

Future Footprints Newsletter

October, Term 3 2015

Hi,

Welcome to the Term 3 Future Footprints newsletter for 2015.

I would like to start off by introducing myself, my name is Christina Geerlings and I am a 27 year old Bardi woman from One Arm Point. I have been employed as the Aboriginal Liaison Officer to work alongside Roni. Previously I was employed at Lockridge Primary School for nearly three years, but I have been working in Education for 5. I am also in my 2nd year at Curtin University, studying a Bachelor of Education.

Aboriginal culture is very important to me and I believe that our kids have so much potential and can have everything they want with the right people supporting them. I know I will love working with everyone and seeing the students achieve great things.

To date I have been fortunate enough to be able to visit St Brigid's College, Wesley College, Carmel Adventist College, Iona Presentation College, Christ Church Grammar, Perth College and Presbyterian Ladies College, thank you for having me at your schools and I look forward to visiting the others.

This newsletter is part of my role now and I will be producing one at the end of every term. If you have anything you would like to add, just let me know and I will be happy to include it. I will also be organizing the Term 4 Student Council meeting, we already have a great night planned for the students. Cannot wait!

I have enjoyed being apart of the team so far and look forward to all the upcoming events.

I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday, see you in Term 4.

Christina



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"Intelligence plus character– that is the goal of true education"

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr)



Graduating students 2015



Iona Presentation College students



Presbyterian Ladies College dance group Gorna Liyarn, performing at the Graduation

Student Council Meeting: Guildford Grammar School

On Wednesday the 2nd of September we had our Term 3 Student Council meeting at Guildford Grammar School. The topic for the night was NAIDOC and what did each school do to celebrate.

We also discussed what the Future Footprints students had been doing during the year as well as what they would like to include in the final student council meeting. Some suggestions included; BBQ at the beach, Football, Wildcats meet and greet and Volleyball.

It is clear our kids love their sports!

Another topic discussed was more events with non Indigenous students. This could encourage the non Indigenous students to learn more about Aboriginal culture and backgrounds, but it would also be a great way for both parties to come together in spirit of reconciliation.

There were some great topics discussed that night and many wonderful ideas which hopefully we can use in the future.



Playing Bubble Soccer at the Student Council meeting.

NAIDOC week at our schools..

Guildford Grammar School

Guildford Grammar started off their NAIDOC celebrations by building a sand mural which looked fantastic! Barry McGuire an Elder was also invited to attend to conduct the Welcome to Country and a Smoking Ceremony.

The Indigenous boys also performed a dance, inviting all students to participate, including Mr Webber & other staff.



Guildford Grammar School NAIDOC ceremony

Scotch College

This year for NAIDOC, Scotch began their celebrations on Monday which Junior and Middle school started off with Indigenous Rock Art and Cultural Immersion.

The Indigenous boys from Year 7-12 shared stories from their culture, taught some dance and taught the younger students about the different tools and weapons. This was a great way for the boys to share who they are and where they come from. On the evening of August the 5th, students attended the Yira Yarkiny Concert which was held at the Dickinson Centre. Guest speakers included; Dr Richard Walley, Ken Wyatt MP, Roni Forrest from AISWA and Kimberley Benjamin from Reconciliation WA. Students from Wesley College, Guildford Grammar, Presbyterian Ladies College and Iona Presentation College performed between the speeches. Throughout the night Bush Tucker was also available.

Scotch College ended the weeks celebrations with an assembly. This began with the raising of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and was accompanied with Yarlalu playing the Didgeridoo while Danny Ford and Reverend Sealan Garlett also performed a Smoking Ceremony.

What a wonderful week!



Scotch College NAIDOC performance at the Yira Yarkiny Concert



Wesley College

Wesley College decided to revamp one of their garden areas as part of their NAIDOC week. The old garden area is now a native garden. It looks beautiful so far!

The boys have also been putting together some amazing and stunning pieces of art., which will be showcased at next years NAIDOC exhibition.



Christ Church Grammar School

As the theme this year for NAIDOC was 'We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate', the guys at Christ Church Grammar did something a bit different but very cool. They painted deck chairs with their very own unique Aboriginal designs. The chairs are absolutely amazing!

These chairs were showcased at an art exhibition and the guys should be very proud of themselves



All of our schools do wonderful things to celebrate NAIDOC. I know there was a huge amount of dancing, bush tucker, games, activities, art and involving the Aboriginal community. I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves and immersing themselves in Aboriginal culture, I am also certain our students loved sharing a huge part of themselves too.

This is such an important day and I am so glad that we get to do these amazing things!

I can't wait for next years theme and to see what we will do!



Christ Church Grammar students at their NAIDOC art exhibition. **Right:** Guildford Grammar NAIDOC dancing.



Roni and some of the Iona Presentation College girls at their NAIDOC lunch.



Presbyterian Ladies College students

Future Footprints Graduation 2015

What a wonderful night! With a total of 100 guests including 56 Future Footprints graduates, what an outstanding achievement!

We were lucky enough to have guest speaker Josie Janz Dawson who is an ex PLC boarder and who has now gone on to achieve great things. Thank you Josie for your time and presence.

We were also graced with beautiful dancing from the PLC Aboriginal dance group 'Gorna Liyarn', the girls did a fantastic job.

The students were buzzing with excitement, they have worked hard to get to this point and we are all extremely proud of their efforts and progress. These graduates have amazing goals and they will be wonderful role models to other Aboriginal children, I know they will also go on to do great things.

Future Footprints would like to thank our sponsors Madalah, Stott+Hoare, Lavan Legal and Curtin University for their generous contribution to the Awards of Excellence.



Awards



Twelve awards were given out on the night, from Lavan Legal, Stott+Hoare, Curtin University Partnerships and Madalah.

The Future Footprints Aspirations award was given to Layneisha Sgro from Presbyterian Ladies College, while the Future Footprints Cultural award was given to Darnell Morrison who attends Guildford Grammar School and Ashlyn Hassett received the Future Footprints Camp Leadership award.

Curtin University very generously awarded five Indigenous Partnerships Recommendation Awards, these were presented to; Chloe Russell from St Brigid's College, Sachi Nevil from Presbyterian Ladies College, Brendan Nelson from Hale School, Thelma Birch from Iona Presentation College and Taylah Hastie from St Brigid's College.

Madalah gave out four awards; Male academic was given to Yarlalu Thomas from Scotch College, Female academic to Tallulah Bieundurry from Iona Presentation College, Male leadership was awarded to Nelson Waite from Trinity College and the Female leadership award was presented to Ruby Birch who is graduating from St Mary's College.

Thank you also to Layneisha Sgro for being our MC for the night, you did a fantastic job.

Well done to these students, these are outstanding achievements and something to be very proud of!



Future Footprints Mid-term Camp

35 students attended the Term 3 Future Footprints camp which was held at Ern Halliday Recreation camp in Hilliarys.

Students took part in various activities including, archery, cycling, beach activities, and a basketball competition. Students also took part in a professional photoshoot, the photos look stunning!

Whilst on camp students visited Curtin University to learn about courses, visit campus faculties such as the gym, high tech computer laboratory's and the Engineering Faculty. The highlight of the visit was the visit to the Centre for Aboriginal Studies where current students spoke to our students about how they enrolled in studies and how rewarding University life is. We were treated to a very tasty morning tea and some students were filmed by the University media unit. You can view this video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzbwdqLFk7o>



Carmel Adventist College Events



In week 7 of this term, the Carmel Prefects ran a 'Night under the Stars', this is a fundraiser and awareness event to help homeless people. Students who were involved had to sleep outside and it ended up being a very icy cold night, giving all a good taste of the realities of life on the streets. The team raised \$375 plus much needed clothing and bedding to be donated to the charity. Great work everyone!

In week 10, students were involved in the Multicultural Day with their sister school Lansdale Christian School, they helped run the Australian/Indigenous area for the day.

For NAIDOC week students also ran the weekly assembly and lunch time events, this included, face printing, dot painting stones, native food tasting and of course cultural dance. The day was organized, planned and ran by the Indigenous students, how inspiring and what a great way for them to take initiative and develop their leadership skills.

What a great term Carmel!



St Brigid's trip to Sydney



The St Brigid's girls were extremely lucky this term as they were able to head off to Sydney for a five-day 'Career Fit Camp'. This program is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students aged between 14 to 16.

The girls were given many exciting opportunities and got to meet some very inspiring people.

At the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, they were able to complete an eight hour barista course and also participated in a special effects makeup workshop! What an experience!

That night and the next few days included meeting inspirational speakers, surfing, taking a ferry, visiting Manly Beach, resume writing, a small version of 'The Amazing Race' around Sydney, wrote a newspaper, went on an Aboriginal Astronomy tour and last but not at all least, the group of girls did a tour of Redfern, at Redfern they did a workshop and talked about domestic violence.

This camp was a really inspirational and fun filled trip that will stay with the girls throughout their life as an amazing experience.



"I am so grateful, because this camp has inspired me to achieve greatness"

(St Brigid student)



Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School (IAESS): 10-16th January 2016.

The IAESS, now in its 19th year, is an annual event established by Engineering Aid Australia. It provides Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from around Australia with the opportunity to experience engineering studies and careers.

In January 2016, the university of Sydney will host the IAESS. Open to 20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students entering years 11 and 12, the six-day live-in summer school gives the students a taste of engineering as well as site visits to engineering companies.

Studying engineering helps you develop excellent problem-solving, design and research skills that will allow you to drive and lead innovation that will help shape our future.

If you are good at maths and science, like working with machinery or practical tools and enjoy tackling challenging problems, then engineering maybe just what you're looking for.

If you would like to know more about the summer school, please read our brochure.

To apply, please down an application form.

For more information, contact:

IAESS Coordinator
Engineering Sydney
Level 5
School of Information Technologies
University of Sydney NSW 2006
iaess@sydney.edu.au

"Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teachers can change the world"

(Malala Yousafzai)

Important Dates to remember:

- ⇒ Term 4 Student Council meeting: 4th of November
- ⇒ Indigenous Programs Coordinators Forum Meeting: 3rd of December
- ⇒ AISWA closes for Christmas: 18th of December
- ⇒ Please note that Roni will be away: 2nd November-7th December

YAPANNEYEPUK 'Walking Together to Make a Difference' Conference.

In Term 3, School Coordinators and Roni Forrest attended the Yapaneyepuk 'Walking Together to Make a Difference.' Conference in Melbourne which was hosted by the Victorian Aboriginal College Worawa.

The theme of the conference was coming together to make a difference and learn and teach better practices amongst educators. There were many influential speakers including International guests such as:

Dr Rigoberta Menchú Tum

Nobel Peace Prize Winner, 1992, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, Activist & Politician, Laj Chimel, Quiche' Guatemala,

Jana Harcharek

Director of the North Slope Borough School District's Iñupiaq Education Department, Alaska. Barrow, Alaska, USA and

Distinguished Professor Graham Hingangaroa Smith

Vice-Chancellor/Chief Executive Officer, Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi, New Zealand.

Coordinators Tracey Walker PLC, Andrew Beck Guildford Grammar School, Suzy Williams MLC and Ben Lewis Wesley College all agreed they gained a deeper knowledge and understanding of First Nation ways of knowing, being, doing and learning.

