

MARCH 2006

NEWSLETTER

ENCL: The new "FCS CLASSIFIEDS"
"SOUND SCHOOLING" article
Advice of new Philosophy Course

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN

John Marsden's new school *Candlebark* is up and running. Faye, Philip, Tim, Catherine and Sean have visited at different times. There is a colourful mix of staff and students enjoying idyllic surroundings and enlightened teaching methods. Most of the pupils have come from the region – Woodend, Gisborne, Lancefield and Sunbury – rather than Melbourne. By happy coincidence John's school is on the same road as Tim Richards' family farm. We look forward to some interschool activities. John's kids are already practising rounders with this in mind.

SEBASTIAN'S BAPTISM

A nice mix of Nick and Amy's Taiwanese and Melbournian family and friends attended the baptism of Nick and Amy's little boy, Sebastian, at St John's in Clifton Hill. The



Sabastia in his baptismal grow

invitation was open to everybody but we were so busy this January we forgot to mention it in the January newsletter. Sorry about that for anyone who might have wished to come and missed out.

WELCOME TO MILENA AND LAURA

Milena and Laura, two particularly competent FCS graduates, are now two new FCS staff members. They will be assisting in English and Maths classes and helping in countless other ways around the school. Thanks



Pauline and Ben's Wedding

Milena and Laura, it is great to have you around school again in this new capacity!

WELCOME BACK TO SIMON

Welcome back to Simon our Italian teacher. Simon was away from FCS while busy teaching at Melbourne Uni. We are pleased that Italian is back in full swing at FCS.

WELCOME HOME WARREN

Former student Warren, Jeannette's son, has been adventuring and studying in China for the last 6 months. To our delight, he will be teaching Chinese again at FCS. All those who want to study Chinese speak to Jeannette or Tim. Warren was involved in the musical *Pippin* while in China, and will be flown back twice this year for further performances.

CONGRATULATIONS PAULINE AND BEN

Congratulations to Pauline, our wonderful kitchen angel, and Ben Langmead who were recently married. They held a beautiful all-weekend festival for close family and friends on a bush land property. The very moving ceremony took place outside under a spreading oak tree and a *Chuppa* – a traditional Jewish patchwork made by family and friends. Ben's uncle and grandfather and Pauline's mother all took a shared role as celebrants. The party enjoyed a feast cooked in a *Hangi* – a traditional Maori method of cooking food over hot rocks in the ground. Not only was it a celebration of the union of their two lives, but the celebration of community life in a multicultural world.

NEW FEATURE – FCS “CLASSIFIEDS”

We have included with this newsletter a mauve sheet, headed *FCS Classifieds*, which gives names and phone numbers of FCS people – past pupils, families, staff – who have services to offer. Any FCS people who would like to offer their services through this sheet are most welcome.



Rudi in camp

NEW PHILOSOPHY CLASSES

Philip will present philosophy sessions again for 8 evenings in Term 2. This time the theme will be *Human Values* – Ethics, Religion, Politics. For those who attended last year, note that these sessions are covering new topics. The presentation is still however, suitable for beginners. No prior knowledge is assumed. The main aim is to familiarise participants with common philosophical terminology. Wednesdays, 8pm-9.30pm, starting 5th April.

NEW FORMAT

You may have noticed a change in the style of the newsletter. Xiao Jun is using a new publishing program which should make it easier to mix text and pics.



Emmett in camp

SPECIAL NOTE TO NEW PARENTS

Each term we hold a *soirée* (see calendar dates) which is an old-fashioned family concert where children have the opportunity to perform to a small audience

in a supportive environment. All are welcome to attend the evening's events (even if their child is

not performing). Tea is served. We love it too if adults contribute an item to the program.

LITTLIES AND MIDDLES SCIENCE

Ls and Ms have been discussing aspects of the Ocean in Science. We took the Ls to the Aquarium during Term 1. We also saw the *72 Fish On The Yarra* which are to feature during the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony. They look spectacular and no doubt will be even better with fountains of water, lights and sparkles. A shorter version will show each evening during the Games for ten minutes at 8, 9, 10, & 11pm. Watch from the South Bank, east of the rowing sheds. If anyone is interested I have a list of the fish, their origins and a brief description. In Term 2 we hope to take the Ms on a rock pool excursion which will involve an early start, time to be advised. Judy Bourke and Kaye Perkins.

GETTING a NEW STOVE in the FCS KITCHEN?

Toni is looking for volunteers to help organise a fundraising dinner to raise money for a new stove – targeting around \$2,000 for a suitable replacement for the old Saint George upright (30 years old). What sort of function? When? Budget for meal? Proposed cost to attend? Entertainment? Raffle? Quiz? Who's doing what? If interested, please call Toni Mercuri on 9443 0075 (AH) or email tmercuri@pacific.net.au by 31 March.

JEREMY OFFERING CHESS AGAIN

Jeremy O'Carroll (former Australian world

junior rep) is offering himself as a coach to budding chess players. Last time Jeremy coached FCS chess, our little school reached 2nd in the State, and we hope to regain some of our former glory. All those who want to learn chess, speak to Jeannette.

Also, for all those people who would like to play chess (whether or not they have the tuition), Jeremy has started a chess club after school each Monday from 3:15 – 4:00pm (no charge).

CAMEL SAFARI

Jackie, Lucas and Jaslyn's mum, is organising a 7 day camel safari through the South Australian outback. All adults and children are welcome to join them in their adventure. See the flyer on the school fridge for more details.

DATE CHANGE – TERM 2 CONCERT IS ON TUESDAY 6TH OF JUNE.

The school calendar received by parents and staff at the beginning of the year notes that the Term 2 concert is on the Thursday 8th of June. Unfortunately, the Theatre could not be booked for this date, so the Term 2 concert will now be on Tuesday the 6th of June. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

LITTLIES BASKETBALL

Well done to all the Littlies who participated in the Basketball drills and skills day at Darebin Stadium, Reservoir Secondary College. All the kids played very well and battled on in the sweltering heat. Thanks to Keith for organising it, and to his tireless support crew, Chris and Ian.

Middlies can look forward to their Basketball drills and skills day planned for the 7th of March.

SENIORS NETBALL TEAM

Chris Frith (mother of James and Liz) is interested in starting up a *Mothers Netball*

Team. All interested people contact Chris on 9481 7611.

(Ian is proposing a *Male Cheerleading Squad* for Chris' team. All dads speak to Ian regarding pom-poms and dance routines.)

CONGRATULATIONS to Tom, Rory & Harry

A huge congrats to Harry, Rory and Tom who entered "Goblin Games" into the *Screen It* competition and came 2nd in the *Live Action* section! The boys wrote the script, story boards, acted and edited the film. Rory's brother, Dom, filmed it, and Tom's brother, Josh, drew the animation sections in the film. *Goblin Games* will be screened at Melbourne's high-tech and high-status ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image) in Federation Square. The boys, accompanied by the grade 6 girls, will enjoy a red carpet award ceremony on Tuesday the 7th of March. Thank-you and congratulations to Alix Jackson who oversaw the whole project. Well done boys!



Jaz, Cecilia & Mimi with Taiwanese friends

TERM 1 CONCERT

A reminder that the Term 1 concert will be held on Thursday the 9th of March at 7:00pm in the Collingwood College Theatre, Vere St, Collingwood. We look forward to being entertained by our multi-talented students with singing, dancing, music, poetry and comedy.

OUR TAIWANESE VISITORS

FCS welcomed a group of Taiwanese students and their parents for two weeks at the end of January and the beginning of February. A very happy time was had by all during this very educational opportunity for both Taiwanese and Australian students. Bourgeoning friendships have been formed. Thanks very much to the numerous FCS students and parents who were able to support the program the week before school began and thanks to the staff who worked that week.

WELCOME BACK KERRY BOLTON

Kerry Bolton is back teaching singing at FCS after having a break to sing opera in term 4 last year. It is great to have you back, Kerry. And a big thanks to Lizanne for so competently and enthusiastically filling in for Kerry while she was away.

BIGGIES' SUMMER CAMP

Thanks so much to the Biggies for such positive cooperation for the whole time while at the Kyneton Bushland Resort. Cath cooked delicious food which kept us all sustained for the rigours of Maths with Philip, paddling in canoes on the lake, enjoying the sauna, spa and pool, and playing tennis and bike riding. We were so pleased to have Milena, Laura, John Marsden and Nick Elias come and visit us there.



Christopher in camp

“SOUND SCHOOLING”

GETS NOD

The federal Education Department has officially announced that it is from now on supporting the *phonic* approach to literacy in schools. This is of course the method that we at FCS adopted from the start (1976). We include with this newsletter, for your interest, a copy of the relevant Age article which Fitzroy Programs has circulated to schools.

WOOD FOR WOODWORK

We would greatly appreciate small, soft bits of wood (pine) for the children of FCS to use for woodwork. Please speak to Jeanette if you can help us out. Or just bring a load of short pieces.

WELCOME TO OUR SCIENCE TEACHERS

A big welcome and thanks extended to our science teachers Kaye, mother of James P, and Judy, mother of Estelle and Connor.

MOSAIC WITH SANKAR

The FCS year 6s are very lucky to have

Sankar, the father of Alex and a professional mosaic artist, teaching them the art of mosaic. They are making a mosaic memorial to their year which, when complete, will be hung in the back yard. We look forward to your colourful creation with anticipation!

Sankar recently opened a mosaic and ceramic project which is now on permanent display at the Harold Holt swimming pool.

His mosaic has been framed by tiles designed by kindergarten children.

The children and parents were very proud of their creative contribution to their community. Congratulations, Sankar, on the completion of this admirable project.

FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY

We have received our flag pole and flag, courtesy of the (federal) Education Department. We have been asked to conduct a flag-raising.

This will occur on Thursday the 9th of March at 10:30 a.m. Parents who are interested are welcome to attend this event.

NEWS FROM THE FITZROY JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Fitzroy Junior Football Club encourages male and female students of all ages and experience levels to play footy this season. Come along to the Registration Day BBQ on Sunday February 26th between 10:00am and 2:00pm at the Community Rooms beside the historic grandstand of Brunswick St Oval, North Fitzroy (Melways 2C, C2). See www.fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au for more information and membership application forms.

NEWS FROM THE CLIFTON HILL SCOUTS

Clifton Hill Scouts are always welcoming new young people to join their group. There is great fun to be had in Scouts with outdoor activities, exploring and helping our community and environment and making new friends. For any enquiries, contact Peter Jeppeson – 9489 7184 (H) or Ken Lofhelm – 9687 0814 (H)