November 2007

FCS Baby Boom!
More Australian babies were born in 2006 than in any year since official records began, with the exception of 1971. The current trend in the FCS community is no exception to this new baby boom.

Congratulations to Amy, Nick, Ella and Seby on the addition to their family: welcome to the world little William!

Congratulations to Sue, Haydn, Sunny and Raphael on their new bundle of joy, Banjo!

Congratulations to Luke and Olivia on the arrival of a new son; and to Arthur and Josephine, a new grandson: Archie!

Miranda is due to give birth any day now!

The great benevolent stork has also scheduled appointments with Clotilde (well done Tim!), Alison (well done Greg!), Nikki (well done Dan!), Alice (well done Jeremy!) and Mary (well done Viktor!)

Capital Grant
If you have ever been at school while Faye has all the Biggies in the Green Room, you will know that space is a premium at FCS. Last year we applied for a grant from the Australian government to build a third story above the library. This grant has been approved and the project will commence as soon as town planning comes through. The grant will cover about 55% of the cost. We thank you all for your continual support of the building fund! There are some architectural drafts pinned up in the hallway to give you some idea of what it will look like.

The Bells Are Ringing!
Much love and support to Tim and Clotilde as they travel to France for their wedding in January, and then on to some secret honeymoon locale. Clotilde has been a wonderful presence around the school,

Given the context, it appears that the document is a newsletter or a similar communication from a school, possibly FCS, given the common abbreviations and context. It contains various updates, announcements, and personal messages, such as births, the opening of a capital grant for a new building, a story of a boy named Freddie, a poem by a student, and various other notes and announcements about students, teachers, and community events.
and her leçons françaises and cooking have been very popular. Tim’s contribution to the school cannot be over-stated. Apart from all his teaching, organising and incessant searching for new and exciting ways to benefit FCS, his modified bell-bottoms also bring colour to the school. We wish them well in the new year as they embark upon this joyful and challenging journey aboard the vessel of married life and parenthood.

A Staff Welcome
Welcome to Sarah Cooper-Cooney, a past FCS student (finished 2000), as an assistant and camp helper. Sarah went on both the Littlies and Middlies camps this term.

Come To Our Play!
Jono’s elective class will perform a play they have written together! It's good fun and should last about 40 minutes. Come up to the Meeting Room on Wednesday 5th December at 3pm for some laughs, followed by afternoon tea. All welcome.

Book Reports
The Biggies will present their final book reports for the year at the Fairfield Amphitheatre on Tuesday 20th November at 10am. A great occasion and good public speaking practice. Come along, take in the river sights and sounds and be captivated by some spectacular literary discourse.

Alex’s Public Speaking Award
Alex Marles (FCS 2005) has recently demonstrated many of the qualities that FCS is proud to instil in their students. Alex, who is now in year 8 at Wesley College, recently won the Public Speaking Award for all of year 8 students at Wesley (over 150 students). Alex wrote and delivered a short speech on ‘Why Melbourne is better than Sydney’ to all year 8 students after being nominated by his class. The talk was very amusing and several people reported that he had the audience in the “palm of his hand” – when they weren’t “rolling around the floor” laughing. On ya, Alex!

New Maths books
At last, the publication of the first set of FCS beginner Maths books! This first pack consists of 5 books, and is now available. Well done to Philip, Tim and Clotilde on their authorship and design!

School Photographs
Thanks to Paulo from France for a very efficient job. Photos were terrific.

Bendigo Chinese Cultural Tour
The Year 4s and Year 3s who do Chinese went to Bendigo to visit the Golden Dragon Chinese Museum and the Central Deborah Mine, as part of cultural awareness of Bendigo’s Chinese heritage. In September, the Year 5s went on a similar trip, which included an impromptu meditation session at The Stupa of Universal Compassion. A special thank you to Genny from the Atisha Centre, to Tim and Warren for taking them (and Hayley with the Year 5s), and to the federal government and AISV for provided the funding for both trips.

The Continual Collective Chestnut
Viktor has written the first instalment of a new section: The Continual Collective Chestnut, an ongoing tale that you can contribute to! Read Viktor’s launch below, then write the next section (of similar length) and give it to Paulzky or email it to paulzky@gmail.com. The best continuing section will win a place in the next newsletter and, since the pen’s mightier than the sword, a reward we will afford toward the next pen-lord!

The traffic was a headache of aggravated noise as he swung off his mountain bike, clipped a tram sign and gracelessly grazed along the footpath. Swallowing a grimace he righted himself, checked for injuries, squeezed a smile at a lithe female sashaying down the street, and proceeded to lock up on the offending sign. A quick look at his destination and he entered the space.

Twice before he had visited this shop, where the Odd Big Man heaved about a cluttered interior, navigating an assortment of semi-rusted bicycles, 1980’s Atari consoles and solid metal meat grinders. The bizarre menagerie of items, bereft of price tags,