Robogals

Robogals is a new course. It is only available to girls and their main focus is robotics. Through this course the 20 girls learn how to program and operate a robot to perform tasks. Many of the students prefer it as other robotics and programming classes are dominated by boys but this course is only for girls.

“Robogals is frustrating and fun at the same time” students also say “It’s challenging and creative”. The main aim is to program a robot and they have different tasks like going through a labyrinth or travelling set distances. It is to be achieved with a lot of analytical, procedural and practical knowledge.

Apoorva Nyayapathi

Music

This year the ASMS music adventure space has undergone a big change. Returning students will remember that in previous years Mieka has taught the class but as she has gone Ahilan has taken over.

He has shown the class how they may advertise their music on social media and has taught them how they may act as professional musicians. Ahilan has also taken a more theoretical and structured approach with his teaching. Theoretical music is a big part of the study and mimics tertiary music study.

The group has also had a music night and for all that attended it was fantastic. It will be interesting to see how this talented bunch progress.

Cortney Bronca
In our school we have 132 students who are originally from 34 different countries with diverse culture and beliefs. What’s important is not just having many people from different cultures it’s their ability to live along peacefully and setting any political or religious differences aside. Some people don’t get the importance of the cultural diversity we have in this school, and that’s because they haven’t seen the different picture.

Ethan Deyoung a fellow student from South Africa told me about his experience in schools there, he told me that Black and White South Africans in schools mostly don’t get along well. Even though the days of the apartheid (During apartheid, people were divided into racial groups and kept apart by law) are over there’s still some discomfort among the different races in the same culture. That’s why we as humans should care about maintaining a healthy cultural diversity wherever we live because it’s a strength to the human species that’s valuable to moving forward and building this planet and even expanding.

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Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. At ASMS we have a wide range of diversity and this is why Harmony Day is a special day; not just for some of us but for all of us. On harmony day students came to school wearing their cultural clothing and others wore orange, the colour of Harmony Day. Wearing orange symbolises a change in attitude from racism and discrimination to understanding, peace and harmony. The celebrations started off with an assembly featuring a performance of Hallelujah by E.J. and Jerome. After the assembly Tutor Groups were merged for lunch and we were encouraged to bring food from our countries. We spent lunch playing games and getting to know the students in our Tutor Group. Fouad who has only been in Australia for one month said “ Harmony Day is also a day to celebrate the success of the students and teachers for maintaining a bully free environment.”
Monarto Zoo Astronomy Camp

On Thursday morning a mixed group of students and teachers set off to Monarto Zoo on an astronomy camp. Albeit there were a few challenges with getting to the camp and even a delay but we finally made it. The main focus of the camp was astronomy but the camp was tailored to other interests as well.

While the sun was still up we visited animals of all shapes and sizes, a few even came right up to the bus. This was great fun, we were able to learn about all the different animals and get some great pictures.

After this we were joined by a zoo volunteer who led us through a variety of team-building exercises. When night finally arrived we were dropped off all over the property and left to reflect and philosophise. Some found this was a great experience whilst others just fell asleep.

When this was completed we finally got to look at Jupiter. It was amazing seeing it in full colour and we were even able to count the moons orbiting it. Some stayed up all night whereas a few of us retired to our swags and tents before being able to view Venus and Mercury.

The next day we rose up, tired but keen to see what else was in store for us. We found that we were to remove weeds from the Hyena enclosure. At first we all groaned but after the job was finished we looked at what we had achieved and felt that we had indeed made a difference. Once leaving the enclosure we were allowed to view the Hyenas entering their enclosure, indeed a perfect end to an incredible camp. After packing up our campsite we bundled into the buses and set off back to the ASMS.

We hope you have a lovely stay here Nils.

Amber Dales and Caitlin McAndrew

Nils Hoffmann

Nils is from Elmshorn, Germany. He previously attended Bismarck School in Elmshorn. He travelled for 24 hours to attend the ASMS and see the sights of Australia. He chose to come to Australia for the summer weather and to learn English.

He likes Australia because the people here are very friendly; it’s very relaxed down here and the weather is great. The hardest thing to get used to in Australia is the major difference in surroundings. The ASMS also has some downfalls, it has a very different learning approach and lots of organization is needed to succeed here; however he still likes the school because of the self-directed learning.

His most memorable experience so far is going to an animal park and seeing all the Australia animals. His biggest hobby is sailing among the waters.

We hope you have a lovely stay here Nils.

Amber Dales and Caitlin McAndrew
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

School Holidays
Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April

Open Nights
Thursday 22 May & Tuesday 27 May

Observation Days
Wednesday 28 May, Friday 31 May, Monday 2 June & Wednesday 4 June

Student Free Day
Friday 6 June

Queens Birthday
Monday 9 June

GOVERNING COUNCIL 2014

All meetings are 7-9pm in the ASMS Conference Room

Tuesday 18 March
Tuesday 13 May
Tuesday 17 June
Tuesday 5 August

Tuesday 9 September
Tuesday 28 October
Tuesday 2 December

Sports Report

ASMS students participated in several sporting activities in Term 1.

Our swimming team performed very well gaining 12 first place certificates, 3 seconds and 10 thirds. The successful students were; Harriet Beard, Nicole De Langen, Jake Mounfield, Shoni Nurmi, Lydea Phillips, Alex Roberts-Viney and Sheldon Skanes.

Sean Holbrook competed in the cycling time trial and completed the 7.35km in 14 minutes and 12 seconds.

Three students participated in the tennis program. Unfortunately Bikram Singh, Scott Thompson and Sascha Bull did not make it past the first round.

The girls indoor soccer team competed against Mitcham, Adelaide and Unley but were unable to defeat them. The boys indoor soccer team were more successful. They won 5 games, drew 1 and lost 3.

Reece Bacchus competed in the nationals for kayaking and came in second. He also finished 3rd in the K4 and 4th in the K1.

Susanne Eckerle

Susanne is a year 10 international student from Germany. Her mother’s influence and the desire for English learning persuaded her into her choice of coming to Australia and attending the ASMS. Her favorite thing about Australia so far is the fantastic weather. Australia is very different compared to Germany and for Susanne understanding the English language is quite difficult. She really enjoys the ASMS because of the elaborate science learning however the hardest thing here is Tutor Group.

Her memorable experience is making amazing friends and her biggest hobby is Pokémon!

Fouad El-Saadi

Caitlin McAndrew and Amber Dales