

WHAT'S ON

SEPTEMBER

- QCS 2nd & 3rd
- Thursday 11th P&C Meeting
- Weipa Parent Interviews 15th—19th

OCTOBER

- Thursday 9th P&C Meeting
- SFD 20th
- College swimming carnival
- Mapoon Dare to be deadly transition trip to Cairns 27th-31st

NOVEMBER

- Weipa Senior Presentation evening 12th
- Thursday 13th P&C Meeting
- Senior Formal 21st
- Last day Yr 12 21st
- Mapoon Yr 6 Graduation
- Yr 10/11 Work experience 24th-28th
- Last day Yr 10 & 11 28th
- Reports issued 28th Yr 10 & 11's

DECEMBER

- Thursday 4th Weipa P&C Meeting
- Reports Issued 4th Prep-9

TERMS DATES:

- Term 1: Jan 2 - Apr 4
- Term 2: Apr 15 - Jun 27
- Term 3: Jul 15 - Sep 19
- Term 4: Oct 6 - Dec 5

STUDENT FREE DAYS

OCT: Mon 20th

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL

Mon: 3.00-4.00pm Active After School
Thur: 3.00-4.00pm Active After School
Meet in front of PE shed at High School.

Don't forget Hats, Water Bottles and Permission Slips if you are new to the program.

Students already registered don't need to worry.

Thursdays will be run by instructors from the Weipa Junior Golf Club which is new and exciting!

SEE YOU THERE!

Contact: Mrs Schneid (40906478)



FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Western Cape College Management Board for contributing at the recent meeting held on Monday 25th August.

Not only do these meetings provide the opportunity to strategically address the direction of the College but it also gives us the opportunity to seek the opinion and support of key stakeholders.

It's only by working together with these stakeholders that we can achieve significant results for our students and develop training and education pathways that result in positive life outcomes.

Programs such as the Regional Partnership Agreement and the Work Readiness Program are just two examples of how the College is building partnerships within the community to help our students achieve their best.

As a result of these partnerships Western Cape College has recently been nominated by the Department for Education, Training and the Arts for a Premiers Award for Partnerships and Reconciliation and I look forward to sharing an update with you when the results are announced later this year.

In this edition of the College Newsletter I draw your attention to the Mapoon update, a concise version of the Quarterly Report. Full versions of the Quarterly Reports are now available on the website for your perusal.

To find out more please visit our website at www.westerncapecollege.com.

Regards,

Ian Mackie

Director Western Cape College

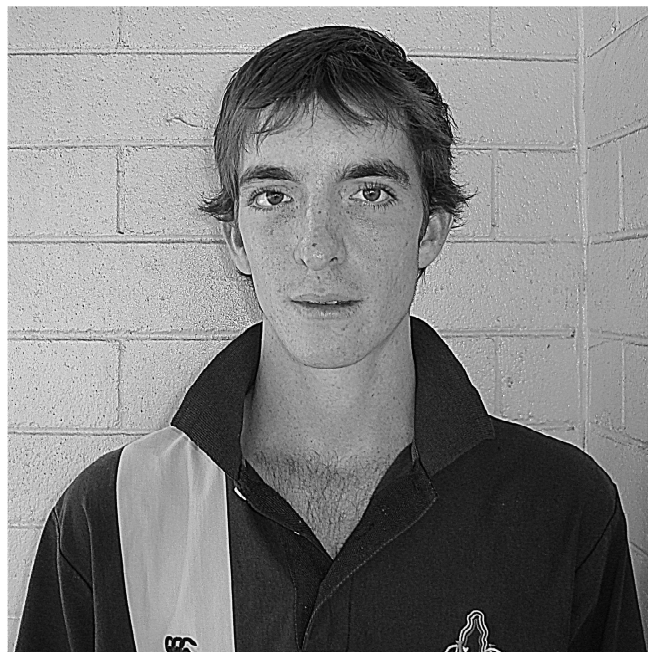
Western Cape College Home to Top Science Student

Western Cape College is celebrating the success of Year 12, Weipa Campus student Jonathan Aspinall who has been recognised by the Department of Education, Training and Arts Minister Mr Robert Welford as one of the Top Science Students in the State.

Jonathan was nominated by his Biology teacher Ms Kate Gilmore after achieving excellent academic results in Year 11 and 12 Biology, Chemistry and Physics classes as well as participating in science related activities.

Despite Jonathan's keen interest in golf and his dream to be a professional golfer, Jonathan will be pursuing a career in dentistry and will be purchasing a laptop and graphics calculator with his \$2,000 prize money.

The Peter Doherty Awards recognise students who have achieved outstanding and innovative contributions to Science in Queensland.



Snapped around College!

Under 11 Weipa AFL Team participating in AFL Kick Start Program



Parents Get Prepared for Prep

It's the time of year when parents need to consider enrolling their children into Prep for the 2009 school year.

Prep is one of the most important foundation steps within the education system and allows children to make an easy transition into Year 1.

Children born between 1 July 2003 and 30 June 2004 are eligible to attend Prep in 2009.

Whilst attending Prep children will participate in fun learning activities such as playing, drawing, painting building and story telling.

There are currently no waiting lists so parents are invited to call Western Cape College, Head of Junior School, Kathy Street on 4090 6454 to find out more information.

Parents must provide a birth certificate and immunisation record when enrolling.



Mapoon Campus Quarterly Report

Head of Campus Message

We are almost half way through the school year after completing a long and challenging Term. With the State Testing of grades 3, 5, 7 and the Year 2 Net tests and moderation, it has been a very hectic time for both students and teachers. All students have showed great confidence and effort this Term and experienced great success across many social and academic areas.

It can be a daunting prospect for some of our students leaving the small community of Mapoon to go to school in Weipa. However this Term saw students in grade 6 attend the first technology Boot camp in town. The three day program included robotics, computer animation and live video chats and was heralded as a great success and all students could not talk highly enough of the experience and their excitement of attending the Weipa Campus next year. Their new learnt skills will be put into practice shortly with the arrival of a new school computer lab.

The continuing trail of the Pre-Prep program is going from strength to strength. Our two dedicated and hard working teachers are playing an integral part in assisting with the development and drafting of the Pre-Prep Curriculum. The school has been acknowledged as leading the way in the Trail program and will continue to contribute to the final draft in the upcoming conference in Cairns.

It has been a challenging time this Term with student attendance, which is 88%, slightly down from 91% achievement in Term 1. At Mapoon Campus we are looking at a number of initiatives to maintain our attendance many of which involve the active participation of the community and parents. We have also had numerous successes in re-engaging long term absentee students back into school recently; this is a great achievement for these students and their families.

The P&C and community expressed an ongoing concern about Student behaviour, particularly bullying at Mapoon. In response Mapoon Campus has incorporated the WCC Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students based on The Code of School Behaviour and presented the plan and actions to the P & C for approval. In addition, the school runs 'The You Can Do It' program, which is a pro-active behaviour strategy program. Choice Theory is the main classroom action, in which all staff use along with Essential Classroom Skills. An increase in suspensions has occurred this Term after incorporating a zero tolerance on fighting. These actions have been highly supported by the community and will continue into Term 3.

2008 Third Quarter Priorities

- Completion of school computer lab and purchase of computer hardware
- Continue to engage Year 6 students in Transition activities in Weipa
- Build upon and actively engage with the Mapoon Justice Group and Council to develop strategies for school attendance and student welfare issues
- PD staff on Child Protection and Code of Conduct through the online course
- Encourage staff to participate and complete ICT Certificates / Pedagogical Licences
- Completion of stage 1,2 Staff Performance Framework Criteria
- Organise NAIDOC Celebrations and Mapoon Day
- Implement One School and upload student data through ILP's
- Introduce whole school Bullying program
- Increase active involvement in local area conservation programs (Crocodile tracking, Turtle conservation, rehabilitation of local habitats)

The full MapoonQuarterly Report is available at www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au

OPTI-MINDS 2008 UPDATE

On Sunday 17th August 2008, a record number of five Western Cape College teams, with students from Grade 7 to Grade 12, participated in the annual Opti-MINDS Regional Challenge in Cairns. Sixty seven teams from thirty three schools competed.

Students and accompanying teachers were thrilled to hear that each team had won a 'Spirit of Opti-MINDS' Award. These awards were described by event organiser, Tracey Griggs, as the equivalent of 'Olympic Gold'. They are given to selected teams that displayed great team spirit and enjoyment of the whole Opti-MINDS experience

In the Language / Literature section, the students had to use Nursery Rhymes to create an advertising campaign that encouraged environmental sustainability, the Social Science Challenge required students to create a new invention that was environmentally sustainable and the Science / Engineering asked students to create a device that they had constructed (with environmentally friendly materials) that would set the Olympic Opening Ceremony celebrations off with a bang.

The trip to the Challenge would not have been possible without the support and financial assistance of Riotinto Alcan, Weipa Campus P&C, Priority Country Area Program (PCAP), Goodline Fabrications and the College who contributed towards the cost of taking the students out to Cairns.



The Optiminds Group at the challenge in Cairns



Thank you!

The Weipa Tuckshop Team wish to farewell Sandra Henderson and wish her the best of luck in her new career.

Sandra has dedicated two and a half years to Western Cape College and she will be greatly missed!



HOMEWORK CENTRE NOW HAS STARTED!

Western Cape College has now launched a new homework centre giving extra support to Indigenous students.

Indigenous students Grade 3-6 who live in Weipa Monday and Wednesday 2:45pm to 3:30pm at the Resource Centre.

Indigenous students Grade 7-12 who live in Weipa Monday and Wednesday 3:00pm to 5:00pm at the Resource Centre.

Indigenous students Grade 3-6 who live in Napranum (travel home as per usual) Wednesday and Thursday 4:00pm – 6:00pm at the Napranum PCYC.

Indigenous students Grade 7-12 who live in Napranum Monday and Wednesday 3:00pm to 5:00pm at the Resource Centre in Weipa. The bus will take you home from Weipa.

Any inquires please contact the Homework Centre coordinator Penny at the school on (07) 40906401

