Principal’s Note

Term 3 comes to a close with the creation of many enjoyable memories. We travelled to Isisford for the Wally Rae Sports Day.

The students participated in all of the events. Miss Peta’s coaching was very apparent with every member of the Windorah relay team successfully passing the baton. Polly (Prep) ran as a member of our relay team. Well done, Polly. Kitty encountered competition in her age group but successfully applied herself and won Age Champion. Koby tried hard, even though I had placed him in the wrong age group. Sorry about that, Koby. I won’t do it again. Lily showed skill in the shot put and discus, winning her events.

Design and Technology is a component of the Australian Curriculum. By the end of Year 4/5 student are expected to explain how products, services and environments are designed to best meet needs of communities and their environment. They develop and expand design ideas and communicate these using models and drawings. Students plan and sequence major steps in design and production. They identify appropriate technologies and techniques and demonstrate safe work practices when producing designed solutions.

Therefore, the students have designed and built model yards that they consider best suit the needs of the school chooks. Thank you, Robbie Beilby for all of your help.

Five very individual designs were created with the students’ problem solving as they worked. I was impressed with the solution that was devised to make...
the gates open and close. These are nearly completed and should arrive home at the end of the term.

On Thursday 3rd September the students were lucky enough to be shown the community’s new fire truck. They enjoyed using the fire hose, practised safety roles and were given a kit to take home.

Writing News
One of the goals for this year is to improve the writing of each child at Windorah State School. Every child is making progress. I have included a review written by Lily, Year 5.

Storm Boy

Colin Thiele wrote Storm Boy in 1963. It was first published as the Rim of the Morning by Rigby. It was adapted to film by Henri Safran in 1976. In my opinion the main message in Storm Boy is to live life even though it may not be perfect, learn to love things and learn to let them go. Live life and Love!!

In the film Safran relied on extreme long shots to portray the wind swept scenery of the Coorong. They call the Coorong the 90 mile beach for how it stretches from the South Australian Coorong on one side to the southern ocean on the other. I believe that the book portrays the setting better because it uses descriptive language such as “A wild strip, it is wind swept and tussocky, with the flat shallow water of the South Australian Coorong on one side and the endless slam of the Southern Ocean on the other.”

The characters in the film didn’t portray the message as successfully as those in the book. The characters in the novel stood out more effectively by communicating and connecting to the reader’s emotions.

In the plot the main differences are at the end when Mr Percival the pelican dies. In the novel Storm Boy goes to high school in Adelaide when Mr Percival dies but in the film Storm Boy finds a new Mr Percival. I enjoyed the novel because it was more realistic and enjoyable.

I enjoyed the novel most because it was more descriptive and engaging to the reader and it was more realistic than the film. Storm Boy is a great Australian story. You should read it too!!

Thank you, Lily for sharing your review.

Reading News
We have combined with Jundah State School and Stonehenge State School to develop the Barcoo Shire Data Wall so that the students can recognise where they stand in their reading levels and be able to compare themselves to others. This will help the students to challenge themselves. Each student has been given an identifying number so that they can keep their scores private if they choose.

PM
Reading assessment commences with the PM Reading Benchmarks. There are 30 levels in this kit. Most children complete these levels by the middle of year 3. Children advance to the next level when they can read the text with 95% accuracy in decoding and achieve a satisfactory mark for comprehension.

PROBE
Once students complete the PM Benchmarks they move onto PROBES. There are 20 levels in this kit. Level 20 has a reading and comprehension age of 15 years. These assessments concentrate on text only and do not have images. There are 8 to 10 comprehension questions for each text. The questions test literal, inferential, reorganising ability, vocabulary and evaluative skills.
Well done, everyone!

**Attendance**

We have achieved 97.3% attendance rate this term.

**Mathematics News**

We all know how important it is to know our number facts, both addition and multiplication. Year 2 has been learning strategies for addition facts. I try to encourage the students to move past the counting on strategy and have instant recall of facts by teaching strategies such as doubles, doubles plus 1, 2, rainbow 10 and 9+ facts. Year 4 and 5 are learning multiplication facts. Again, I am trying to encourage instant recall of facts. If you have a multiplication Chart at home, please encourage your child to repeat the facts each night. They listen to a multiplication CD at school and complete number facts sheets but repetition is the key to success in this area.

Year 4 and 5 have started an online Impact Numeracy course. This goes for 10 lessons and concentrates on problem solving; SEE, PLAN, DO, CHECK. The students have been given a web site that they can access at home to practise the skills taught during the course.

**PREP TRANSITION**

Due to the fact that Bedourie, Birdsville, Jundah and Stonehenge Principals will be in Windorah on the first Friday 9th October the transition program for prep and swimming program will not start until the 2nd Friday of term 4.

**Prep Transition**

**Where:** WSS Library  
**When:** 9am – 11:30am  
**Who:** Miss Jenny (Early Childhood trained).

Parent must sign their children in and collect them at the end of the session. It is preferable if at least one parent stays during the session. Some of the activities that the children will be doing are:

- Water play – coloured water and various containers
- Sand play – sand pit equipment
- Playdough
- Chalk drawing on the cement
- Painting easels
- Goop – cornflour and water play
- Puzzles
- Large box painting
- Drawing
- Obstacle courses
- Book corner
- Collage
- Puppets
- Finger painting
- Dance.

The children are invited to bring their morning tea so that they can eat with the older students and join in the first play session.

**Swimming**

**Where:** Jundah Pool  
**When:** Fridays. Leave WSS at 12pm. Eat lunch on the way. Arrive pool 1pm. Swim from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Arrive back in Windorah 4 to 4:30pm.

This means that we will have 6 sessions before the end of year swimming camp. Please let me know if you find that the weekly swimming trip is too tiring for your children.

**Grandparents**

Prep and Year 2 students and Miss Jenny are busy preparing for Grandparents Morning on Thursday 10th September.
Read-a-thon

Students having started reading for the Read-a-thon. We read every day from 1:30 to 2:00pm. Please start to finalise the sponsorships. Could you please return the forms and money collected to school on Monday 14th September so we can bank and finalise the forms before the Term3 break starts.

Thank you to all of those people who have sponsored the students.

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A GREAT DAY OUT FOR
THE KIDS!!

Ilfracombe & District Progress Association Inc.

Ilfracombe Footy Clinic

Come throw a ball around with NRL football legends

DATE: Saturday 10th October 2015
TIME: 12.30pm until 4.00pm
VENUE: Ilfracombe Rec Centre

REMINDER TO BRING A HAT,
SUNSCREEN & WATER BOTTLE
FREE SAUSAGE ON BREAD AND SOFTDRINK FOR EVERY CHILD
There will also be markets on the day and a special presentation by Trish Drummond on alcohol and drug use [for ages 13+]

For further information please contact
Jo Winkleman on 0400 754 189

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Windorah State School Cake Stall
10th September
Beside Col’s Fruit Truck

Once again I am completely overwhelmed by the support given to the school by the community. Thank you Wendy and Ross Groves for all of the time and cakes that you have supplied.

Thank you
Jenny Hughes and Jenny Boyne

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