Classroom Happenings:

Last Friday we travelled to Isisford to compete in the annual Sir Wally Rae Sports. The competition started with a team march past and war cries followed by the 400 and 800 metre races, then the 100 and 200 metre sprints. Brodie repeated his Barcoo Sports performance winning both of his sprints by a clear margin. Heath was narrowly beaten in the last metre in his 400 metre race then went on to win his age division in the 100 and 200 metres. Prue, Anna and Tahnee put in strong runs in all their nominated track events adding valuable points to the overall school tally and receiving ribbons for their finishing positions.

The field events: shot put, discus, long and high jump completed the program. With record numbers of students competing in the field events the program run behind time and team relays had to be cancelled.

Students gathered in the undercover area and war cries echoed around the racecourse for one last time before the trophies were presented.

Brodie and Heath both won their age division championship and the combined points from all the Stonehenge students saw the school awarded the overall winners for the 3rd consecutive year.

Overall Champion 2013 - Stonehenge

Students have been completing unit assessment pieces this week in English, Mathematics, Science, HPE and History.

In English, Brodie’s task was a retell of a cultural story. He has chosen to include this for you to enjoy. Prue shared her recount from Camp Fairbairn in the last newsletter and today Tahnee, Anna and Heath are publishing their completed recounts.

Today marks the final day of Term 3. The students have worked consistently during this term and are looking forward to a well-deserved break. For those travelling during the next fortnight take care on the roads. School will resume on Tuesday 7th October with Monday 6th a public holiday for the Queen’s Birthday.

2013 SCHOOL TERM DATE

Term 4

Dates to Remember
21-22nd October – Cricket @ Stonehenge
4th - 6th October – Jundah: Oktoberfest, Race meeting & Billy Cart Races
7th October - Public Holiday
8th October – Term 4 commences
21st October - Student free day
29-31st October - Principals Business Meeting Longreach

AGM STAG – To be advised
The P & C are lighting up the B-B-Q this Saturday to cater for lunch at the cricket matches between Stonehenge, Jundah and Windorah. The next general meeting will be held at the school on Thursday 10th October at 3:15pm. Agenda items welcomed. Please contact, Secretary: Mrs Dianne Pidgeon Treasures: Ann Godber

Canoes on Lake Fairbairn

Camp Fairbairn - Author Tahnee

“I’m so excited!” I yelled as we were driving to Emerald from Stonehenge. We had just left Longreach after meeting up with the other two schools, Jundah and Bedourie. I was sitting with Prue and Brodie in the middle while Heath and Anna were in the back yelling at each other. All I heard was “get your legs off me” and then a sharp “no!” I started laughing my head off then suddenly stopped, like I usually do. We went to Alpha and stopped to have afternoon tea, then drove to Emerald. We went to McDonald’s and had tea then we went to Camp Fairbairn, talked to Lynn, went to our dorms and went to sleep.

On Monday we participated in team sports in the morning, it was hard because we were lacking in communication skills. However, after morning tea we had a bit more communication happening and we managed to get all but one of the activities finished which is called the Electric Fence.

After lunch we had rock climbing. I did not want to do it. I put on my harness, slowly, as I was quite confused. Putting the harness on was fun but once I felt it hugging my waist and legs I decided it was too uncomfortable. When we went to the rock wall we sat down and Tony talked to us about climbing the wall. We got the safety teams ready for the two people climbing and took it in turns being in the safety team but when it came to my turn I was too scared so I sat out while everyone else had a go, including the teachers. I was so proud of Anna because she only wanted to go two metres up the eight metre wall but instead climbed to all the way up to the top, and she expressed her opinion the “dam view was gorgeous!”

Finally, after the rock climbing was finished we had afternoon tea, washed our plates up and had showers with hardly any water. Then it was time for a delicious dinner. After tea the campers gathered around for a quiz night, it was so fun and Anna’s team won. My team came second, follow by Prue’s team. I think?

On Tuesday we had breakfast, got ready and then went down to where we were building our catapults. We watched a quick demo about how to build a catapult and then we built our own. I was in a team with Amy, Emily and Becky. After we finished building our catapult we went and had morning tea. When morning tea was over we put our catapults to use and had a war with the teachers. I got hit twice, once on the hip and once below the hip.

After lunch we packed for the campout and got ready to leave for the campsite. The grade 4 to 7’s were canoeing, so we got ready and went down to the canoes. I got in the canoe and canoodled out of there. No, just kidding. I got in but when I discovered we had to go further into the water I got out and unfortunately I didn’t get back in.

I walked to the campsites with some of the other students and teachers. When we got there the canoes had already arrived. We had to build shelters, have tea and then went to bed. In the morning we had breakfast, changed our clothes, packed up our things and left. When we arrived back at the dorms we had showers, lunch and then our activities. I was with the P’s to 3’s on Wednesday and we had a treasure hunt. The 4’s to 7’s did abseiling.

On Thursday we packed up and left for our home destinations. We overnighted in Longreach and left for home on Friday.

If I had the chance I think I would probably go back to Camp Fairbairn and have a go at everything even if I was a little bit afraid.
Waking up at Camp Out

Camp Fairbairn  by Heath

“Get your legs off me!” I yelled as we drove down the road towards Emerald. We were on our way to Camp Fairbairn and my friend Anna was laying against the side of the car with her leg against me.

We arrived at camp, unloaded our luggage and went over to the dining room and had a talk with one of the staff. After that we went to our rooms and went to bed. The next morning we met our instructor at breakfast and he was pretty funny. All of the meals were great and I was always looking forward to them.

We did a lot of activities over the camp but the highlight for me was the abseiling. I had a stir of excitement in my tummy as I climbed the towering pole. When I reached the top I felt like I was going to burst with excitement as Tony hooked me up and I put my feet over the edge of the wall. He instructed me to slowly lean off the wall and then start to carefully walk down the wall. When I reached the bottom of the wall which was only about one quarter of the way down the tower I lowered my head down and took my feet off so I was hanging there. Then I slowly lowered myself down to the ground and unhooked.

On Tuesday afternoon we were all very excited because we were going to canoe over to Camp Out. We all raced into the big shed, picked our oars and life jackets then gathered around Tony. He had a little talk to us and then we stampeded down to the canoes and set off across the great Fairbairn Dam. After a long afternoon of paddling and running into the thick patches of trees along the edge we finally conquered the canoes.

We arrived at camp, changed into some dry clothes and then started building the excellent enclosures. We had to get in teams and make shelters to sleep in. There were only 5 boys so we decided to all go in one shelter. We had a bit of trouble building it but the finished product was marvellous. All we had to make them were tarps, steel pickets to hold them to the ground, iron pegs and trees were what we had to tie the tarps to and you had thin mattresses to put your sleeping bag on. For dinner we had stew and for dessert we had apple pie and ice-cream. The toilet was not very impressive. You could call it ‘the hole’. The next morning we woke up, had toast for breakfast, put our wet clothes on then headed for the courageous canoes again. On the way back we were early so we stopped for a swim. We were only allowed waist deep and it was freezing cold. Stacey, a boy from Bedourie and I found a heap of vegetables in the water. We finished swimming then continued paddling back. We arrived back at camp, unpacked, had a shower and had some lunch.

Another activity that caught my eye was rock climbing. My tummy was once again filled with excitement as I hooked up to my rope to climb the mighty wall. I started climbing, gripping all the different sized hand grips. Sometimes I couldn’t find a grip to put my foot on. I climbed and climbed until I finally reached the top and saw the amazing view of Fairbairn Dam. I slowly came down and unhooked and let the next person have the same wonderful experience that I had.

In conclusion I would DEFINITELY recommend Camp Fairbairn to other schools because it really is amazing.
Camp Fairbairn by Anna

“Heath!!” barked Prue “Be quiet I’m talking!!” I slightly laughed at Prue. We were all awake and going off, talking at top speed and jumping in our seats like nutty firecrackers. I was being pretty idiotic because I was so hyper and bouncy “Whoa!!” I hooted happily, Heath stared at me but not because I was yelling, because I had my legs on his and was annoying him by elbowing and kicking him.

Our first day, we went rock wall climbing, the rock wall was eight metres high, this was going to be a deadly experience. We had to wear harnesses, for safety reasons, these are totally not comfortable; I doubt they’re meant to be. I watched as everyone seemed to be flying up the wall. I started to climb; I wasn’t really scared for some reason, more ecstatic, than anything else. My goal was the first crack in the climbing wall, which was only really two metres high, but I climbed all the way!! Eight flipping metres!! I looked at the lake over the top nice view I thought to myself and nodded and then grabbed onto my rope and started to come down, it wasn’t easy coming down, I kept on slamming into the wall. “I’m excited about canoeing!” I quickly exclaimed to Heath “But I’m a little bit nervous” I continued blabbing on “I know Anna, you’ve told me like a gazillion times already” Heath complained “Well I got to tell someone” I shrugged. That afternoon I was in a canoe with Becky and Stacey, Stacey was being stupid and he kept rocking the boat, we were about 4 ½ inches from capsizing and Becky and I were doing all the work. I liked canoeing, just in case I didn’t tell you, we were canoeing to camp out.

Then we canoed back to camp the next day, once again Becky and I did all the work. When we got back to camp we had massive jam drops and fruit. That day also was ab-sailing, I didn’t want to do ab-sailing but I did anyway. I was freaking out, my heart was pounding out of my chest, but I was alright when I was coming down. I was the last one to go up the poles and then everyone else had a second go. I laughed when I landed on my bum, but then I flopped to the ground, land again!!

I’m so glad I went to Camp Fairbairn and had the opportunity to do things I never would have thought of doing before and found out that it was so much fun, and I actually liked it. Even though I didn’t think I could do it, I did and I’m glad I did.

Abseil wall, it was a long way to the top!
This story is a cultural story from China.
One day there were four dragons that lived in China. There were no rivers on the land at that time except for the Eastern Sea; this was where the dragons lived. Their names were Long Dragon, Yellow Dragon, Black Dragon and Pearl Dragon.

One day the four dragons were flying around and Pearl Dragon shouted "Look at the people below!" The people below were praying for rain so they could feed their children. The dragons saw the land was dry and they decided to go to the Heavenly Palace to see the Jade Emperor to ask for it to rain because he was very powerful. He didn't care for anybody except himself so he was not happy to see the dragons. Long Dragon begged for the Emperor to send rain because the crops were dying and the people were starving.

The Emperor said "Go back to the Eastern Sea and I will send rain tomorrow." So the four dragons went back to the sea but the dragons didn't know the Emperor was just pretending and he didn't send any rain.

The dragons waited for ten days but then realised the Emperor was not going to send rain. This made the dragons sad, and then Long Dragon had an idea "Let's pick up water in our mouths and spray it from the sky to water the crops and save the people!" The other dragons agreed but they were worried that the Emperor would get angry. Then Yellow Dragon said "I will do anything to save the people!" "Yes, yes" said the other dragons. So the dragons flew to the sea and got some water in their mouths and sprayed water on the land and the people rejoiced. The Jade Emperor found out what they were doing and he was not happy. "Capture the four dragons and bring them to me." He ordered the Mountain God to put a mountain on each of the dragons so they couldn't escape. The four dragons still wanted to help the people so they turned themselves into four rivers. These rivers still give water to the people in China today.