Growing Our Future

Robotics Rage at Binda

Last week’s visit to Binda Public School was a great learning experience for our students who enthusiastically participated in the activities organised by Ms Hyland, their robotics tutor for the day. Placed into two groups of Infants and Primary, the children worked with students from Goulburn High School who began by showing their robots and demonstrating the moves they could perform. Everyone was given the opportunity to operate the robots which was challenging in itself as some of the robots ran into students or other objects.

Our students began by constructing basic machines and were initially given a task to build a pendulum. Discussion followed on the designs and efficiency with the students challenged to improve their construction so that the pendulum could effectively knock down a group of blocks. This was an important lesson in understanding force and how it would change with the addition of a motor. Basic coding activities were also undertaken to understand that very precise instructions are needed to successfully complete a movement.

During the day, infants and primary also participated in sporting activities and art with Infants designing a robot with shapes while Primary were challenged to an obstacle course.

Everyone agreed that it was a great day not only working with robotics but also having the opportunity to socialise with the students from Binda. We are all looking forward to the return visit when Goulburn High School and Binda students visit us in Week 5.
Fun and Learning at Kindy Start

We welcomed our incoming Kindergarten students for 2016, Albert Walsh and Zac Abel and parents, Louise Walsh and Danny Thornycroft to our Kindy Start Orientation Day in Week 2. Following a tour of the school, with our Kindergarten student Henry ably assisting, Albert and Zac visited the Infants classroom for their first mini lesson.

This week began the full Kindy Start program with both boys making a smooth transition into the classroom. They enjoyed the day and want to be in 'big school' all the time! It was great to see such happy and keen children.

We welcome Mrs Heffernan to the Infants classroom each Tuesday as she assists Mrs Shaw with the program.

Student Fundraising for Term 4

Leaders, Rory and Brynn are busy organising their fundraising effort for Term 4. As Primary are undertaking a unit on Global Connections which looks at poverty, weather phenomena and their effects on Third World Countries they will be raising funds to assist families in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu who are currently suffering as a result of a severe drought.

Rory and Brynn, along with Primary are hoping to hold a film night towards the end of term. Details of the night will be in the next newsletter. We hope all the community can support this worthwhile cause.

Building Learning Muscles

The Australian Curriculum identifies General Capabilities that are made up of valuable qualities widely recognised as essential for success in learning, life and work. The challenge for us is to cultivate these qualities in students so that they become habits of learning so that students will use them when appropriate, ready and often automatically. This is known as Building Learning Power!

Students have already focussed on collaboration, questioning, listening and managing distractions. The next ‘learning muscle’ students are focussing on is planning. Planning often starts with the end in mind then we fill in the detail while persevering and rising to new challenges when things change.

Growing Our Future
Swimming

Each afternoon in Weeks 8 and 9 we will be participating in the School Swimming and Water Safety Program at Gunning pool. Lesson sessions are from 1.25 - 2.10pm.

The bus will cost approximately $30 per student for the two weeks and we will require one driver each day in addition to the bus.

More details will follow in a later newsletter.

Life Education

We have been invited to attend the Life Education Van at Gunning Public School on Thursday 12th November. This program forms part of our Personal Development and Health Key Learning Area. Life Education’s school program consists of 13 curriculum based modules focusing on issues around food and nutrition, personal safety, physical activity, cyber safety, safety with medicine and legal drugs; tobacco, alcohol and caffeine. As content for the Life Education Van changes from year to year, we are waiting for information on the program for this year. There are three sessions offered: Infants, Years 3-4 and Years 5-6, and of course, Healthy Harold will be there for the Infants.

Selective High School for Year 7 2017

Parents who are thinking of sending their child to a Selective High School (Year 7, 2017); need to apply on-line at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Growing Our Future
Term 4 Week 3

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GROWING OUR FUTURE

Relieving Principal: Mrs Robyn Watson

Our Photo Gallery

Tana takes control of the robot.