RoboRoos Newsletter

DECEMBER, 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The FLL team are smashing all their comps!
- Did you see us through the crowd at Mini Maker Faire?
- Kick-off is coming up, make sure you don't miss it!
- We've been extending our outreach in local schools!
- Our safety day is on the 13th of this month!

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FLL Team Make It To Nationals!

Adelaide Regionals:

After 8 weeks of hard work and lots of food and trampolining, the RoboRoos FLL team went to PAC for the Adelaide regional FLL competition on the 15th of November. Looking very smart in their white t-shirts they made a good impression on everyone there, especially the judges. They perfected every single one of their judging sessions and came 7th on the robot table even though the robot didn't get any perfect runs. Overall they were thrilled to win the Presentation Award and receive an invitation to the Sydney Nationals for the 5th consecutive year. The Nationals are in December so good luck to the team! - Emily Mansfield

Mini Maker Faire

Mini Maker Faire is an all ages gathering of tech enthusiasts, crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, science clubs, authors, artists, students, and commercial exhibitors. All of these "makers" come to Mini Maker Faire to show what they have made and to share what they have learned. Held in the large open-air pavilion at the Flinders University Tonsley campus, over 6000 people passed through the gates. We had a constant stream of people interacting with our display. Participants were driving the ball thrower and the Frisbee shooter robots and earning robot driving licences. The licences were well received and every child that came through left with a large smile on their face. It was a successful day for spreading the RoboRoos' name and getting other kids interested in robotics and STEM.

DON'T FORGET

On the 13th of December the whole team is gathering at the workshop at 1-3pm for our compulsory safety training day—if you do not attend this meeting you will not be able to work on the robot this season!

Kick Off Reminder

Our favourite, most looked forward to and frantic time of year is coming up soon!

Just a reminder that we have our kick off day on Sunday the 10th of January 10:30 UniSA city west campus BH2/09 Lecture room enter from ground level.

"Making a safety animation video has been on our to-do list for a number of years."

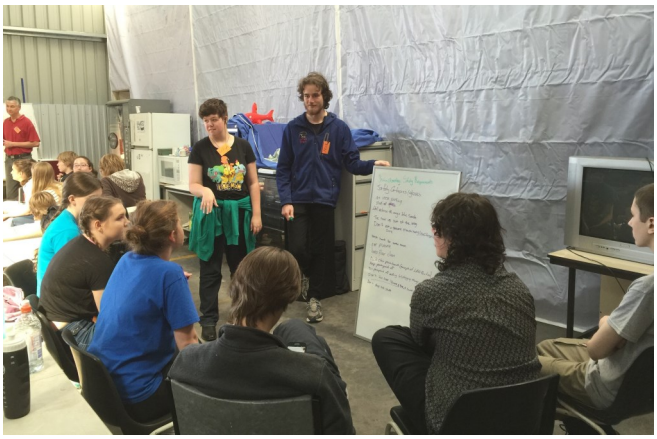
St Mary's College Engineering Day

RoboRoos love to get girls in particular excited about science and technology, so on the 5th of November the RoboRoos demonstrated the 3 robots to St Mary College for the engineer day. This is a day where the year 9's get a chance to see what engineering is like. We talked to the students about what we do and how we do it, we then showed them how the robots work and what they all do. The year 6's came in just to see the robots and to ask questions about why we do this, what we do it for or how they could join. In the end the girls in year 6 drove the robots around and were really excited to catch a large ball that a robot throws.

Safety Animation Video

Showing how learning to be safe can be fun through our RoboRoos Safety Animation Video!

Making a safety video has been on our 'to do' list for a number of years. We are now in a position to do this with our new recruits Ethan and Jakob adding their 3D animation skills to the team. We held a brainstorming session on 25th October and mapped out a plan led by Caitlin and Nick (alumni). We will be using Autodesk Maya to model our safety animation. The video will fit the FIRST FRC competition rules, no longer than 40 seconds and submitted by January 21st 2016. We will meet weekly in December to work on the video. Our goal is to have completed the majority of the video before kick-off for the build season. (Margaret Faulkner)



Song Parody Contest

Mamma Mia!!! Here we go again, getting ready to launch into another FRC competition. A group of students grouped together to write a parody, (thanks Emily), source costumes and sound recording equipment (thanks Charlie), create a singing quartet (thanks Belinda, Bre, Enzo and Charlie), find a music track to back them (thanks Ryan) and film and record (thanks Jack). Finally Belinda edited and Scott put it up on YouTube.

Watch the video! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjzSgQFau2Y

Createx

The RoboRoos were invited alongside of The City of Unley council to attended Black Forest Primary School's Createx 2015 event. This event encourages younger students to start becoming "Mini-Makers". The students loved the staccato energy of the Frisbee shooter and explosive force of the ball thrower robots.

Bright Sparks

Our RoboRoos Alumni group were asked to run a soldering session for members of the Bright Sparks Club. Jack Mansfield took this on board and with the help of Adam ran a workshop at Wingfield. These students learnt about electronics and soldering and proudly wore their own flashing LED badge home. We look forward to running this workshop again next year and developing an ongoing relationship with this club.

Training

Adelaide Uni mentors ran a CAD training day for us. Students and adults were given valuable assistance in learning to draw 3D CAD models using Autodesk Inventor.

Adam ran a workshop at UniSA to teach students about sensors and how to build an electronic game.

Our last Sunday workshop meeting gave students the opportunity to work with our mentors to repair the three robots and start soldering our badges ready for competition in Sydney.

13th December 2015

Safety Course – Workshop 1-3 pm

Reminder that this is mandatory for all students and mentors and ALL parents that will help supervise at the workshop

Closed shoes are essential

FOLLOWED BY:

Build season procedures and briefing

330—430pm

Find out all about our plans for the build season and competition. Your chance to ask questions!

14th & 15th Dec 9—3pm

Sketchup Make 16 training

UniSA City West campus

Refer to our website calendar

Hopping into engineering!

Who are the RoboRoos?

We're a community group, FIRST® Robotics Team and so much more—including South Australia's first and only FRC team.

The team's purpose is to excite young minds about STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), by using a common interest: Robots.

As part of this, students get real industry experience, with help and guidance from dedicated industry professionals as mentors. It circumvents the age-old circle of being unable to get a job due to lack of experience.

Part of our ethos is to maintain a gender balance, which we continue to strive for and achieve.

www.roboroos.org.au

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