, and to each design an inquiry question to ask Matt Ryan at the fish farm.

Sue Tyrrell (Geography Teacher)



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