

EXCEL - Tournament of Minds - Success in 2019!



Winning team, 'Golden Nuggets'
performing above,
and celebrating their win, below



The teams with their supporters, below



On Sunday 8 September three Year 8-10 teams from GGHS joined 112 teams - 800 students - from all over SA to compete in the annual Tournament of Minds at Flinders University. All of our teams chose to compete in the Arts Challenge this year. They had six weeks in which to create their own play addressing the challenge criteria, two songs, and all sets, props and costumes (on a limited budget). Then they had to present their play at Flinders Uni. On Tournament Day, they also had to complete a Spontaneous Challenge, which required the rapid interchange of ideas, the ability to think creatively and great group work skills.

Our three teams all performed their Arts Challenge plays on "The Wizard of Aus" very well, buoyed by the support of over 45 GGHS supporters: their families and the other teams!

Congratulations go to our 'Golden Nuggets' Team - Skye (Y10), Grace, Abbey and Tia (Y9), Connor, Sage and Liam (Y8), as they won the Secondary Arts Challenge, and will represent SA in the Tournament of Minds International Final (24-26 October) in Hobart.

It was no surprise when they took out this award as Skye's script cleverly twisted the original "Wizard of Oz" story-line to meet the Arts Challenge criteria. Her play began with a Farmer (Grace), a Kookaburra (Connor), a Crocodile (Skye) and a water-tank (Tia) bemoaning the lack of water in our outback rivers. In order to be happy again, they all needed water. This would restore the Farmer's hope, the Kookaburra's laugh, the Crocodile's respect and the Water-tank's usefulness. The Farmer thought that if only they could find the Rainbow Serpent (Sage), he would give them the water they needed and restore their happiness, so they set off in search of him. Along the way they bumped into Bindi Irwin (Abbey), who offered to help them in their search. They finally found the Rainbow Serpent, and sang to summon him from the billabong, but they were shocked when his head fell off and he was revealed to be bogus. He blamed the Bunyip for the lack of water. They finally found the Bunyip (Liam) and begged him to return the water to the outback. He agreed to do so, if they promised always to use the water wisely from now on and to be resilient. They promised that they would. They clicked their heels and, lo and behold, they were home! And, as we all know, "There's no place like home".

Sue Lyons
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