In Focus: Pedagogy—the ‘how’ of teaching

There are different teaching approaches, used at different times, to provide different learning opportunities for our students.

Experiential learning: the process of making meaning from direct experience; learning through reflection on doing

Technically, experiential learning and experiential education can be happening simultaneously. Educators do this by

1. designing and facilitating activities that require students to learn through engaging directly with their subject matter—the WHAT; and

2. building time into instructional tasks for structured reflection

◊ Throughout the activity—the So WHAT? and

◊ At the completion of the activity—the Now WHAT?

A skilled teacher, using Experiential Learning as part of his or her instructional strategy,

• considers and activates the best form of Experiential Learning for students to practice and refine, through Knowledge Application. The learning across the Curriculum Knowledge Strand;

• uses Collaborative Inquiry process, guiding students through the intentional learning, taking newly gained knowledge and applying “next steps” or “goals for growth” approach to enhance their educational experiences; and

• builds on the learning opportunity by incorporating reflection as a consistent and expected parts of students’ Skill Development Strand

Lyn Sharratt, Gale Hard

“I have not failed 10,000 times. I’ve successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work.”

Bill Gates. 2013

From the Principal

Every term we practice our two emergency procedures... evacuation and lockdown drills.

We undertake these drills to make sure our students are familiar with the processes and follow safety protocols calmly. The likelihood of ever needing to actually need to action these procedures ‘for real’ is very slight, but, ‘what if...’

⇒ What if there was a gas leak from the ship?
⇒ What if there was a bush-fire up on the lookout?
⇒ What if there was a major traffic accident on Breslin Street?

We will undertake a lockdown and evacuation drill before the end of the term.

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Upcoming Date Claimers

⇒ 4th & 5th March—School Photos
⇒ 10th March—Year 2 Swimming Commences
⇒ 31st March—Cross Country

WOW—What’s on at West

Gladding West State School

Term 1, Issue 6
3 March 2015
Class Spotlight

HPE& ICT

Cliff Daley

Hi everyone, my name is Cliff Daley and I have been at West since 1985!

In my PE lessons I have three rules -
1. Look & Listen
2. Have a go
3. Have fun

I implement units of work focusing on developing specific skills applied to a range of activities.

I am passionate about our students getting involved—not to compete or reach elite athlete status, but to enjoy participating, being active and maintaining a healthy level of physical activity.

Sometimes, some students need to be encouraged to participate—I might ask them to take on a job… I might let them sit and watch until they are comfortable enough to join in, or I might work with them 1:1 until they build up their skill level to be confident enough to join into the class.

Many of our students are very talented athletes—and we offer them opportunities to extend their skills and abilities through local, Port Curtis and Capricorn Coast competitions.

I also love to introduce ‘new’ activities—ways to encourage a love of physical participation so that they develop the habit of healthy activity. This term, I have introduced scooters—the students love riding them, they are developing skills of balance and large-muscle co-ordination as well as developing greater awareness of safety considerations.

My other passion is ICT—the integration of ICT into all areas of education, including HPE, is full of possibility.

Over the last couple of years, I have been involved with the introduction of laptops, installation of wireless connectivity and setting up iPads—mini-iPads for every class teacher, and for students operating on ICPs (the first 30 of these have been provided by our P&C) as well as larger iPads that are used in sets, in classes as needed.

We have plans for interactive ‘boards’ that can be used as vertical displays AND as table-like touch-screen for 6 to 10 students.

On a personal note—I am very proud to have been awarded Life Membership for Capricornia School Sport.

Health & Well-Being

Enjoying mental health means having a sense of wellbeing. Just like your physical health, there are actions you can take to increase your mental health. Boost your wellbeing and stay mentally healthy by following a few simple steps.

Connect with others. The quality of our personal relationships has a great effect on our wellbeing.

Take time to enjoy. Do a crossword; take a walk in your local park; read a book; sew a quilt; draw pictures with your kids; play with your pets—whatever takes your fancy.

Participate and share interests. Being part of a group of people with a common interest provides a sense of belonging and is good for your mental health.

Contribute to your community. Volunteer your time for a cause or issue that you care about. Help out a neighbour.

Take care of yourself. Physical and mental health are closely linked; it’s easier to feel good about life if your body feels good.

Challenge yourself. Learning improves your mental fitness, while striving to meet your own goals, builds skills and confidence and gives you a sense of progress and achievement.

Deal with stress. Stress is a part of life and affects people in different ways. It only becomes a problem when it makes you feel uncomfortable or distressed. A balanced lifestyle can help you manage stress better.

Rest and refresh. Get plenty of sleep. Allow yourself some unfocussed time each day. It’s OK to add ‘do nothing’ to your to-do list!

Notice the here and now. Take a moment to notice each of your senses each day. Simply ‘be’ in the moment—feel the sun and wind on your face and notice the air you are breathing. It’s easy to be caught up thinking about the past or planning for the future instead of experiencing the present.

Ask for help. The perfect, worry-free life does not exist. Everyone’s life journey has bumpy bits and the people around you can help. If you don’t get the help you need first off, keep asking until you do.

Community Culture

From Dominic Carter....

I was born and grew up in a small village called Rainford which is situated in the county Merseyside in North West England. Rainford lies on a fertile agricultural plain and is effectively an urban island surrounded by large scale farming mainly arable, but with some livestock herds.

Nearby towns and Cities are St Helens, Liverpool and Manchester. St Helens was once a major industrial town in England where coal was mined. It was also home to the largest manufacturer of glass in Europe. All mines closed in the early 1990s. Some of the canals that played an important role during the Industrial Revolution transporting coal are still present today and are used recreationally. The Sankey Canal travels from St Helens leading to the River Mersey.

With Rainford being a village there were a lot of community events when growing up. An annual event was the Rainford Walking Day which celebrates the 3 primary schools, 1 High school and 2 churches coming together. Walking Day had its origins in the 1860’s when the village school began to arrange treats for the children. Times were hard and families had little money to spare, and so the treats began as a trip once a year. Nowadays the day raises money for the village schools. Along the walk students walk past a notable building which was built in the 17th Century. The building which is known as ‘The Rookery’ was the original school. Thank you for allowing me to share some information about the community where I grew up.
What might this look—sound like—feel like?

Students going to the toilet, washing hands, before going to class in the morning

Filling drink bottles at the beginning of break times

Students are explicitly taught the steps of decision-making and practice using them.

What’s my goal?
What strategies can help?
What are the pros/cons?
Choose the best one to try
Did it work—what to change?

Goal-setting and decision-making steps...

Remember—we are a SunSafe school... no HAT, no PLAY.

Term 1 SWPBS Celebration
Whole-school Assembly... Bronze Certificates

Our Tuckshop menu can be found on our school website.

17 March: AGM

The P&C raises in excess of $30 000 each year, with the tireless support of our fantastic ‘West community.

For 2015 we are looking to provide

• an additional PE shed—including double access doors, retaining wall;
• Smart Boards initiative—start replacing our old Interactive boards with these flexible use and access boards for multi-users;
• extend the IPad program...

We are ‘great’ but with your help we would be AMAZING...come along!

SWPBS

Week 6 Focus: I am Responsible
Arriving at class on time

At Gladstone West, our school day begins at 8:50am and ends at 3pm. Throughout our day, lunchbreaks are from 10:30am-11:10am and 1:30pm-2pm.

It is expected that students have been to the toilet and had a drink before the beginning of each session. Arriving to class on time allows us to maximise the most from our learning to have a productive and rewarding day.

Sports/Music

10 March: Year 2 Swimming commences
31 March: GWSS Cross Country

Hot Shots Tennis

Hot Shots tennis will recommence on Fridays at 8.00 – 8.30am. All equipment will be provided (racquets and balls). As a major promotion with Tennis Australia we have registered all Prep students with the Hot Shots program which entitles them to a Hot Shots shirt. These shirts will be distributed during HPE sessions in the next few weeks.

For Year 3 and Year 5 students...the NAPLAN writing genre this year will be either Narrative OR Persuasive. Check out what’s in our library—Mrs S can help find what you’re looking for...even green sheep!

Thank you to the ladies who came and helped or took books for covering on Friday.

We will be holding another book covering morning in the Library on Friday 6th March from 9.00-10.30. Morning Tea provided. Hope to see you there, whether you are a novice or an expert. :-)
Year 2 Swimming
starts next Tuesday
10th March

Please note that swimming money was due last Friday. If you have not yet paid for your child’s swimming, can you do so immediately.

2015 TERM CALENDAR
4th & 5th March - School Photos
10th March - Year 2 Swimming Commences
17th March - P&C AGM
18th March - Parent Teacher Interviews Commence
31st March - Cross Country
2nd April - Last Day of Term 1
20th April - 1st Day of Term 2
20th—24th April - Year 6 Camp

2015 TUCKSHOP ROSTER

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Brenda Lyons</td>
<td>9.00am—11.00am</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Maree Offord</td>
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<td>Helen Whitten</td>
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School Notices

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Notes went home last week for parents to inform teachers of when they are available for Parent Teacher Interviews.

Please make sure these are filled in and returned to your class teacher ASAP.

Interviews will start on Wednesday 18th March.

A copy of each class interview times is available from the office, also on Skoolbag.

**Year 6 Camp**

All Year 6 Students would have now received their information and invoice for the Year 6 Camp being held at MARANTHA RECREATION & EDUCATION CAMP from the 20th April—24th April.

Parents please note that a deposit of $80 is required by Friday 13th March and full payment is due by Friday 27th March.

Please contact Vanessa Thompson should you wish to discuss payment plans and options as soon as possible.
School Photos
Reminder to all Parents that School Photos are NEXT WEEK, 4th & 5th March.
Please make sure you have returned your payment envelope to the office or have ordered through their online payment system.

Sibling photos will be held at 8.30 Wednesday & Thursday morning in the Yallarm Room in K Block.

Student Absences
Parents may report an absence in the following ways.
- Student Absence Line - 49797366
- Note to Class Teacher
- Absentee form through our NEW Skoolbag App.

Please note that ALL absences need to be explained.

Brekky Club
Please note that Brekky Club is on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Mornings at the SEP Unit.

Sporting News

Port Curtis Primary School Girls Soccer Competition
Gladstone West girls soccer team won their first game yesterday against Clinton, with the final score being 2-1. Well done superstars ;) Miss Goldfinch.
Gladstone West State School will be holding their photo days on:

Wednesday 4th March
&
Thursday 5th March

Please see below when your child's class is having their photograph taken.

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*These times are approximate times only and may change throughout the day. Payment envelopes are still available from the office and online payments can be made through their website on [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au). Using the online code: DGC 4HZ XWE. Orders due by 4th March, 2015.*
8TH MARCH 2015

MUMS, BUBS & KIDS
MARKET DAY

Stall Holders Wanted! ($20.00 per table)

When: Sunday March 8th
Time: 8.00am – 12.00pm
Where: Outdoor Basketball Courts
Kev Broome Stadium (Opposite PCYC)

Clear out your cupboards – sell your pre-loved Nursery items/furniture & Maternity wear. Baby clothing, children’s clothing & accessories. Toys, books & games!

Promote your home based business. Sell your new items for Mums, Bubs & Kids!

Sausage sizzle, bacon & egg burgers, cake stall, cold drinks & an Easter Raffle!

Fundraising for U12 Boys Port City Basketball Rep team to travel & attend State Classics in April!

Phone Anita 0403 327 356 or Janenne 0411 400 018