



SUMMER 2014

Ed. Paul Liknaitzky

GRADUATES

A warm "Goodbye" and "Good luck" to our 2014 Graduates: Ella, Dante, Bridie, Mietta, Ted, Oscar, Jack, Llew, Hunter and Silas. Please come back and say Hi, and do send in news of your first year in secondary school

MAKING MEMORIES

After 25 camps in a number of locations, The Land was returned to for the the final Year 6 camp. Our graduates took Tim, Faye, Greta and Christian along for the ride. Games, chats, and relishing the company of the group marked the three days. Greta's famous chicken curry was requested, and marshmallows were enjoyed by the fireside. There was a good deal of ball throwing and log balancing at the creek. This final hurrah was a lovely, happy and poignant occasion.



THE LAST BREAKFAST

One of the loveliest traditions at school is the 7am breakfast the week before graduation, in which our soon-to-be-graduates and their parents gather with the teachers to share a meal. This one was hosted at Thornbury - thank you Wayne, Joelle and family. Food was shared and stories told. And a few tears were shed, with everyone feeling the joy of a wonderful history together, and the excitement and anticipation of a new stage in all of our lives together.



ADVENTURE PARK

FCS Graduation comes with another tradition, a trip down past Geelong for a day on water slides, tyres, paddle-boats, minigolf and go-karts. Greta and Tim were the lucky ones who shared this day with the Biggies, and as rumour has it, gave them a real run for their money on some of the rides! A fun day had by all.

THORNBURY - THE FIRST YEAR, by Wayne

The first year of FCS Thornbury could not have been better. Our great bunch of kids, parents and staff have all worked hard to make the year a success. We are very pleased to be giving more families the chance to experience school the FCS way, and have a full Tinies class for 2015. Thank you to everyone who has given our young community their support, time and talents throughout our first year. It is wonderful when Fitzroy parents drop in to say hi or offer their skills. Thanks to Arthur for his sewing classes, Kaz and Jack for their sushi and Peter Brew for all of the little (and big) jobs. An extra special thanks goes to the Thornbury parents, all of whom helped in one way or another. What a great year!



Thornbury Weenies

WEENIES

November saw the Fitzroy Weenies spend Wednesdays at school - with Jeannette, Nick, Nikki and Greta hosting a most charming and independent group of new students. Our youngest school members enjoyed games, art, sport, free time and BBQ. The Biggies and Middlies did a wonderful job, enthusiastically helping to settle them in, and sharing their experience and knowledge of our school.

Thornbury hosted Weenies on Fridays in November, and they certainly added to the feel of our new campus during their visits. They had a lot of fun and all participated wonderfully in the lessons. It was lovely to see how the older students wanted to give the Weenies a great time and help as much as possible. We are all very excited to see Thornbury growing so fast.

FUTURE ALL STARS' CAMP

By Miranda: This camp is always a very special one. As the Year 6 group enjoy their last camp at the land, the Year 4 and 5 students spent time at the Tree Farm, connecting as the incoming Biggies next year. Both times I have attended this camp I have returned home rejuvenated; I think this shows just what a pleasure it is to take. There were many highlights for me: a lovely walk with Daniel and Reuben where we spent a lot of time looking at all the different leaves and trees; the whole group sitting at the clearing and watching the sunset as we reflected on the year to come and different character strengths we could bring to the group; and very silly riddles at the camp fire. Also, the care and kindness that was shown to sick Chloe by the girls in her cabin was beautiful to see. As the girls banded together to care for their sick friend, there was a maturity and self-sufficiency that I found quite moving.

By Nick: Next year's Biggies were absolutely delightful, helpful and fun, and really came together as a group. In discussing their strengths, and particularly their strength as a group, they came to the realisation that their greatest strength is kindness, and it is through this strength that they will act to lead next year. We look forward to seeing them take on the role of school leaders.



Hare Hare Om

GOODBYES

We bid farewell to Mary and Tanya. Tanya leaves us for a tree-change as she moves to Candlebark. Mary leaves us to spend more time in her other profession as a midwife. She tells us that she will continue to be around as a school mum. Thank you both for your positive

energy and effort around the school. We wish you well with the changes ahead.

ROUNDERS, by Nick

This year we again saw the best of our students as they competed in inter-school rounders. We fielded three teams, which meant that all Biggies and Middlies were needed, with Reds often being asked (and frequently volunteering) to play as well, when other activities took children away. The leadership exhibited by the Biggies was outstanding. All the younger students who took part in the competition felt well supported, and the coaching that they received from the older students gave them the confidence to shine. It was great to hear recounts of how the Reds and Middlies had taken catches, smashed the ball or just played really well. Congratulations to all who took part, and a big cheer for the A team who went through the season undefeated.



Chester's birthday, The Land

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GLENDA! by Nettie

Glenda recently commenced her eighth decade in style at Ezards in the city. Faye and Jeannette helped her celebrate along with family, friends and luminaries from the law courts. Not that Glenda has been in trouble with the law, but rather has had a stellar career as clerk to a large group of barristers. For those who haven't met Glenda, she can be seen arriving at school each Tuesday morning with knitting in one hand and two dozen cup cakes in the other. She then settles down to a morning of helping Faye with English. When she arrived, Faye's poetry filing system was a little... erratic. Glenda went through the lot, and now any poem can be found in a flash!

Apart from her many skills, Glenda always has a smile and is a welcome presence in the school. We are looking forward to many more Tuesdays with Glenda, and feel very blessed to have her in our midst. Thank you Glenda!

YOU CAN'T CATCH THIS ONE, by Nikki

Many FCS families have recently requested my 'Never-Fail After-School-Art Gingerbread Man' recipe. I have been using this recipe for over ten years now! Although I have scribbled it down many times, I thought it should now be shared with the entire school community.

Ingredients

0.5 cup brown sugar
2.5 cups plain flour
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
125g butter (melted)
0.66 cup golden syrup

Method

Preheat oven to 180°C. Mix ingredients together. Wrap in glad-wrap and put in the fridge for at least 10mins until firm. Take out and shape into gingerbread men (or whatever other shape you desire). Place on a greased tray and bake for 8-10 mins until golden-brown. Cool and decorate. Enjoy!

THORNBURY DRAMATICS, by Wayne

The first Thornbury play, The Sound of Music, was a great success. The nuns, Mother Superior, Captain Von Trapp, Frau Schmidt, Max and the Von Trapp children, along with their gardener and cook, all kept us highly entertained. The students had a great time and learned a lot. We will always remember the first Thornbury performance, and are incredibly thankful to Sam for producing such a wonderful show. For all of term four



Tea Party

we heard the lovely voices of our students practising their songs. Thank you to Warren for doing the music and singing. Thanks also to the many Fitzroy parents and staff who helped, with a special mention to Nikki, Greta, Sue and Mimi.



Up, up and away!

THE ART OF THE CITY

Our annual pilgrimage to the University of Melbourne, where we are hosted by Marnee and her students in all things arty, was once again a great experience. We explored a vibrant world of dramatic productions, masks, art, craft and mythology, and came out with wider smiles, eyes and minds.

A LAD FROM SNOWY RIVER

Sunny Chiron (FCS: 2012) is one of six Northcote High School students to be selected to attend the Snowy River Campus of the School for Student Leadership in 2015. This is a unique residential experience for Year 9 students from state schools in Victoria. The curriculum focuses on personal development and team learning projects. We wish you all the best, Sunny!

MOVIE NIGHT

Movie night saw contributions from both Fitzroy and Thornbury, with all movies highlighting the quirky and individual natures of our students. A much discussed special effect was the shrinking of two emergency teachers!



Farm sports

EXPLORATORIUM, by Nat

This term, I have had the absolute pleasure and delight of taking outings on Wednesday. We have visited all sorts of fabulous places, including the National Gallery of Victoria, ScienceWorks, Heide, the Melbourne Museum and the Collingwood Children's Farm. These trips have been exciting adventures full of crazy bus rides, delicious cafe snacks and marvelling at intricate and thought-provoking artwork. And, of course, plenty of tree-climbing. I have been so impressed by how charming and independent



Tree Train on outing

the kids have been, and each week I can't wait for Wednesday to come!



Reds and Middlies Camp

CHRISTMAS GIVING, by Joelle

The Thornbury parents and students have been supporting a charity called The Phoebe Foundation. This charity aims to make the lives of children in the cardiac ward of The Royal Children's Hospital just a bit brighter. Most of these children will spend months of their life in this ward. This term we have made almost 100 craft packs suitable for children stuck in bed. Sebastian and Joelle delivered them last week. Thank you to everyone who helped and funded this lovely project, with a particular mention to Arno and his family.

MOVING PICTURES, by Mimi (FCS: 2007)

I feel very fortunate to have been able to spend my Fridays at FCS Thornbury this year. It has been very exciting to see this community form and grow into a beautiful little school. I was very kindly given the opportunity during third term to take media classes with the Thornbury Reds. On the first day, the kids and I set out on our task to create a short film. I was very inspired by the fascination the kids showed for the subject, and each step was completed with the utmost enthusiasm. They story-boarded, they scripted, and they scouted locations (going to America was a suggestion that was eventually ruled out). A big congrats to Cocoa, Arno, Kiki, Jarrah, Beth and Ada!

THORNBURY CAMPS, by Wayne

The Thornbury students had two whole-school camps this term at the tree farm. For camp one, we were joined by Fitzroy Middlies Aiva, Chester and Seb. We had some great cricket matches, dug, chopped, built shelters

and whittled wood, while our wonderful student teacher Julia spent hours working the flying fox. Spot-O was played very seriously, and we all wished we could stay another night. On our second camp, we were joined by Chloe, Freda and Will C from Fitzroy. The camp started with a picnic at the adventure playground in Ballarat, and the day ended with a fierce inter-campus soccer match and an evening around the campfire, trying to work out answers to Freda's and Beth's puzzles. One highlight was a long walk in Rokewood, where a giant block of beautiful quartz was found and with much effort carted back to camp and investigated. Unfortunately, despite breaking it into many pieces, no gold was found. Two great camps.

CONCERT FINALE, by Sam

Well, what a way to top off the year! The final concert delivered a spectacular range of entertainment. The biggies were wonderful at displaying their individual talents, and all the groups performed beautifully. It was wonderful to see the Graduates perform with confidence, enthusiasm and joy as they showed off their various skills - from singing to cello, piano, dancing and original and classic poetry. Skill, dedication and happiness shone from the stage. All of us at FCS wish Dante, Ella, Mietta, Bridie, Llew, Silas, Jack, Hunter, Ted and Oscar love and success for their futures as they head off to secondary school.

