BEING CREATIVE! Fiona Parenta

There is no denying that God is creative. All you have to do is look around and see that God has created something that is so beautiful, so amazing and so creative to know that God is creative.

After recently taking the VIA Character Strengths Test, I was surprised to discover that my top strength was ‘Creativity’. My instant reaction was that I was terrible at Art! As I reflected on this further, I realised that my life was full of instances in which I had to be creative, sometimes planned and other times very spontaneously. We are all creative in ways that may not be obvious to us straight away. Being able to fit time in for my family, home life, work, friends, exercise and time out for myself in what seems to be never enough hours in the day, is how I am most creative. When I think about how I became a teacher and all the ways in which working in a school environment requires a creative mind, I believe this was my calling from God and I was provided with this path to express my creativity.

As “image-bearers” of God we too possess in all of us the ability to be creative. That creativity can look different from person to person. Often we think of creativity and Art as paintings or poetry and we find ourselves saying, “I’m not creative.” The reality is we are. We all have the ability to be creative and it isn’t that we aren’t, it is that we need to figure out how to express that creativity.

Excerpt from: The Journey of a Wandering Mind: Sometimes the process is the most important. Being creative connects us to God. Posted by: Brian | September 20, 2008

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness”. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; Genesis 1:26-28

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Kaye Mathwin-Cox

Last week Steve Jude and I attended the EduTECH conference in Brisbane. The speakers came from around the globe to challenge our thinking on educating for the 21st Century. The general schools of thought suggest that we need to bring education into the 21st century by way of learning spaces, technology and ideally just the way we teach them (pedagogy). The suggestion is to make the learning for digital natives, who use technology, like another appendage. Students are so used to doing everything online with any device and can adapt and multitask. The experts say that schools need to re-consider the way we educate to better relate to our students of today. It is wonderful to know that Inquiry is one such process that looks to our 21st Century students and caters to their needs. The International Baccalaureate programs are supporting us to best equip our students. Our next challenge is to continue to keep our school at the coalface of technology to further support them in their learning, with not only the tools but the education of how to use these tools efficiently and safely.

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL Andrew Jericho

As an IB School implementing the Middle Years Program from Years 6-10, providing opportunity for students to explore and discover is high on our priorities. The inquiry taking place in the Middle School of late has been inspirational. A recent highlights amongst the Year 8 classes has been the exploration of leadership qualities and the intentional development of these while working in teams to tackle a diversity of challenges for the body and mind. Another great opportunity for student growth has been in the Middle School SRC. They are also working diligently on organising extracurricular opportunities to build confidence and camaraderie. The exciting event approaching is the ‘Call of Duty’ Laser Tag event, to be held on the evening of Wednesday 17th June. A letter outlining the event will be sent home tonight.
YEAR 1’s - BALANCED CHOICES!
The Year 1’s are currently doing a unit on making balanced choices to help us have a healthy lifestyle. The students had the opportunity to go to the staff room and analyse and evaluate what the teachers were packing for their lunch. The Year 1’s were happy to report that “overall the staff members are making some very balanced choices”.

YEAR 1’s – VOLUME & CAPACITY
The Year 1’s have been exploring 3D shapes and inquiring into attributes that can be measured. This week the students looked at volume and capacity through a hands-on, inquiry based lesson where they estimated, compared and measured different containers through non-standard and standard units of measurements. Have a look at how much fun we had!

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT – YEAR 5 EXHIBITION
In order to support the Year 5 learning, we are holding an Exhibition Information Night to inform parents about the Exhibition process, on Thursday the 25th of June at 7pm in Cluster 3. It is important that parents/caregivers attend to be able to understand the changes to the timetable and expectations of students during this time.

INDONESEAN VISITORS WELCOMED TO COLLEGE
Our Indonesian Visitors were welcomed to the College at Chapel. They were honored by many staff and students who wore the traditional Indonesian Sarong and Ulos. Our LOTE (Language Other Than English) teachers are enjoying having the visitors in their lessons and both parties are learning from each other. What a wonderful experience for these teachers and students.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
SRC, House and Vice House Captains, College Prefects and College Captain group photos are available for purchase at the Front Office.

LIL’ GATORS PLAYGROUP - WEDNESDAY 9.00AM TO 10.30PM

This Term the Lil’ Gators Playgroup have been very busy with fun art and craft activities around topics including; shapes, Mother’s Day, families, music, hairdressing and food. The Year 11 Vet Child Studies students, Brianna, Juliette, Wilkie, Jessie, Narteeka and Kate have been involved in planning and setting up a play experience for the playgroup families to enjoy. This included cooking pancakes, making spaghetti hair people, playing musical instruments, dancing and making a family tree. The playgroup children have also been to visit the school library and veggie garden. We have also been watching our new playground being built and the children are really excited to be using it soon. Our playgroup runs on Wednesday from 9 -10:30am all are welcome.

VISITING SCIENTIST
The Year 2/3 classes were honored with a visit from a scientist from EP Analysis this week. Kellie Taylor described what it means to be a scientist and a little about her environmental role. The students tried various mini experiments that illustrated how making observations and discoveries involves using our 5 senses. They also watched the instant response that occurred when egg shell interacted with vinegar and discussed how the acid dissolves the carbonate.

The students really loved having our guest involved with their learning.