

Willetton's Got Talent

NUMERO

Willetton Primary School came first and second at the Southern heat of the state-wide Numero competition. Our two winning teams each received a beautiful book for their libraries and qualified for the final. Congratulations to Xavier, Zac, Andy, Sebastien, Samuel, Sadana, Bosco and Galvin. Our third team only narrowly missed out on qualifying! Well done to all involved students.

In the final, Willetton Warriors were victorious!! Well done Xavier, Andy, Sebastien and Navin. Thank you to Zac for helping them reach the final!

During the final, hosted this year by Willetton, seven of our wonderful students performed their stewarding duties with distinction. Thank you Priyanka, David, Karthiga, Kenul, Jan Angelo, Coco and Samin.

Sue Christiner





NUMERO



Why Dragonflies are the Best Animals

By Samuel Coulson

Have you ever realised what keeps you from getting diseases like malaria? Is it mosquitoes? No, it's dragonflies of course! There are so many amazing facts which keep you safe. Are dragonflies good or bad omens and are they useless or good for the environment? With all these questions in mind let's get started!

Dragonflies have some amazing but scary features. They will not attack unlike bees, wasps and even chicken but keep hovering in mid-air not caring what you do. The Anisoptera (scientific name of the dragonfly) is a friendly harmless creature that has an almost 360-degree vision that can help it see one animal in a swarm of millions of creatures. This amazing animal can lay up to 1500 eggs and could one day take over the world!

Most of the 250 species of dragonflies are good for the declining environment. They fertilise plants which helps them grow fruits and vegetables. They're good for the environment because they eat harmful species such as caterpillars and ants. Another good thing is that they eat mosquitoes that carry diseases and can kill your family. Anyway, who on this Earth loves those itchy infectious bumps mosquitoes give you? People also believe that apart from being good for the environment that they are considered lucky?

Has a dragonfly ever landed on your head? If that has happened then... You have won today's LOTTO! What was that for. If a dragonfly lands on your head you are considered lucky and many reports make this crazy theory true! Also, some people say you are unlucky if you see a dead dragonfly because seeing a good omen dead means bad things. Wow, dragonflies are pretty cool!

Dragonflies must now be the best animal on Earth. By the time you finish this text the dragonfly population will grow by more than 3,000! They are amazing creatures, good for the now declining environment so they are vital for everything's survival! Why are dragonflies lucky? Well if you don't know read the fourth paragraph again!

Frill-Necked-Lizards are phenomenal

By Manas Gowda

“Whoa, I didn’t know that it could open its frill like that- oh, hey there. I was just watching a documentary on Frill-Necked-Lizards. Do you want to learn about them too? Alright, so what I’ve learnt is that Frill-necked-lizards have alien-like adaptations, an outstanding omnivorous diet, and stupendous scare tactics. You’ll soon be hooked on this text by the Frill-necked-lizard’s scary sharp claws.

A frill-necked-lizard has few predators. But when they come a knockin at this creature’s door, the F-Necked-lizards have many surprises loaded for the hungry predators. Did you know that if a predator starts to chase one of these lizards, they can run at a breakneck speed of 48 Kilometres an hour?! These lizards have developed the conscience to start being bipedal as it makes them run way faster than running on four legs. While these speedy dudes are running, they have a way of startling their predators. In the middle of running, they instantly stop, turn around and open up a frill they keep flattened against their neck. The idea is to turn around so fast the predator will think it’s bigger than it actually is and retreat. If this doesn’t work, it beats its tail on the floor and hisses. This tactic is that both the loud sounds will indicate that it is not to be messed with, even though this creature is harmless. But the predators don’t know that, so most predators will then slowly back away. If the predators won’t back down, the lizard gets up on its

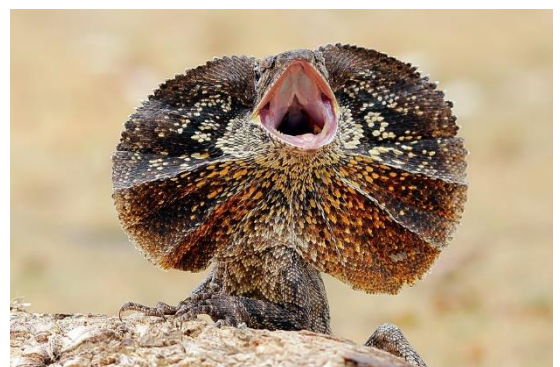
hind legs and hightails it out of there and runs up a tree. Speaking of trees, Frill-necked-lizards, get some of their food from trees.

This all bark no bite lizard has an amazingly adaptable diet. It eats mostly small animals, such as insects, arachnids and small mammals. Frill-necked-lizards also eat plants and nuts, but only a few. These lizards can grow up to almost one meter so they are not picky about what they eat. Bugs, moths, larvae, butterflies, cicadas, spiders, beetles, termites, mice and even other lizards! Wow that was a long list. Basically, these lizards eat anything edible put on their plate.

Frill-necked-lizards have an excessive amount of adaptations. When hiding from a predator on a tree, these creative creatures shuffle over a bit so that the possible threat can't get to them. They do this technique with unknown humans too! This lizard is extremely smart. It has developed the conscience to do most of its activities at night time so many of its predators are asleep while it has more energy while the scorching sun is away. Frill-necked-lizards have their skin colour as the colours of the outback trees so most of its predators won't see it.

So now this information rock hard in your head, you now know that the Frill-necked-lizard is the GREATEST ANIMAL ON THE SURFACE OF EARTH. It has awesome adaptations to help it live, super scare tactics I need to watch this David Attenborough documentary!

The end



Superb Summer

By Raymond A17

Have you ever experienced dismay when you go to your local public pool and find out it's closed from winter's frosty wet weather? Have you ever experienced worry about your own health and safety over pollution or other sinister safety issues? Have you felt angry that you get paid minimal money for all the hard work you show at work? All of these 'personal disasters' can be caused or solved by seasons! I bet you're already asking which season is the best, ready to live the easy life and you're in luck, as this persuasive text is going to tell you all about superb summer and how it's the coolest season!

"This is all I get?" Minimal pay frustrates people like you who have worked hard to get a job, just to get something they don't deserve. Want to be extricated from that terrible torture? You have the answer right here. In summer if your role is a waitress at a fast food restaurant or something else then you've hit the jackpot! In summer, you can tell that ice-cream, AKA the cold sugar sensation, is going to be sold to extinction. That means shares will enlarge and you can finally be happy with what you get!

Now to the obvious one. School holidays, friend catchups, entertaining activities, it's time to have fun with summer! Yep, you guessed it. Local pools open, theme park attractions are set up, it's a dream that's for once, real! You don't have to walk back home, depressed that something or someone's away. You won't have to live the lonely life with summer. Yet another reason why summer is the coolest season!

Other than economy boosting, there's also health benefits. Summer provides more Vitamin D, trees absorb the most CO₂, and through a process called photosynthesis, turn it into fresh breathable air! Usually you aren't thirsty though the season summer is hot, making you drink more H₂O, which travels through your body, carrying waste out your body eventually. A summer a day keeps the doctor away!

Well, has this impressed you? Summer could almost solve ALL your problems. Its 100% true that summer is the coolest season. After all those reasons, you must be convinced. Say you aren't. You'll be on the downside of the hill, with the bad disadvantages! Come to the sunny side and be happy with what you deserve!

The laughing Bird



That title does make some good sense of who I am, yes, it's me the Kookaburra! On this very grand day I'll be showing you why I'm the true king of the jungle and I have facts to prove it. So, all those Disney people should make a new movie named Kookaburra King. Talking about a movie, let's flap into front line of famousness!

Have you ever heard about that old poem called '*Kookaburra sitting in the old gum tree*' well that poem is based off me and many other poems as well, I'm even an emblem of Australia! If you don't have the money to buy a TV to see the weather but fear not, whenever a kookaburra laughs it means that rain is on its way so, I'm a spirit bird. Do you hear a rattling sound?

Oh, it's just a rattlesnake. I have developed a very strong head muscle which I use bash or hit other animals for food and protection. I'm not a kookaburra if a can't fly, my wings have extra muscly muscle so whenever I'm in danger I can flap away, just saying my top speed is 177km/h! I can't forget my exceptional beak, other than other birds, my beak is shortly hooked upwards which makes it easy to grab food. Surely, I'm the best. It's almost night.

At night is where my super adaptation take place. Firstly, my super big eyes can make me see distances up to 8km away, good luck hiding from me. Thirsty, well you humans may drink water but we kookaburras get water from all the insects and crustaceans we eat. Quick trivia question, how much does a kookaburra weigh? Well if you guessed 300g congratulations, this why I can fly at speeds up to 177km/h! Look at the time, it's almost my shift for laughing let's wrap this facty salad up!

Now you know the best creature in the whole universe is definitely me, because of my famousness and my defense and attack protocols and final my authentic adaptation. Now you are sure that the ruler should be me and that lions should run away scared, right? Also check out the new kookaburra king movie coming to cinemas soon January 1st - 2020!

Well on the down side, my laugh is extremely annoying!

Kenul Senanayake

Summer is the Coolest Season!

Do you want to know why Summer is the coolest season EVER?! Well get ready to suck in all the knowledge as soon as possible! Summer is the perfect season to get more exercise along with Vitamin D. You get more electricity from solar panels, less electricity bills and no environmental damage! And of course, you can have more fun by going to the beach or swimming every day. I'm going to interview a few people and see why they like or dislike summer.

I was standing patiently outside a colorful door full of posters. "Who's there?" asked a sweet voice. They opened the door. "Hi Summer! I'm interviewing a few people about why Summer is the best season. Can you tell me why you dislike or like Summer?" I asked politely. "Of course! First of all, it's basically my name. But anyway, I think that Summer is the BEST season, because you get

electricity from the sun. That means less electricity bills for everyone. Secondly, businesses opportunities are going well, especially the ice-pole shop! My brother is very pleased. Last of all, less environmental damage. If you have solar panels on your roof, you get renewable energy which has absolutely no damage to the environment," she finished off. "Thank you very much Summer!" I said.

The next place was a friend of mine I knew very well. KNOCK! KNOCK! A grumpy faced man opened the door. "What do you want?" he asked rudely. This was Jenny's brother. "Hi! I was planning to interview a few people about why they like or dislike summer." "Well, I dislike everything about Summer! -" before Jenny's brother could finish of, Jenny came to the rescue. She was planning to go to the beach by the looks of it, with a big surf board and a wide-brimmed hat. "I love Summer because it's so fun! It's like a source

of entertainment. You can go to the beach, go swimming, get icy poles and best of all, Adventure World will open. I was planning to go there tomorrow. Bye!" Jenny walked off.

Now, I was standing at Jenny's next-door neighbor's porch. I was looking around at the colorful design on the wooden wall when the door opened. It was Otis, my best friend! "Hey Otis, I am interviewing a few people today about why they like or dislike Summer the best!" I replied. "Oh, hi! As you can see, I was exercising at the backyard. Sorry if I am sweating a lot. But anyway, I truly believe that Summer is the perfect time to exercise, because there are so many exercises available. Me and Jenny were planning to go to the stadium. I was just about to call you to come with us. I also believe it's the best season for the plants as well since you can grow nutritious plants. Last but not least, humans and animals get fresh air by the trees. This is called photosynthesis. The trees

take in carbon dioxide and breath out oxygen. But the sun makes the plants stronger, so the plants exhilarate more oxygen. How amazing is that? I strongly believe that Summer is the best season for the environment, plants, animals and humans,” Otis finished off.

“WOW! That was amazing. Thank you, and I will gladly come with you guys to the sports stadium! Bye!” I walked off feeling very proud.

I achieved so much today! I am very thirsty as well, so I went to the icy pole stall and got an icy pole. I chatted with Summer’s brother for a bit. As I sat down on the brown bench, I realized that Summer was the best season! When I looked at the beach, to my amazement, I saw Jenny playing with her brother, beach volleyball! On the other side, I saw Otis sitting down and drinking water. I smiled to myself. Mission accomplished!

By Megha

Fantasy narratives by talented year 4 students

Demonstrating 7 Steps writing strategies

THE SECRET DOOR *Life Or Death?*

The lights flickered. The lightning struck. The window shattered. Out of the mist I caught sight of a dark crooked silhouette. It looked tall, strong but yet haunted at the same time! I stood there determined beside my bedside table and then found myself repeating the words '*Life or Death?*'. Screams of terror filled the hallway and shouts for help cried louder than anything you could imagine! Then there was me, blankly staring out of my shattered bedroom window, out to the wreckage. I jumped out of bed and told myself that everything was fine and it was just a bad dream. I even pinched my leg to make sure I was awake and luckily I was!

"Ok, let's start from the very beginning shall we? Well first of all my name is Brodie and I **used** to live in a small flat not far from my **old** school, Woodvale Primary School (I was in grade five there) but that all changed a couple of days ago. I have an older sister called Jenna (she's two years older than me and she goes to Mistletoe Senior High School). I also have a younger brother named Oliver (he's in preschool at the moment and he's only three). In that tiny flat all five of us, including our parents, lived there for about ten years! Now back to the story."

It all started on the 31st of October, yes on Halloween. Jenna, Charlotte (one of Jenna's friends), Lucy (one of my friends) and I, were out '*Trick or Treating*' when it started raining! We only had four more houses to go when a strike of lightning sent a pole tumbling down onto a nearby house, followed by a trail of pale blue sparks. Shortly after the incident, the police, firefighters and the ambulance all arrived at the scene. It turned out that the pole was supporting a delicate electric wire that came flying down with the pole! In no time at all, the house burst into flames and the firefighters dared to enter the house. About ten minutes later, the firefighters came out with a young family within arm's reach of every one of them. After a quick but thorough examination from the paramedics, they were all loaded up into a rather large ambulance. In no time at all, and with their sirens blaring, the family were rushed off to the local hospital for further examinations and treatments.

After the fire had been put out, the police started questioning us and they asked us questions like, *What's your names? Are you ok?* and *Has the fire hurt you in any sort of way?* After we answered all the questions, a rather young police man asked us who was the oldest three people in our group? Charlotte, Jenna and I all raised our hands and the policeman took us to a private spot then asked us to do one of the most risky and dangerous things that anyone has ever asked me to do and that was..... to go through the small opening in the burnt fence and see if the fire was still spreading and to check that no one else was hurt. Of course we all agreed but honestly, I don't think anyone of us were too pleased about our '*Secret Mission*'. Inside I didn't feel very brave or very confident that the young family owned that familiar, glass panelled house.

"After being assigned such a big task", Jenna spoke up with confidence, "I feel that we have become very responsible and strong. If we work as a team and stick together, we shouldn't get that scared!" We all agreed that this was a pretty great idea so we all stuck with it and after a bit of essential group talk, we were all ready to take on the challenge!

After dodging our way through the wreckage Jenna stopped and froze in her tracks. "Look", she cried. "That's mum and dad"! Jenna pointed over to a large wooden door and sure enough mum and dad were standing there in the darkness and muttering some catchy phrase. We found it hard to make out what exactly they were saying but it sounded something like this '*Those brainless, selfish people. Only ever caring about themselves! Now we're broke and I can believe that homeless family just set our house on fire and robbed us!*' *Robbed us I said!!!*" We're all so confused at this point but eventually after I gathered the courage, I stepped forwards and asked my parents if they were hurt or injured. They said that they were fine and they were just angry that our family was now homeless and broke. They asked us why we were here. Then I explained that we were sent to gather anyone who was involved in the fire. They told us that we better get on with the job because it was getting really late but the smoke and the tears of our parents was enough to make me cry too.

After everyone calmed down Jenna told Charlotte to bring mum and dad back to the police because she probably wouldn't even fit through the door with her giant Alice in wonderland costume! As soon as Charlotte and our parents left, we examined the large wooden door that stood before us in a rather large ditch. "Go on.....", my sister gave me a small nudge, "knock on the door...." her soft, gentle voice trailed off.

As if I had no choice, I placed my hand on the firm wooden door. It felt warm (most likely from the fire). From where I was standing, I could hear some faded voices. I was pretty sure that one was a woman's voice and the others were men and by the tone of their voices, I knew something was wrong. By this time Jenna had joined me but she still wasn't too sure about the large antique-like door so she watched and listened from a distance. Honestly I understood why. This place could give anyone a fright. The door was lined with cob webs and the floor was marked with stains. "Brodie!!!! Help me!" someone screamed. I turned around to see what was wrong, but as soon as I did I was thrown to the ground.

With a thud, I landed at the base of the door and with hesitation, I forced myself to stand up. As soon as I balanced myself evenly across both legs, I fell to the ground once again but this time with a stabbing pain in my lower right leg. I screamed and shouted and eventually I burst into tears. As I began to lose hope, I gathered a couple of sticks that were within arm's reach of me and I surrounded myself with them. Then I grabbed some large leaves and covered myself in them as a blanket. I thought to myself, 'If no one is going to take any notice of me then I suppose that I'll just have to make do with the things that I've got and spend the night here!' I was in so much pain at this point and that night I cried myself to sleep.

The next morning, when I awoke, I found myself comfortably lying on an old-fashioned lounge. The lounge was lined with soft strips of warm leather. In front of me was a large fire place with gorgeous flames of warmth dancing around the pit. After I came to my senses, I realised that there were some people standing around me. I immediately recognised a couple of people. The two women standing to the left of me were my mother and one of the police ladies. Then my father held Jenna's arm which seemed to be

wrapped in a thick layer of bandages and over the bandages there was a sling. Jenna was standing to the right of me with Charlotte and Lucy. Then I looked over my shoulder and to my surprise, the very same door that I had seen before (when I had hurt my leg) was standing there in the morning sunlight which shone through the window. As I turned my head back around, I felt a rather disturbing prodding on my lower left leg. I looked down and two paramedics were wrapping a delicate plaster cast. "I actually think that cast suits you", said Jenna with a cheesy smile on her face. "At least it's not as thick as yours", I teased. "Ok, you're done darling!" The paramedic announced.

"Oh Brodie, we are so glad you're ok! When Charlotte took us back she rushed over to you guys and when she came back she was in tears! She said that you were lying on the ground covered in leaves and Jenna was lying on the ground with her right arm looking like a banana! Jenna was crying too. Then through her tears she told us that a large wooden door stood tall and proudly in front of you two and it echoed the words '*Only those who are smart enough and brave enough will be able to figure out the witchery behind me!*' That's all Charlotte had time to tell us before a young family told us to come in and help you!" Our parents said with a smile.

"Gee thanks Charlotte and Lucy. I'm so lucky to have you guys as friends. I don't know what I would do without....." My voice trailed off.

The old oak bookcase toppled over onto the wooden floorboards. "Um... guys..... I think we should leave this room. I feel that something isn't right!" I continued. "What are you talking about darling?" A kind, soft and gentle voice spoke up. "We have been living here for over 12 years and we were completely safe until that rude family next door destroyed their house and set it on fire!" "That might have been us..." Dad spoke up nervously. A guilty look passed my family's faces. "Well in that case it's all fine!" The old woman declared.

In the corner of my eye, I caught sight of a pale blue shimmering light. I grabbed my family's hands and I shouted "This way. It's not safe here, follow me." And with that, we all scrambled through the tiny shimmering door. Once everyone had squeezed through the door, we stood there in silence and everyone stared at me for what felt like an eternity. "What?" I shrugged my shoulders. "It wasn't safe in that room." That's when I had a chilling realisation that the door disappeared. "This room seems familiar," Jenna whispered. "Isn't this room smaller than the last one?" someone else whispered. Just at that moment I realised that I have been hearing creeping footsteps behind me. "Has anyone else realised that there's not a single door in this room?" someone whispered loudly. "Why didn't we stay in the last room? When Lucy knocked the bookcase over, Brodie led us in here!" someone cried.

The lights flickered. The lightning struck. The window shattered. Out of the mist I caught sight of a dark crooked silhouette. It looked tall, strong but yet haunted at the same time! I stood there determined beside my bedside table and then found myself repeating the words '*Life or Death?*'; Screams of terror filled the hallway and shouts for help cried louder than anything you could imagine! Then there was me, blankly staring out of my shattered bedroom window, out to the wreckage.

"This is a living nightmare!" I declared. "A living nightmare!"

By Jessica Area 11

The case of the disappearing child

By Jocelyn area 11

The great arrival

Where am I ? I was alone in some kind of woods. It was dark and the rotten trees were draped with mouldy branches and leaves. "Hooooowwwlllll" suddenly howling started. There was someone or rather something here. Glowing yellow eyes appeared from the darkness, several long sleek bodies came into view. It was the wolves....

I ran away but they were just too fast. They pounced on me and they caught me immediately. I had fainted, the last thing I heard was a zip! The next thing I saw was myself inside some sort of cabin, "huh?" I said.

"Oh! Good you're awake" said a mysterious voice from the shadows.

"W-w-who are you?" I managed to stammer.

"Oh me ? I am a huntsman, he said stepping out of the shadows Luckily I found you in the forest otherwise you would have become wolf meat! Why are you here kid?"

"I don't know!" I cried "I was sleeping in my cozy house and then next thing I know I was here! But in my dream I saw a troll carry me here and throw me inside a magical door and then I landed here!"

"Oh no! Did you say a troll?"

"Yes"

"Do you know this is a magical world? If you want to go back home you must venture far and wide to find the door that is guarded by a kraken then you can go back home but no one has ever done it. Not even me....."

"Why?"

"This realm is too dangerous, it has three deadly stages, in the first stage, which is the easiest stage you have to dodge past five king cobra and if they bite you the bite will be fatal. But before you start I will give you two gifts. One is the hardest armour ever that nothing can destroy and the second gift is a healing potion. But remember no one should drink more the two drops!..... "

The three stages

I was entering the first stage of my mission, the king cobras. It was going to be tough I thought, "I'm going to use my armour" But suddenly a better idea came into my mind. Snake taming, I always carried my flute around with me and my mum is a snake Tamer so I already know some tunes to tame snakes with. One tune was called gfdjkd in no time at all, I had manoeuvred through the snakes.

I was ready for the piranha pool. It was very short but very deep. I looked at what I had in my bag and found nothing useful. I suddenly saw a long piece of drift wood and I thought oh! I could use that as a plank and walk across. I started walking and after walking half way I slipped and lost my balance but before I could fall into the pool a strong hand grabbed mine and pulled me up. It was the huntsman. "What are you doing here?" I said with a puzzled look on my face

"I was following you. No one ever gets past the second level !" said the huntsman. "Not even me..." His voice trailed off. I quickly followed the huntsman off the plank.

I was overwhelmed with fear as I stepped into the next chamber. The whole room went dim and I stood in the darkness waiting for something to jump out but there was nothing I

stared into the bottomless pit It was a long fall. My stomach twisted up at the sight and I assured myself "All I Had to do was leap" I thought but where was the huntsman? he had disappeared as soon as I had entered this chamber but it doesn't matter. I focused at the other I ran and leapt with all the strength left in me but my jump wouldn't make it. I was sucked into the darkness fear spreading over me. I had fainted.

"Johnny! Wake up its time for school!" said a familiar sweet voice I woke up to my mum standing in front of me and without thinking I said "Where am I ?" I asked with a confused look on my face "Well you're at home why?" said my mum "Oh nothing!" I said quickly . So it was a dream I thought once my mum had left but was it? There was a shimmering map on the ground glowing. Maybe I would go back some day who knows?

The End.....for now

WILLETTON'S WIDE WORLD OF SPORT

Before School Fitness

Before school fitness welcomes students in Years 3 to 6 in Term 4. Permission slips are available on Connect.

Mrs Hughes ☺

Week 8 2/12	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	No Before School Fitness	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	No Before School Fitness
Week 9 9/12	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	No Before School Fitness	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	Team Games – Offensive & Defensive skills	No Before School Fitness
Week 10 16/12	No Before School Fitness	No Before School Fitness	No Before School Fitness	No Before School Fitness	No Before School Fitness

Colour Run

What an amazing event held by the P&C. A special thank you to all the helpers and the wonderful Jodie Wakefield for all of her hard work. Over \$12,000 was raised by our school community!



2019 SMARTER THAN SMOKING CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

Championship Cup

There were smiles all round as our male and female basketball teams headed to the state basketball competition at Bendat Stadium in style. Both teams gave it their all and proudly represented our school. Unfortunately, we didn't come home with the trophy, but we certainly made some amazing memories and had a great day.

We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated basketball coaching team! Thank you to Mr Close and Mr S, for all their hard work this year. Every morning you will find these coaches on the basketball courts helping our students develop and improve their skills. Thank you to Mrs Jones who has been working closely with Mr Close and Mr S, with our junior basketball teams. We look forward to next year and having another opportunity to bring home the trophy!





2019 INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS

Interschool

Over 90 students competed over two days in very difficult conditions at the 2019 Interschool Athletics. Again, our students demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship and behaviour at the carnival. Thank you to the parents who helped keep our students cool and assisted with the running of the carnival. Unfortunately, due to the carnival finishing late we do not have a group photo of the day but we do have some great photos of what our competitors do when they are waiting for events ☺

Overall W.P.S. finished fourth. Congratulations to Annie Wang who was Year 3 Runner Up Champion Girl and Sakhila Wickramasinghe who was Year 4 Runner Up Champion Boy.



COLOUR RUN

