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Edition 2, Term 2 2018

Principal

Equestrian Team - Interschool QLD SEQ Regional Championships

Last weekend 14 of our students competed at the Interschool Queensland SEQ Regional Championships at Beaudesert. Whilst I did not get the opportunity to attend, I was delighted to hear that the WestMAC team was awarded Overall Reserve Champion School. This is an outstanding result and one they should be justifiably proud of. Congratulations to all students involved and a particularly big thanks to the team manager, Erica Galetto, as well as the parents and families who supported the team over the weekend. More specific results are detailed in this Newsletter.



Members of the Reserve Champion Showman Team L-R: Asha Crane-Winters, Emily Davis, Sarah Stewart

Dance Eisteddfod Season

It's Dance Eisteddfod season, and our Dance students, parents and teachers are currently spending significant amounts of time and energy rehearsing for, driving to and from, and competing in eisteddfodau in Ipswich and Brisbane. Our students, staff and parents are wonderful representatives for WestMAC at these events and, on behalf of the College community, I extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for the many hours

invested into making WestMAC Dance a force to be reckoned with.

Highly-regarded education critic and commentator, Sir Ken Robinson, would approve.

Sir Robinson is a best-selling author and emeritus professor at the University of Warwick who recently attended the National Future Schools Conference and Expo in Melbourne. He argues that learning to dance is as important as mastering calculus because there is strong evidence that "dance improves students' relationships, memory, concentration and classroom behaviour" (Cook, 2018).

Dance provides opportunities for students to create and convey their understanding of the world, to work both independently and collaboratively, solve problems, engage with a variety of cultural and social perspectives, become more confident, and appreciate the beauty - and hard work - of meaningful movement. The bonds that Dance students develop during long hours of rehearsal and performance are strong, and continue long after graduation - evidence that the value of Dance extends beyond the academic domain, benefitting students socially, emotionally, intellectually, and personally.

Best wishes and again, sincere thanks to all students, staff and parents for their significant contribution to this important aspect of College life.

Sources

Cook, H. (2018). Learning salsa as important as maths, education expert says. The Sydney Morning Herald. Accessed

https://www.smh.com.au/national/victoria/ learning-salsa-as-important-as-maths-education-expert-says-20180327-p4z6f8.html

• Providing their best possible effort on 7 May, 2018.

Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority (QCAA) (June, 2017). Dance General Senior Syllabus 2019. Accessed at: https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/portal/syllabuses/ snr_dance_19_syll.pdf on 7 May, 2018.

Geoff McLay - Principal Phone: 3813 4555

Whole School

25 Year Birthday Dinner Dance

You are warmly invited to the...

25 Year Birthday Dinner Dance

Celebrating our silver anniversary and honouring 25 years of community and educational leadership.

Please join us 'by the light of the silvery moon' for this special night to remember.

Saturday 28 July 2018, from 6.30pm

\$99 per person. All inclusive dinner, drinks (beer, wine and bubbles), dancing and live music. Tables of 10 available. Tickets available until midnight Monday 16 July.

Click here to purchase your tickets!



Whole School

Middle School

Next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, sees the Year 7 and 9 students participate in NAPLAN. Importantly, this is a test in time – meaning that it provides students and parents with a snapshot of ability across multiple areas including Language Conventions and Writing, Reading and Numeracy.

I have asked the students to be well prepared including:

- Getting sufficient sleep the night before each test
- · Arriving to school early and with all of the correct materials
- Focusing throughout the entirety of each test

NAPLAN is an important assessment tool but it shouldn't be considered the be all and end all. Here at WestMAC, we take into account a wide array of assessment measures and focus on delivering a holistic educational program. I'm very proud of the students preparation and wish them all the best over the testing period.

This week saw the final round of the Spelling Competition unfolding at Middle School assembly. I would like to congratulate Gilmore and Lawson Houses for winning the overall category. Equally, congratulations to Madeline Smit for taking out the individual category and Emma Robertson for her second place.

Further finalists included:

Year 7: Keira Davies (Paterson) and Arthur Ryan (Lawson) Year 8: Flynn Tetley (Gilmore) and Madeline Smit (Wright)

Year 9: Rhapsody Fox (Lawson) and Emma Robertson (Gilmore)

Overall House Results:

Equal 1st: Gilmore and Lawson

3rd: Mackellar 4th: Paterson 5th: Wright

Finally, I wish all our Mothers in the WestMAC community a very happy Mother's Day. We spoke about the amazing efforts, dedication and sacrifices our Mother's make for us at assembly this week, so I am certain that you'll be spoilt this Sunday as well as receive an abundance of gifts.

John O'Sullivan Williams - Head of Middle School

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Middle School

Junior School

Managing Emotions

This term our focus in RAVE is about managing emotions. Our feelings are an important and necessary part of our lives – even the unpleasant ones! Pleasant feelings help us to understand the things that make us feel happy. These happy feelings also help us to cope better when things are not going so well. Feelings such as anger and feeling scared might alert us to possible danger and motivate us to protect ourselves.

We all experience a range of feelings every day. Our feelings can change quickly or stay with us for a longer time. The better we understand our feelings the better we can understand ourselves. It is important to know how to be the boss of your feelings so that we do not let unpleasant feelings control our lives. Being the boss of our feeling is not the same as not having any feelings – it is about finding safe ways to express our feelings without hurting anyone.

Recognising the feelings of others is the first step to understanding them. This is called empathy.

Source: Bounce Back by Helen McGrath and Toni Noble

Further information about helping children to manage emotions is available at: https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/health-and-community/resources-families/about-emotions/managing-emotions

Kirsten Mullan - Head of Junior School

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Junior School

Chaplaincy

Well, the hair is growing fast and furiously but it's not long enough to style yet, so I've got an overgrown crew cut happening. It's also very grey but then, I'm not as young as I used to be. Regardless, I regret nothing because you were all so amazingly generous in your sponsorship of the WestMAC World's Greatest Shave Team and we know that the money we've raised so far will really make a difference to Queensland families living with blood cancer. I'm going to impose on your generosity a little more though, because we were gifted a signed Reds Jersey and the P & F were kind enough to pay

to have it framed, so now we're raffling it. The tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Posters which show the frame are around the school in different reception areas and tickets can be purchased from the Cashier's Office. Who wouldn't love such a special piece of Queensland sporting memorabilia? Get your tickets. After all, you've got to be in it to win it! All proceeds from this will be added to the total of our donation to the Leukaemia Foundation. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 25 May so that we can finalise our monies for donation.

On the Sunday of the Labor Day weekend, we moved Worship@WestMAC outside. Rather than meeting at the chapel at 9.30am, we gathered at Cormorant Bay, at 11am for a simple communion service, where everyone had an important part to play. Bubble prayers abounded and it really was special and, at times, moving occasion. Afterwards we broke out the eskies and shared a picnic together. I've always been a great believer that families don't just need to pray together, but also play together and, of course, since earliest days, eating has been an essential part of Christian gatherings. It was a joyful and energetic get-together with almost 30 of us spending time together. I was previously unaware that our WestMAC family contains a number of particularly talented tree-climbers. I'm not quite sure when, but I just know that information will come in handy at some point in the future.

Mother Julie Craig-Leaves - Chaplain

Phone: 3813 5630

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Whole School

Sport

Junior TAS and TAS Sport Trimester 2

All teams have played two rounds of fixtures so far in the Trimester 2 season. More detailed reports for each sport will be included in the next addition of the newsletter as this will be the halfway point of the season.

Results and competition ladders for TAS Sport can be found at http://www.theassociatedschools.com.au/

Junior TAS and TAS Cross Country

The Junior TAS and TAS Cross Country teams will be selected over the following week and all runners are going through their final preparations in the way of time trials at training before the upcoming Cross Country Carnival, to be held at the St Paul's School at Bald Hills. If any students still wish to be considered in these teams and they have not attended training yet they are to attend next week.

Representative Sport (District, Regional)

We would like to reiterate that it is College procedure that parents/families inform the College when their son/daughter is absent from school for representative sport. Though the College does sign-off on the required paperwork to allow students to attend these sporting trials, we cannot assume that they attend as WestMAC staff are not present at every trial to confirm our student attendance. This has been College procedure for many years and has not changed. We ask for all families' cooperation in ensuring that student absence due to representative sport is communicated appropriately.

District Swimming, District Cross Country and District Athletics are the only exceptions to this as we send larger teams of students and will always send WestMAC staff to supervise students at these events. A WestMAC team manager will inform the College as to which students are attending those events as a part of the team on the day.

Mathew Ellis - Head of Sport

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Whole School Junior TAS TAS Extra-curricular Activity

Geography

Year 12 Geography Excursion

The Year 12 Geography class travelled to Curtis Falls in the Joalah Section of Tamborine National Park on Tuesday as part of their studies on Sustaining Biodiversity. Despite the rain, the class was able to observe how the impacts of increasing visitor numbers are being managed. Students will now develop plans to manage a particular issue they identified during the field investigation, and make recommendations about how to sustainably manage this popular national park.



Donna Googe - Year 12 Geography Teacher

Email: dgooge@wmac.com.au

Defence

ANZAC Day is always a busy and special time for Defence families. This year our theme for ANZAC Day was 100 Year commemorations of the signing of the Armistice. Our talented Year 3 students, made posters with 100 poppies included and a dove as a symbol of peace, to recognise the signing. Our wonderful Prep students contributed as well. They worked very hard to create colourful doves, symbolising peace. Thank you to teachers and students involved in this as it always makes our service special. A big thank you to the parents that came along and supported our service. It was great to see you all there.

As we are most fortunate to have 225 Airforce Cadet Squadron here at WestMAC, every year we are called upon to help support Brassall Aged Care Facility with its ANZAC Day service. This year was no exception. I would like to thank the students involved: Kathleen Apetri, Hudson Walker and Matthew Harris as these cadets are in Year 12 and this was to be their last ANZAC service as WestMAC students and cadets. Sabastian Rowe and George Despot were amazing as part of the Catafalque Party. Connar McConnell, stepped up on the morning of our service and learnt to slow march, within an hour. Well done Connar!! James Sheehan, our Cultural Attaché, (former 225 Air Cadet) stepped in, and helped out with the flag, for both Brassall Nursing Home and our service. All the cadets past and present, that have represented 225 Squadron and WestMAC, have done so with great pride and commitment. Very proud of your efforts and diligence.





Jenny Sheehan - Defence Transition Officer

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Uniform Shop

Uniform Shop Opening Times – School Days only

Day	Term 2
Monday	7.30am to 3.30pm
Wednesday	7.30 to 11am
Friday	7.30am to 3.30pm

During this term the Uniform Shop will be:

Open

Saturday 26 May Open Day 10.30am to 3pm

Closed

Friday 18 May Ipswich Show Holiday

Blazer pockets

Embroidery left at the Uniform Shop before the end of last Term is now ready to be collected. The cutoff dates for embroidery this term are:

- Friday 4 May, back Wednesday 16 May
- Monday 21 May, back on Wednesday 30 May
- Monday 11 June, back Wednesday 20 June
- Friday 22 June (last day of Term 2) back at start of Term 3

Gloves & Scarves

Only plain navy scarves and gloves are allowed to be worn with a College uniform. The Uniform Shop sells plain navy scarves for \$10 and gloves for \$7. Supporter scarves are also available for \$30.

Second Hand Uniforms

The Uniform Shop accepts second hand uniforms that are in good condition for resale. During the term the items received are processed. The proceeds will appear as a credit on your College Fees Account for the following term. Further information and forms are available in the Uniform Shop section on the College website.

Junior TAS & TAS Sport Borrowed Uniforms

Any outstanding Junior TAS and TAS sport uniforms borrowed for Term 1 must be returned as soon as possible otherwise students could be charged \$75 for each item not returned.

Glenda Boike - Uniform Shop Convenor

Phone: 3813 4533

Email: uniforms@wmac.com.au

Whole School

Career's Advisor

Semester 2 Head Start applications now open

The USQ Head Start program is an opportunity for high achieving Year 11 and 12 students to get a 'head start' on their university studies and experience what it's like to be a university student. For more information on this program and the application process, check out our Head Start page.

Fairs offer advice on studying in USA

Queensland school students thinking about studying at a university in the United States may be interested in attending college fairs in Brisbane on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 May. The fairs at Anglican Church Grammar School and The Southport School are open to the public and students from all schools can attend.

Visit the Education USA Australia Facebook page for more information.

2018 Tertiary Studies Expo - Brisbane

The 37th annual Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO), Australia's largest tertiary studies expo, offers a unique opportunity for anyone interested in starting, changing or upgrading their career! Featuring many local, interstate and overseas education providers. students services and job support agencies. Don't miss this great opportunity to map out your future, all in the one location!

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 July 10am to 4pm Brisbane Showgrounds

Chance to win a \$500 JB Hi-Fi gift card!

Visitors to TSXPO in 2018 have the chance to win a \$500 JB HI-FI voucher!

Download the form and put it in the entry barrel at the QTAC stand on the 21 or 22 of July.

This exciting prize is proudly sponsored in 2018 by QTAC

*Only one entry per person. Multiple entries will make all of your entries invalid.

Are you a Social Savvy Student?

Enter today for the chance to WIN a \$100 COLES MYER gift card plus four runners up will receive a \$50 EVENT CINEMAS Voucher to help promote Brisbane's leading Tertiary Studies Expo. Once you have entered, you will receive suggestions to create six posts for Friday evening and the two weekend days.

The selected Year 10, 11 or 12 students must attend the expo for 2 hours minimum and share your experience on your favourite digital platforms.

Enter now to become a 2018 TSXPO AMBASSADOR.

More information and the full Terms and Conditions can be found here.

Changes to selection process for Doctor of Medicine at UQ

The UQ Academic Board have approved changes to the selection process for UQ's Doctor of Medicine (MD) program that will impact current high school students.

These changes will be progressively introduced over the coming years, allowing students ample time to prepare.

What are the changes?

There are two main changes to the selection process for the MD Program at UQ:

- The introduction of a Mini Multiple Interview as part of the selection process (only impacting current Year 10 students, or younger)
- The introduction of prerequisite courses to ensure students are well prepared for the first two years of the program (impacting all students)

Why the change?

Our revised admission process is designed to ensure the highly sought-after places in the MD program are offered to applicants who demonstrate the attributes and abilities most suited to the profession of medicine, and most likely to succeed in the MD program.

UQ aim's to select applicants who are representative of the populations we serve and whose goals align with our vision:

- Critical scientific thinkers: Our graduates are research literate and curious. A significant proportion pursue clinical academic careers, expanding the boundaries of knowledge in their field.
- Socially accountable: They are champions for integrating patient care and committed to improving health disparities in their communities. As patient-centred professionals, our graduates practice values-based medicine.
- Global leaders in health care: Our graduates are actively engaged in improving the quality of patient care and public health globally. They are effective team players, bringing skills in leadership and innovation to improve health care in their communities.

Questions?

Contact UQ Admissions on admissions@uq.edu.au or call us on (07) 3365 2203.

Kym Hayes - Career's Advisor

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Email: khayes@wmac.com.au

Whole School

Kindy



Carolyn Symonds - Director/Teacher - Kindy

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Whole School

Bus Driver needed

Fassifern Coaches Driver position vacancy

- Must have Drivers Authorisation and Medium Rigid Licence
- Applicant is required to be punctual, neat and tidy
- 20 to 25 hours per week

Please contact:

John Musso 0434 264 380 john@yellowbus.com.au

Whole School