

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1998

A BIG THANK YOU FROM FAYE

Thank you to all who have so generously given of their time this year to make such a rich and happy environment at FCS – parents, teachers, drivers, assistants, helpers with the artistic production, office workers, old friends, and the children.

The quality of FCS is to a large degree made possible by the many willing contributions of time and love.

CHESS

Congratulations to the Girls' Chess team (Emma, Cora, Sarah and Miriam) who came third in the Girls' Victorian Chess Championships held recently.

BIGGIES' PHILOSOPHY PLAYS

The Biggies' Philosophy Night was a big success. Thank you to the Biggies for a wonderful night and thank you, Barts for your time and dedication.

CONGRATS MARY (Class of 92)

On gaining a Distinction in your Monash Uni 1st Year Philosophy course (taken in place of one subject of VCE.)

LITERARY JOURNAL

Thanks to Amy (Nick B's girlfriend) without whose expertise and great effort, the literary journal of children's works would not have been put together in time. Copies will be available after the school concert.

MUSICIANS AT MEETING

Emma Black (oboe) and Theo Chen (cello) have performed at recent meetings. Thanks for sharing your talents with us.

FIRE BRIGADE VISIT

Lots of joyful squealing was heard during the Tinies' fire engine ride. The Fire Brigade came for a follow-up fire safety visit Monday, 7 Dec.

Thank you to LUKE J (class of 89)

Contributing to our curriculum. Luke has been doing wonderful work with the biggies in creative writing. We are delighted that you work with us and with the quality of your work.

TRIP TO CHINA

Tim is taking Cameron, Nick, Warren (Yr 6 1996) Mathew and Jasper. They are leaving Jan 1, returning the 17th. Arriving Shanghai, and travelling by train across China to Kunming.

FARWELL TO SARAH

– **violin teacher**

Thanks for many years of fine work. Sarah is taking time to finish Dip Ed.

WELCOME to ZOE (class of 88)

Our new violin teacher is Zoe Black, a former FCS student and Oscar's aunt.

DEFENCE of the LAND

A special thank you to all the parents and friends who have put in a statement "To Whom It May Concern" in defence of saving the school campsite.

These are already exerting their influence. They will be used again next year, so we can still use statements from any further contributors on this subject.

TIME CHANGE – SWIMMING

Swimming Displays and Picnic Wednesday the 9th at the Fitzroy Pool. The swimming demonstration will begin 30 min. earlier – at 11:30am. Everyone is welcome to join the children for a picnic after the demonstration.

BEST WISHES to our VCE students

For your Year 12 results coming out soon - Alexander, Luke, Mary, Romany, Tessa and Zoey (class of 92)

FAREWELL SARAH –

Our Karate Teacher

Sarah has completed her law degree and will work with a judge in 1999. Thank you & Best Wishes for being a marvellous model to our children

CONGRATS to JEREMY (class of 86)

Jeremy has won 1st class Honours for Honours Italian (Melb Uni). His thesis was on the Italian writer Tabucchi and postmodernism. Jeremy is now studying translation, on a scholarship in Trieste.

FAREWELL TO HARUHIKO

Thank you for bringing much pleasure to the children. You were a great ambassador. Harry leaves about December 28th and would appreciate any outings before then.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Tues, 8 Dec. Remember to bring a picnic & blanket and enjoy the singing at Darling Gardens.

The park is in Clifton Hill between North and South Terrace, and between Gold St and Hoddle St. The carols are on the Gold St side. The program begins at 6:45pm.

Biggies will be in the Opening Nativity Mime and need to arrive no later than 6:30pm. Other children need to be there by 7:30 at the very latest.

CONGRATS HUGH (class of 97)

For coming tops in your year 7 at Albert Park Secondary. We are all delighted.

CAMPS

Thanks to Tim and all the parents and friends who lent a hand. Tim was pleased that all kids engaged in their camps with a positive spirit. Perri's Dad, Gerard, gets the all time camp award for fantastic dish washing.

Thank you to JAMES (class of 91)

Jimmy has returned to his old school and is introducing FCS students to some systematic History. We need it. Welcome back Jimmy, and please continue the good work.

VALEDICTORY CONCERT

Our final concert for 1998 is at 7pm, Collingwood College Theatre, **Thursday 10th December.** Bring a plate and share in a festive holiday supper.

We will try out the new words of the School Song:

Extra words by Miriam & Emma

*Let us sing a song of joy
And love and understanding*

*Tinies, Littlies, Middlies, Biggies,
teachers, parents and old friends*

*You and I are always welcome
In our school community.*

*Let us sing a song of joy
And love and understanding*

Congrats Catherine (class of 95)

chosen by staff and students at Wesley as a Middle School leader.

THANKS to ELSIE & EILEEN

Who have consistently provided cups of tea and refreshments at Parents' Afternoons and at School Concerts.

CONGRATS IMOGEN (class of 96)

Imo won the Year 8 Writing Prize for her short story, *Standing Up for Thyself*.

Imo's story, *Isolation*, has just been published in Disability Dialogues – a collection of writing by parents, carers and supporters of children with Disabilities.

CONGRATS LUKE A (class of 92)

Luke has received the Principal's Award at Overnewton College, is president of the SRC, has also received the College Board

Award for the student who has made an outstanding contribution, for excellence in leadership, scholarship, and involvement in the life of the school. He has also received the Archbishop Penman Memorial Shield for College Leadership. We shake your hand, Luke.

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

The school play was fabulous! Joy put in an amazing amount of work, and showed many talents. Thanks to Joy, Sam, Leone, Arthur, Chris, Tim B, and the many others who helped with costumes, stage, make-up, transport etc.

CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY RAFFLE

If you had your eye on that fuzzy pink sofa or that surreal Grandpa bed, get your raffle ticket soon. Raffle will be drawn at the school concert. Many kids have tickets as do Helen and Leslie.

VIDEOS of CHARLIE & THE C.F.

Thanks to Greg (father of Dominic) and Chris (father of Lachlan) for taping the play for us. Videos have now been edited and will be available after the Concert from Leslie at \$20 apiece.

THANKS to Reading Tutor ELSIE

Many hours of valuable one to one reading and writing work have been put in by Elsie with many children in the Principal's kitchen.

HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION

Thanks to Tim Berryman, Luke and Alex Jackson, Warren Howden, Tessa Van Duyn, Catherine and Mary O'Carroll, Amy Prendergast, Hamish Kirkpatrick, Cameron Fleming, Cait Grant and Andrew Morgan and all who came to enlighten the Year 6's and their parents about secondary schooling. The evening was lively and informative.

When we saw a gathering of past students we felt very proud at how they had turned out – caring and articulate young men and women.

Thanks Maria for Tinies' Italian

Ilaria's mum has stood in for 2 weeks, involving the children in Italian cooking and Christmas baskets.

RELATIVELY LOW FEES

As we have heard many times, the Australian School Funding System is not entirely fair, forcing all independent schools to charge fees, thus keeping some families out.

But perhaps FCS parents can take some comfort in the realisation that we have managed to keep the fees well below those of large-scale private schools:

CERES EXCURSION

Biggies and Middlies will be going to Ceres Tues., Dec. 8th. The outing has been organised by John Bishop (science teacher).

Farewell and Good luck, Year 6's

Last days at FCS for Cora, Emma, Gabe, Matthew and Miriam. We all wish you the very best in your new environments.

DISCO

The Disco was a terrific success. Thank you to Giancarlo for organizing the event, including the light system. Thanks too to Jeannette, Tim, Joy, Mary, and Catherine for chaperoning the energetic gyrations.

Hat Makers & T-Shirt Makers

School needs more. Old suppliers out of business. Advise Jeannette if you know a supplier.

FITZROY TENNIS CLUB

Will have a school holiday tennis clinic 9.30 to 12 noon daily from Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd December.
PH Anthony Lett on 9499 7484 or 015 869 602 Racquets provided.

CHRISTMAS DAY CAROLS

Anyone who would like to join the O'Carroll family singing Christmas Carols (the carols we know) on Christmas Day at 11am at St. John's Church Queens Parade Clifton Hill, is warmly invited.

We will form a group (children, parents, friends, grandparents, etc) at the side of the ceremony, we will have the words, and we will have some instruments supporting us.

FITZROY COMMUNITY DAY

A date to reserve for 1999 – Sunday, 27th February. Sam will be organising some dance and/or drama groups early next year for the performance.

THOUGHTS FROM THE ANDES

This is an extract of an email from Sean (class of 91), who is travelling across South America with Paola:

“I have a dream of a place where children grow up. A community. Closer to tribal community than a school. I want grandparents to hang around and speak to the children. Parents too. Of course there would be a few formal classes, they must learn to read and write, and do their maths... But not how it is done now.

And hopefully, if the relatives can be around then they can help the children outside these classes individually. Like having 15 Nans. And of course they don't only receive the tuition, they see a human being who has lived, they see many personalities. These helpers (friends) would pass on their views about the world, their wisdom. This way we

help save two sections of the community - the oldies and the children. Not so different to FCS in many ways.”

[graphic]
The Melbourne Times article
2/12/98 on Eric Gardner's success
In winning the primary school
Level of the poetry competition
Dorothea MacKellar

Vale 1998



