

*"People
before
things"*

OCTOBER 2011

Ed. Paul Liknaitzky

Fitzroy Community School NEWSLETTER

PLAY TIME

From Sam: *Well what can I say? Mary Poppins was a huge success thanks to the amazing performances of all the children. They were spectacular. The lead cast blew me away with their talent and maturity and the ensemble created many "Show Stoppers". Fun was had by all! Thanks to Greg and Emma for their work on the wonderful backdrop and side drops that helped to create the magic. It was also Brill-iant due to the endless support of the "A Team" Crew! Thanks go to all the parents, student teachers and past students. Special mentions must go to Arthur (Sets), Sharon (Costumes), Gabby (Hair & Backstage), John (Music), Judi (Script), Nikki (Make up) and Tim (Assistant Director and Lighting). What a fabulous show! Chim Chim Charooooooooo!*



The joy of Wednesdays

WELCOMES

Violin fiddling: Welcome to Stephanie, our new violin teacher, a fiddler with many strings to her bow!

Encore: Kerrie, our talented singing teacher, has returned to sing for her supper. Good to have you back!

Old School: Glenda and Jane have been helping Faye in English. Great to have these ladies on board!

Mystery camp in the Grampians



CANDLEBARK SPORTS DAY

It's our turn to be the visitors in yet another instalment of a lovely tradition between the two schools. FCS will play Candlebark in an all day sporting event on Wednesday the 19th of October

(2nd day of Term 4). We will depart school at 9.15am and return at 3.15pm. Come along and support your progeny in this friendly rivalry!

WALKIES AND TALKIES

Although Oscar Wilde once said "Fashion is a form of ugliness so intolerable that we have to alter it every six months", the FCS Fashion Parade might well change his mind. This, in combination with a showcase of the finest FCS motion pictures from Term 3, is sure to thrill the crowds that will throng into FCS on the 3rd of November. Be sure to put the night in your calendar!

INCREDIBUBBLE

Dr. Froth, the bubble man, made a well received appearance at school to discuss and demonstrate the wonders of bubbles. The whole school were entranced as he made bubbles in bubbles, put one, then two then three children in a bubble, bounced a bubble on a bubble trampoline and circled himself in a donut bubble. The whole school then tramped across to the oval to all tackle bubble making, with thousands of bubbles, some bigger than their makers, inflated for the next hour. Thanks Dr. Froth, Bubble Man! Visit www.bubblemedia.org for more information or to book Dr. Froth.



GREEN THUMBS

By Claire: *This term the Tinies, Monkeys and Kittens have been doing a spot of gardening as part of Maths. A little green house has been created next to the office. Various seeds have been planted in an array of toilet rolls and coffee cups; all neatly labelled with the student's name, plant name and date. Over the weeks, shoots have appeared and snow peas have*

been measured and graphed to show the rate of growth. Many children have shown themselves to be natural green thumbs, judging by the amount of containers some parents have had to transport home. Watering and vigilance against hungry predators should mean crops in a few months!



MYSTERY CAMP

From Tim: There was jittery excitement surrounding Mystery Camp, which built up as the time for departure came closer. Despite being pleaded with for days, Lily, Jo and I kept the destination secret, not even spilling the beans upon departure. It was only when we arrived that the 12 campers discovered our destination: The Grampians. For me, highlights of the camp were climbing Boronia Peak, Sundial Peak and Chautauqua Peak, with these walks taking between four and eight hours. Thanks especially to Jo for carrying bags of oranges and apples up these mountains. Over three days we walked just under 60kms, saw wallabies, kangaroos, emus, kookaburras, deer and a large selection of other birds. High spirits were a feature of all walks, and general helpfulness around our home base 'Tall Timbers', a six bedroom timber home we occupied for the week.



WRITING PIECE

By Arun (Yr 6) - [Inspired in Tim's ethics class following a viewing of the film *Invictus*.]

Nelson Mandela is a Black South African who was imprisoned by the White government on the basis of flimsy evidence claiming he was a terrorist. Mandela was calmed and inspired by the poem 'Invictus'. He found peace in this poem, even in his darkest hours. When Nelson Mandela was released from prison he became president of South Africa. Mandela did the impossible, and dreamed the impossible. From prison to president, Black against White, from a divided country to a united country, Nelson Mandela's dreams of peace were smiled upon by 'God'.

MORE SLAMS DUNKED

Another term of good fun on the basketball court. The Future All Stars had 1 win, 2 draws and 3 losses, finishing third in their section. And the Rookies won their first game, but lost the rest, some in very close matches. The Adults vs Students game was a 6-6 draw! Thanks to the parents who came and to Mel who scored all the games and played in 2 matches. The coaches Keith and Greta wish to thank all the players for their good sportsmanship: "It's always good to have teams who win modestly and lose graciously".



PAST STUDENTS DOING TIME

Many past FCS students returned to their childhood sanctuary this term to lend a helping hand. Scott, Tony, Mimi and Lily helped out across the varied timetable for their work experience. And, as always, past students donated their sweat and enthusiasm to the annual play: Astrid, Mimi, Celeste, Nisha, Lucci, Conor, Dominic, Estelle, Calum, Eric, Greta, Emma and Allesia. Thank you for showing your FCS spirit!



TINIES CAMP

By Emma (mother of Arkie) : We were only away on the Tinies Camp for 24 hours but it felt like so much longer. We managed to cram so much in without feeling rushed or pressured, and got to spend our time soaking up the great weather, serene environment and fantastic company. The Tinies were such a cohesive bunch on camp - weaving in and out of each other's company. There was general bush-bashing, wood chopping, fairy forest shopkeeping, bow and arrow making, keeping tree houses, kite flying, sheep chasing and much more. Meanwhile the parents had many laughs and managed to fit in a touch of badminton, a few rounds of boggle, some general maintenance and countless cups of tea. Thanks Tim, Nettie and Phillip for having us stay and thanks to the Tinies for giving us an excuse to escape the rat race.



PUBLIC ART

By Alice Glenn: This semester Adam (father of Thea) and I worked with the students on a paste up project in the back lane behind the school. The project opened up many great discussions around how people feel about public art and graffiti in the streets. Most students felt that good quality artworks, stencils and paste ups are great, adding beauty to the streets and making the passers-by

think about new ideas. It was great fun and the back lane looks amazing!!! Everyone should go out and have a look.

Cleaning up the Merri with Clo & Mary



FCS AT UNIVERSITY

By Nick: A great amount of preparation by the Melbourne Uni students had clearly gone into this day. Activities were set around six paintings from the NGV, with the FCS children being introduced to these works through imagination, role play, games, music, drawing and craft related to the artwork. The children were amazing and really engaged with their tasks, impressing the Melbourne Uni students with their application and ability. A big thanks to Marnee, Dave and all the gang at Melbourne Uni for providing a wonderful day filled with art, acting and music.

BIGGIES CAMP

By Nick B: Nick, Greta, Nic, Jack, Saul, Hannah, Jordon, Zoe, Stefan, Jan and William loved their return to The Land. The new buildings were wonderful for camping, with all eight Biggies sharing the Bunk House, Nick and William in the Taj Mahal, and Greta in the Teepee. Nick and Greta would like to compliment the Biggies on their behaviour and camping prowess. They were such an easy group to look after and helped with the cleaning and organisation efficiently and without any grumbling or the need to be asked twice. A lot of time was devoted to the establishment of two tribal sites down at the creek, complete with shelters and fires. The tribal markings

looked great too. The Land truly did provide an adventure playground for the children and their imaginations. Practice for the play and The Little Prince added to the full days spent there.



ALUMNI

Magnus Gillberg (FCS: 2005) was recently voted best and fairest for his rugby team at Xavier College where he is completing Year 12. He is also the team's vice-captain. He hopes to get a rugby scholarship to Melbourne University. Must be all those games of animal ball!

Cecelia Acland Barber (FCS: 2005) is going to volunteer in India next year with Young People Without Borders. Below is a photo of Cecilia in her finest for a Year 12 formal.



POEM

Black Rabbit, by Bridie (Yr 3)

Like a little black soot ball.

Like a black football.

With fur and long banana ears.

A black cutey in a wiry prison.

But plenty of daylight and food.

With a yellow bed of sticks.

Its smell is like sprayed apple perfume.

It sounds like...

Well, no sound at all.

But when its angry

It goes OOOOMF!



FUTSAL

The Fitzroy Football Club - comprised primarily of FCS lads - won their Futsal (indoor soccer) Grand Final!... for the third season in a row! Well done to the players: Arun, Jack M, Sunny, Marlon, Stefan, Josh S and Kai (not at FCS), and coach Juao. A close game, fought tooth and claw with a final score of 2-1 following extra time. Each nimble player put in their very best, with Josh S and Stefan each finding the net.

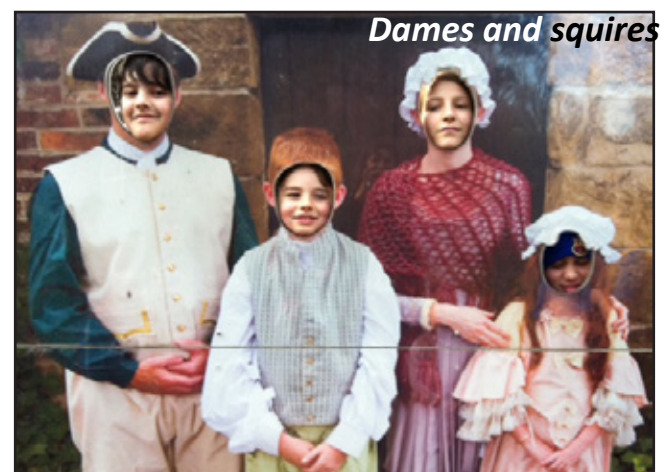
NOTES FROM OUR STUDENT TEACHERS

From Nathalie: *Fitzroy Community School, it will soon be time for me to wave you goodbye as I am heading towards the end of my teaching round at your fabulous school. I am very sad to leave, but at the same time it is with immense joy with which I begin my new teaching career. Your community has helped me to shape my*

beliefs about education, as well as to become the teacher that I want to be. I was extremely lucky to have worked on two projects at school since the beginning of my placement: The Fashion Parade with the Biggies, and organising the costumes for the school play. During the Fashion classes, the Biggies had the opportunity to explore different aspects of fashion and the fashion industry. Thank you to all parents and families for their support. A big thank you also to Stewart (father of Flora) who gave us the opportunity to visit his studio, Spacecraft, as part of an excursion on fashion. I would like to express my gratitude to all students, staff and families for your warm welcome. All the best, Nathalie.

From Dilan: *It has been such a pleasure working alongside some very talented actors and directors in preparation for the 2011 FCS Movie Night. The four groups involved (Tinies, Monkey's, Kitten's and Middlies) came up with some wonderfully entertaining plots containing many humorous twists and turns. I have never encountered such levels of enthusiasm and efficiency with any other project before. Special congratulations to the Middlies boys group for creating their movie in record time, written up and shot within a week or so. The movie night will see us team up with some of FCS's top fashion designers to showcase their stunning creations in a fashion parade. Its set to be an exciting night, please make sure you come along. Dilan.*

From Mel: *As a student teacher at FCS over the last ten weeks I have had the privilege of getting to know the wonderful students, teachers, families and friends in this special community. It is such a unique opportunity to be able to teach across all grade levels and subject areas, as well as be involved in sporting events and school play preparations. I really honed in on my scoring skills*



while cheering on the Biggies and Middlies at the Hoop Time (basketball) and netball competitions. I continued to see the children's artistic talents blossom as the Monkey girls and I turned their ideas into their very own storybook. Working with the Kittens over the last few weeks, I have been blown away by the students' sophisticated ideas about Rules, Roles and Responsibilities and the ways they connect. Having attended a small alternative primary school in Adelaide, I had noticed a comparative lack of flexibility, independence and resilience fostered in children in some mainstream schools. At Fitzroy Community School, it is heartening to see these values underpinning all aspects of teaching and learning, and being modelled through genuine relationships between parents, teachers, students and the wider community. I sincerely thank everyone for making me feel so welcome and look forward to a continuing relationship with FCS in future! Melanie.

Many thanks to our 3 student teachers, Nathalie, Dilan and Melanie, for their enthusiasm, effort and the bright splash of colour and movement they added to the term!



Bike camp



GOOD SHEPHERD YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICE FOSTER CARE

Does your family have something to offer a child in need? On any given day there are over 5000 Victorian children who can't live safely at home through no fault of their own. Foster carers help these children by offering them a temporary place in their home and the support and care they need. Carers choose the length and type of care they can provide. For enquiries, call 9270 9351 or email fostercareenquiries@goodshepvic.org.au

WORLD EDUCATION PROGRAM

A number of exchange students from Italy, Germany, Belgium, France, Japan and Brazil are hoping to be hosted by families who would be interested in enjoying their company for a half, one or two semesters and can afford an extra person at mealtimes. Please call Klaus Schumann on 97584279 for more information.



Tinies camp at the tree farm

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