FOCUSING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE CHILD  Nola Kennedy-Williams

Following on from our last Newsletter article about the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme, we would now like to address this week’s topic of “What is so special about the Primary Years Program (PYP)?”. Many of you have chosen Navigator College for the values represented here, but are still trying to work out what the PYP is all about.

The Primary Years Program (PYP) focuses on the development of the whole child, and provides a framework that can meet a child’s academic, social, physical, emotional and cultural needs. It is inquiry based and lends itself to being integrated across the curriculum. Students take ownership of their learning and develop skills and attitudes to help prepare them as a life long learner in an ever-changing global world that seems to be getting smaller and smaller with our IT connections.

How many of us as adults are in the same job as when we left school? Career change is going to be even more relevant for our children. Career change statistics suggest that the average person will be making a career change approximately 5-7 times during their working life. What we’re seeing more and more in education, along with strong traditional skills in Literacy and Numeracy, is the need for the deliberate teaching of skills, strategies and attitudes that will enable our students to be life long learners, to be globally aware and to be locally and globally interactive.

The International Baccalaureate Organisation has identified essential skills that help equip us as life long learners: skills in thinking, communication, social skills, self-management skills and research skills. Skills that enable successful self-management, positive interpersonal relationships in families, in the workplace and in society.

“The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.” We’re on board with that!


SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

On Thursday the 5th of August Year 9 and 10 students attended the Science and Engineering Challenge at the Port Lincoln Leisure Centre.

Students participated in 1 or 2 activities throughout the day, which included building a hovercraft, a bionic human hand, a mars rover, an earthquake resistant tower, or a bridge. They also participated in simulations such as powering a city or designing a rail network. Our students did a fantastic job working together to complete the tasks and were well rewarded for diving in and trying new things.

With 10 teams completing during the day from all over the Eyre Peninsula our students did us proud by finishing 3rd overall.

NAVIGATOR AT THE FIELD DAYS

On Wednesday at the EP Field Days, the Navigator College Senior School Band performed on the main stage and received fantastic reviews from guests passing by. They performed extremely well and we were all very proud to see them represent our College.

The following students make up the Senior School Band along with Mr Andrew Jenico, Skye Wright, Georgia Green, Jack Parkison, Willie Lindsay, Jhye Tesdale, Carmel Santostefano, Rebekah Fatchen & Sarah Murchison.

Navigator College student Kate Grainger was also involved and entered the ArtCulture event and won the Public Choice Award for 2016 in her ‘long trampoline mat, mirrored, flowing gown’ that took 6 months of weekends to complete and weighed 26 Kilo! Congratulations Kate you looked stunning!

The College also hosted a Navigator stand for the 3 days and it was fantastic to see it ‘abuzz’ with many families and friends calling in to say “hi”, along with students who were enquiring about enrolling at the College in future years.