Classroom Happenings:

School resumed on Monday 14th July after the two week winter break. The students were brimming with news; gymkhanas, fishing adventures, annual shearing, State of Origin results and trips away to visit family and friends. After sharing their news orally they then wrote about their holiday adventures. They are sharing some of their writing in this newsletter.

We offer a warm welcome to Mrs Teena McColl who has accepted a contract to work at the school on a regular basis for the remainder of 2014, replacing Miss Jane.

In the first English unit this term students will listen to, read and view a range of poetry including lyrics, odes and anthems. The assessment for years 1, 2 & 3 students will involve them creating an imaginative reconstruction of a poem or rhyme and presenting it to their peers. Students in years 5, 6 and 7 will create a folio of responses for three poems by analysing the authors’ use of language and its impact on the message and ideas of text.

NADOC Week

To celebrate NADOC Week we had Mr Arthur Conlon, of Mundai Art conduct a one day workshop.

Using the explicit instruction teaching sequence, Arthur taught the students a range of techniques. In the I Do phase Arthur demonstrated a number of different techniques and quickly completed what ended up looking like a very complex painting. In the We Do phase the students completed a turtle. In the You Do phase the students utilised the techniques used when completing the turtle to do their second piece. Each child completed two individual pieces of artwork of Australian animals.

The girls, with the assistance of Arthur then completed two canvas pieces using paints while the boys painted boomerangs.

Positive Behaviour

The staff at Stonehenge are committed to ensuring that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving within a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment.

During Term 2 students were rewarded for positive behaviour and those achieving their term target of 200 tokens participated in the excursion to Longreach for the State of Origin street parade and had the opportunity to participate in the skills development workshops with the players.

It is pleasing to report that all students exceeded the target tokens for the term.

Upcoming events

- Central West Athletics, 21st July
- CUQ Bu, 28th July
- Principals Business Meeting, 28 & 29th July
- West Tech, 9th & 10th August
- Winton Junior Bush Poetry, 11th & 12th August
- Stonehenge Bronco Branding, 16th & 17th August
Athletics
The Barcoo Shire Council Athletics Carnival was hosted by Jundah at the racecourse on Friday 13th June. Friendly competition across the day between the Windorah, Stonehenge, Jundah and students from LSODE saw some very close finishes in many of the events. Windorah was the overall carnival winner. The students are fantastic sportspersons and show great team spirit, cheering and yelling encouragement for their fellow classmates. All students won ribbons and Jarrod, Heath, Prue and Brodie won their age divisions. Rain washed out the program before the ball games and relays could be completed.

The LSODE and Small Schools combined athletics carnival was held at the Longreach High School oval on 19th & 20th June. At this carnival small schools from the Longreach area complete as one team against the two LSODE house teams: Boree and Coolibah. Within the Small Schools, Prue and Heath won their age division competitors with Jarrod being runner-up in his group. Prue and Heath are eligible to represent Small Schools at the Central West Athletics Carnival in Longreach on 21st July.

P & C Association
The monthly meeting for the Stonehenge P & C Association was held at the school yesterday afternoon. The P & C would like to thank all persons who purchased tickets in their State of Origin raffle. The winner was Nathan Cameron.

Student Writing
My Cut Foot by Rory
I cut my foot when I went to Tom’s dam. I jumped into the water and cut my foot open. It was bleeding. Dad took me home and rang the doctor to see what to do. Dad put my foot under running water to get the poison out.

Windorah Gymkhana by Brodie
I liked playing with my friends at Windorah Gymkhana. My friends were smashing bottle then we were playing around at the bar.

Flying Start – Changes for Year 7 post 2014
Exciting changes await our Year 6 and 7 students this year, as 2014 marks the final year that Year 7 will be a part of primary school in Queensland. Next year, our current Year 6 students will become the first group of Year 7 students in high school.

To provide a smooth transition we are supporting students and parents, and working with Longreach High School to ensure the move is a great success. Assistance with information for schooling options, other than Longreach, are available by contacting the principal.

As a result of the introduction of the Prep year, almost half of our current Year 6 student will turn 13 in 2015 and will be in their eighth year of school, which is traditionally the right time to start high school. Our students will have greater access to specialist teachers and resources in high school, such as science teachers and labs, which will open up new and exciting educational opportunities.

Over the coming weeks and months we’ll be sharing more information with you, to help you and your child prepare for the move to high school.

We are confident that all of our students will experience a smooth and successful transition to high school. If you would like more information on the move of Year 7 to high school, you can also visit www.flyingstart.qld.gov.au
The Windorah Gymkhana

On the 12th and 13th of July 2014, we were at the Windorah Gymkhana. We arrived early at Windorah and unloaded the horses and motorbike off the truck. We found our campsite and saddled up. It was windy and chilly, as expected it would be. We had dressed in the truck on the way down so it was now a mess in the cab. I jumped on my horse, Oak, and took her for a ride to warm up her muscles, and mine.

BANG and their off. The Windorah Gymkhana has started for 2014. First up are the Under 6 Led. Then the Under 6 Ridden, 7 to 11 yrs, 12 to 15yrs, Ladies and Mens. These were the age groups for the horse events. There were many events but my favourite was and always is the barrel race. This involves speeding around 3 barrels, evenly spaced apart, then racing home over the finish line. I usually go very well in the barrels, but today Oak didn't like them. She wouldn't turn in, though I must admit they were very oddly set out. Later I came second in the Walk, Trot & Lead, so that lifted my spirits greatly. Dust and dirt flew through the air as the revving and roaring motorbikes raced against each other through the pegs. I don't like motorbikes as much as horses but they're still alright I suppose. I came third in the figure of 8. I stalled it countless times in the flag race but still beat Lleyton every time. Yesss!!

The next day was Sunday. Usually we don't stay long on Sunday but this time dad was competing in the Bronco Branding so we stayed until lunchtime. Dad was in the singles and won third place and in the doubles with Mr Rayment and didn't even catch five cattle. We rode our horses around with Jarrod & Rory until they had to leave. We then unsaddled the horses and played with our friends until we left.

I always enjoy Windorah and this year was absolutely no different from any other. I won two trophies and had lots of fun. I already can't wait till next year...