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Ipswich Queensland

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Term 4, 2017 Junior School News

## From Head of Junior School

This year has certainly been another successful year in the Junior School.

On the sporting field, WestMAC has once again achieved amazing success including:

- Third in Blue Division Junior TAS Swimming
- Runners-up in Blue Division Junior TAS Cross Country
- Fourth in Blue Division Junior TAS Athletics
- Ipswich Primary District Swimming Champions
- Ipswich District T20 Blast Cricket Champions
- Eight undefeated Junior TAS teams
- Three state representatives – Ethan Ramsay (Swimming), Rhys Stenzel (Hockey) and Siena Fisher-Peters (Equestrian)
- Amy Matthews and Sam Fothergill were the fastest students in Junior School on the track.

In the Arts, the Junior School continued to shine with achievements including:

- Bella Voce being awarded first prize in the Ipswich Junior Eisteddfod and receiving two Gold awards at the Silkstone Eisteddfod.
- Piccolo Voci performed on many occasions including Grandies Day and later at the Music Award Showcase.
- Concert Band has had a fantastic year as they have played on multiple occasions including Junior School Assemblies, Academic Assemblies and Music Awards Showcase and Open Day.
- JS Crew took out first place at the Gatton eisteddfod this year with their hip hop routine.

I would like to thank our Junior School Team Leaders – Mrs Michelle Madden (Prep/Year 1), Mrs Tracy Robertson (Years 2/3), Mrs Rosemary Czulowski (Years 4/5) and Mr Matt Caldwell (Year 6/Middle School transition), for their excellent leadership over the past three years. These positions are a three-year tenure allowing a variety of staff this leadership opportunity. From 2018 our Junior School Team Leaders will be:

- Mrs Michelle Madden (Prep/Year 1)
- Ms Christel Payne (Years 2/3)
- Mr Andrew Grant (Years 4/5)
- Mr Dave Teakle (Year 6/Middle School transition)

We will also welcome Mr Matt Caldwell into his new role as Deputy Head of Junior School.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to Mr Glen Downing for his considerable contribution as Deputy Head of Junior School over the past eight years. Glen leaves many legacies from his time as Deputy Head – the list is extensive but to name a few - embedding the Respect and Responsibility Program, rewards days, the Year 6 Bike Education program, student mentoring in the Prep to Year 2 playground and mentoring our student leaders. Glen is a superb example of a servant leader and I am glad that he will be remaining part of our WestMAC community as a PE teacher.

Best wishes to you and your family for a peaceful and joyous Christmas.



*Star: Amaya Williams; Angel: Molly Bryson; Shepherds: Oliver Higgins, Annabelle Halyday; Wise Men: Aston Derham, Dakota Crozman, Callum Sullivan; Mary: Molly Outten, Jake Horsnell.*

- Animal Welfare League - Claire Herman, Camryn North, Genesis Creed, Brooke Herman, Caitlin North, Maya McLeod - \$250.40
- Autism Awareness - Joshua FitzGerald, Ashton Windolf, Braithan Ward - \$81.50
- Campaign for Samuel - Olivia Neilson, Madison Bucknell Lara Hogan, Amy Mathews - \$138.45
- Orange Sky Laundry - Imogen Perkins, Bianca Obel, Stephanie Taylor and Kemantha Burton - \$101.85
- Lady Cilento Hospital - Hanna Stephen, Tayla Chardon, Abbie Ellis - \$166.95
- Cancer Research - Chelise Braiden, Kelsey Manders, Brooke Thomson - \$104.90
- Ipswich Children's Hospital - Isobel Marshall, Tiare Heather, Tessa-Bell Sinclair \$57.20
- South American Support (IVHQ) - Skye Crosswell, Caitlyn North, Linzi Booth - \$87.00
- Rosies - Allyssa Doyle, Kaitlyn Boyle, Siena Fisher-Peters, Charlotte Ball - \$109.00
- Flowers for Samoa - Molly and Eli Bitmead - \$650.00

## Fundraising Fridays

This year WestMAC continued in our fine tradition of fundraising with Orange Sky Laundry being the main charity supported. At our Spirit Assembly in Term 4 we were able to present a cheque for \$5187.05 to the Orange Sky Laundry representatives. This represented collective fundraising activities from all three sub-schools.

In addition, various students also organised stalls to support other charities in the local and broader community. This year we introduced Fundraising Fridays held during lunch breaks periodically throughout the year. This allowed us to better coordinate our fundraising activities. The efforts of these students are listed below.

- Orange Sky Laundry - Ryan Sharp and Hugh Bryant - \$130.00
- Lady Cilento Hospital - Lawrie Bishoff, Riley Jones, Hamish Roughan, Mavrick Currie - \$270.00
- RSPCA - Chelise Braiden, Brooke Thomson, Kelsey Manders, Elise Clarke - \$272.65
- Beanies for Brains - Trixie Peel and Cooper Piggott - \$135.00
- RSPCA - Chelise Braiden, Brooke Thomson, Kelsey Manders, Elise Clarke - \$75.15
- Mates 4 Mates - Jamie Christensen, Jordon Stancombe, Amy Connors - \$55.70
- Qld Institute of Medical Research - Malcom Venn, Ruslan Reeves, Ryan Nansen - \$175.40
- Juvenile Diabetes - Gabi Hynes and Georgia Burham - \$106.00
- RSPCA - Shane Norford, Cooper Crawford, Dallas Mellet, Kiernan Tunstall - \$132.30



## 2018 Junior School Staffing

The lists of teachers in each year level is listed below for your information. As I am sure you can appreciate, the collation of class lists is a complex task with staff considering both the academic and social-emotional needs of students. College staff take much time and care in this process and any preferences received from parents within the required time frame have been taken into consideration; however, it is not always possible to meet requests from teachers given the complexity of the process. While the class lists are essentially finalised there will be one final round of consultation with class teachers when they return to work on Tuesday 16 January and class teacher allocation will be available to parents via Parent Lounge on Monday 22 January in preparation for the start of the school year on Tuesday 23 January.

Year Level	Teacher	Teacher Assistant
Prep L	Sonya Ludkin	Andrea Leonard
Prep M	Terry McGuire	Jodie Beverley
Prep S	Krystel Spark	Cheryl Phillips
1M	Michelle Madden	Jane Henderson
1F	Nikeisha Plumridge	
1K	Meredith Kellen	
2M	Fiona Mackintosh	Janeen MacGregor
2E	Alison Ellis	



2R	Renae Moore	
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Year Level	Teacher
3R	Tracy Robertson
3L	Sharon Littlewood
3P	Christel Payne
4R	Sharon Rutledge
4T	Helen Turner
4E	Deb Evans
5G	Andrew Grant
5S	Fiona Stephen
5H	Ken Harvie
6T	David Teakle
6C	Rosemary Czislowski
6H	Kami Hazlewood
6D	Chelsea Dargusch

### Junior School

## 2018 Student Leaders

At our Junior School Presentation Night Mr McLay announced the names of students who be our 2018 Junior School Leaders. I was exceptionally impressed by the calibre of all the students who have applied for leadership positions. Their written applications were detailed and their speeches well thought out and delivered with confidence. My congratulations to the Junior School Student leadership team.

Junior School Captains	
Mia Gibb	Morgan Dickson
Junior School Chapel Captains	
Laura Brown	Lachlan Clausen
Junior School Environment Captains	
Stephanie Wode	Joel Dawson

House Captains		
Gilmore	Trinity Doyle	Noah Rider
Lawson	Alyssa Grant	Connor Purvey
Mackellar	Charlotte McDowell	Alec Dean
Paterson	Imogen Perkins	Liam Galetto
Wright	Genevieve Wallace	Samuel Smit

On Friday 17 November large number of students from Prep to Year 6 came together at lunchtime to celebrate World Kindness Day. After participating in colouring in and drawing competitions, many students enjoyed a game of musical statues, while others made paper cranes for children in Japan. An icy-cold Zooper Dooper topped off an enjoyable session. Thanks to those students who participated and an extra thank you to Elliarna FitzGerald, Lucy Pickering, Rebecca McMahon and Stephanie Smith who coordinated the event.



## Kindness Club



I strongly encourage all families to take this opportunity and to engage with these user-friendly and practical resources that will equip you with information and skills to assist your children to safely navigate the online world.

These courses can be accessed using the link and using the password below:

<http://cybersafe.ascqld.org.au/>

Login password: westmac



## Cybersafety

Technology is now an essential part of our children's lives and can provide many positive experiences for families. Children are starting to use technology at a younger age. More and more children have 24/7 access to technology. Without parental involvement, children are left to self-regulate in a world that is not moderated. Given the importance of assisting our children to safely navigate the cyber-world, the Anglican Schools Commission has engaged Brett Lee from Internet Education and Safety Services (INESS) to develop a series of online courses for parents. Brett has 22 years of experience as a police officer, including 16 years as a detective and 5 years as an undercover investigator in the online world.

## Farewell Mrs Birt

Bev Birt started teaching at the College 21 years ago but her connection with WestMAC stems back longer through the enrolment of her three children. Kim started at the College as a Prep student in 1995 and Jess and John followed afterwards with all three of her children completing 13 years of education at WestMAC. Bev is a passionate early childhood teacher having taught every year level from Prep to Year 3. The love that the students have for Bev was evident when we surprised her on the last day of Term 4 by lining the paths of the Junior School and taking her on a walk of honour. I think this love stems from the genuine interest Bev takes in every child - whether they be in her class, in a team she coaches or just a child she chats to when on yard duty. She remembers their names and their stories and follows up the next time she sees them as to how this or that has gone.

As a teacher she has that amazing knack of being able to think on her feet and turn anything into a meaningful learning experience - she takes children's curiosity and shows them how they can become real-life investigators.



Bev cares deeply for the children in her class and follows their progress through the College with a keen interest – I love to see the looks on the Year 12 students' faces when they spy Mrs Birt standing in the Time Tunnel and run to give her the biggest hug. I wouldn't be at all surprised if we see her back for Year 12 Time Tunnels in the future.

Sport has been a particular passion for Bev and it is not uncommon to see her and her class out skipping in the undercover area. She has also been a passionate supporter of netball - coaching many teams to an undefeated season. Above all the students really value her involvement in sport and her enthusiasm about their participation and her desire for them to have fun.

Bev's experience and wisdom will be sadly missed. We wish her every blessing as she begins her retirement and I know she is going to enjoy spending time with her family and enjoying various adventures.

