

## **NEWSLETTER**

# ***September 2003***

### **Attachments :**

**Some Key Points arising from the public hearings on the Ed Dept proposal to take over old or prevent new Independent Schools (copy sent to all Indep Schs)**

**A slip concerning the sponsoring of solar panels on the roof of Fitzroy Community School.**

### **DOROTHEA MACKELLAR AWARDS**

FCS did well. The winners of the 19th Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards have been announced from the home of the awards, Gunnedah, in north-western NSW.

This year's judges, Ernie and Colette Tucker read through more than 9,000 entries written by school students between 5 years & 18 years from 900 schools throughout Australia.

Special Congratulations to Dominic Walker for his poem "Cars" which was selected as Primary Regional Winner (Victoria and Tasmania). Other short listed poems for National/Regional awards were Oscar's, Seamus', Ilaria's and Eric's. Congratulations to the 20 students whose poems were chosen to represent FCS in this competition. Many of these were *Commended* or *Highly Commended*.

Sincere thanks to Philip Harvey who introduced this year's theme "Moving On" to our students, and further thanks to Philip and wife Carol O'Connor for undertaking the challenging task of choosing our 20 representatives.

Thursday 16th October – Formal Presentation to Dominic by Woolworths (sponsors of the competition) will take place at the morning meeting. Don't be late!

### **ENROLMENTS FOR 2004**

We have a few places for beginners next year. If you know anyone who might be interested, let them know.

### **ROBIN HOOD – THANKS**

Thanks to all who contributed to the production. We are very conscious of the fact that without such generous support, a production of this magnitude would be impossible in our small community. Lovely to see so many past students involved.

### **MUSIC AT Thursday Meetings**

We have been privileged to have Emma Black perform baroque and contemporary oboe. Emma plays professionally in Vienna. Thank you also Kirsten – friend of Harris and Helen – who played semi-acoustic cello and traditional cello – engrossing and entertaining.

### **WELCOME TO LUCAS**

who has recently joined the juniors, and to parents George and Jenny. Lucas has an older sister, Anna, at Wesley.

### **WELCOME TO YUKA**

Japanese Intern at Alia College, who is joining us 2 days a week helping in classes and introducing the children to Origami.

### **FAMILY DAY AT THE LAND**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 11am – 3pm.  
Bring some meat and salad for the barbeque or sandwiches. Tea and coffee supplied.

### **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October. Intra-School – Whole School. See Penny, our organiser par excellence, if you can help.

### **SOIREE 7PM WEDNESDAY 19 NOV**

### **EXCURSIONS**

Year 5's went to Fitzroy Library to meet author Jane Goodwin – a very stimulating and exciting occasion. Thanks to Jill Allen, Librarian who looked after us so well.

Middlies recently attended “Art of the Ballerina” at Victorian Art Centre – very entertaining and interesting.

Middles also had a stimulating excursion to Fitzroy Library as part of book week where we looked at and discussed the short listed books for the Australian Book Council Awards. Thanks again to Jill Allen.

### **CONGRATS to Rory Wilkinson (2002)**

And his mate for winning the group section of the Maths Association of Victoria Comp with a project on the Maths of skateboards.

### **THANKS TO ARTHUR for**

the enormous job of removing, repairing and replacing the cover on the high jump mat.

### **MIXED-AGE CLASSES**

On Thursdays next term we are grouping the children according to their clean-up tribes.

### **FAREWELLS**

We are already missing Alexander and Sophia, who’ve returned to Vienna. We look forward to their next stay.

Paul, Maria, Ilaria and Anthony leave us to live in London. We are delighted that Paul is held in such high esteem internationally, but are sad to have the family leave us.

### **OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE Term 3**

Term three has been a term of “Outdoor Experience”, and it has been a great success. All of the Biggies have had three or four camps. The new hut - “Jabba” - is coming along nicely at the tree farm.

The year sixes involved have had a great time carrying, hammering, digging, and sawing, and we definitely have a number of potential future “handy-people”.

It is clear that this experience has been of great benefit to all involved, and also to the general FCS atmosphere. A big “thank you” to the parents of biggies for bravely embracing this innovation.

This term has been a happy example of the school adapting to suit the needs of the child – something all too rare in our society.

Thank you also to the energetic FCS staff, both at school and on camp, for making this “Outdoor” term possible. – Sean.

### **FAMILY CAMP YEAR SIXES**

Year 6 Family Camp at Tree Farm.

Sat & Sun 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October. Involves a social amount of work on “Jabba”. Can bring tent. Some shed accommodation. Pub accommodation available 5 minutes away. Please ring Tim if going.

### **TERM 4 EXCURSIONS**

Juniors and Middlies are going to SCIENCEWORKS Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Littlies are going to the ZOO on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### **FETE 10<sup>th</sup> DEC (the last Wednesday)**

More details later.

### **TERM 4 CAMPS**

Year 6. At John Marsden’s. Mon-Fri 6-10 October. Leaving 8.15am from school. NB this is the day before normal school starts. Faye and Sean.

Middlies. 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Oct. At the land. Sean & Catherine.

Year 6 Bike Camp. 5-7 Nov. Maximum 6. Eric, Cassie, Calum, Evelyn have 1<sup>st</sup> option (have not been on previous trip). At least 2 places available. Ring Tim if interested.

Year 5. 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> November. Tim & Tim.

Year 6 Group 2 – Jojo, Anna, Evelyn, Oscar, Conrad. 17-21 Nov. Sean.

Juniors. 24-26 Nov. Tim, Jeannette, Sophie.

Year 6. Sat 29 Nov – Sun 7 Dec. Sean, Tim.

Littlies. 8 & 9 Dec. Jeannette and Philip. (Parents of Littlies who have not been before are welcome to attend this camp if they so desire.)



*Tim, Faye, Jeannette, Sean,  
Philip, & all the Staff*