

*“People
before
things”*

February 2008

Fitzroy Community School NEWSLETTER

*Welcome back to a brand new year at FCS.
Happy 2008!*

TIM AND CLOTILDE BERRYMAN!!

An amazing contingent of about 60 Australian and other international guests flew to France for Tim and Clotilde’s French wedding, showing just how much they are both loved and supported.

Held in a quaint church in Normandy, over 170 guests attended the wedding in a memorable fusion of two worlds. Clotilde was frocked up with Parisian style, and Tim went so far as to wear duck tails!

One trusted informant told the editor that, although no marriage kiss was permitted in the church, Tim and Clo were seen kissing almost immediately after leaving the building. Rumour has it their priest appeared not to approve of this mischievous chutzpah.

A culinary-minded attendee was impressed by the display of selected meats, liver paté and

chicken jelly, lamb to die for, an abundance of specialty fromage from the region, baguette, carefully selected wines to match, home made sponge and enough raspberry coolie and apple sauce to last a year at FCS! However, the wedding cake came all the way from our home town of North Fitzroy!

Another informant told the editor that, owing to the wedding being conducted primarily in French, Tim seldom had the foggiest notion regarding the contents of the proceedings; yet he bravely soldiered on. This mole, noting Tim’s predisposition for taking control of situations, remarked that this in itself was an unambiguous demonstration of his surrender to his new bride.

A diversity of music enriched the glorious celebration: organ, trumpet, flute, recorder,



guitar and voice, not to mention Ben Langmead (Pauline's husband) on the didgeridoo!

As expected, the last bottles of fine champagne were polished off by a bunch of the Aussie gang after 6am the next morning.

We wish Tim and Clotilde Berryman a lifetime of happiness, adventure and love.

BABY AND MORE BELLS

Tim and Clotilde warmly invite y'all to their Australian Wedding Blessing and Baby Welcome. Come round anytime between 11am and 6pm on Saturday 15th March to 33 Council Street, Clifton Hill.

BIRTHS IN THE FAMILY!

Miranda brought baby Elijah Sun O'Carroll into the world on the 2nd of December at their home in Fairfield, loading up the scales at a hefty 4600g. Congrats to Miranda, Sean, Moses, and all the family.



Alice birthed little Om Elizabeth Faye O'Carroll on 31st December, weighing in at 2990g. Well done Alice! Congrats to Jeremy, Alan, and all the family.

WELCOME CRAIG

The Biggies have a new History teacher: Craig Keating. Craig taught Tim B, Nick B, Jeremy and Tim R at Melbourne Grammar and Tim B and Craig taught together at Carey Grammar. Craig has recently been the school principal at Christ the King Anglican College in Cobram. Craig is hoping to start his own school in 2009.

BEST WISHES AND BON CHANCE TO LAST YEAR'S GRADUATES

Our wonderful group of 2007 Year 6 students have flown the coop. Jeremy, James, Lily, Mimi



and Scott hold office at Fitzroy High; Anthony and Samantha rule at Ivanhoe Grammar; Emmett and Sasha have taken over University High; Lucas H is calling the shots at Wesley; Christopher runs the show at Northcote High; and Rudi has stormed Xavier. We've only heard good reports so far. Good luck to you all!

TAKING THE LIMERICK PRIZE

Nikki Frankel produced the most impressive rhymes, demonstrating her fine limerickial flair. The two below are hers. The bottom one wins her a gift voucher at a lovely local café. Make up a limerick and email it to Paul (paulzky@gmail.com) to win the next prize.

A sneaky street cat smelt some mice
And thought, those little guys would taste nice
He saw a tiny wee snout
And a tail sticking out
They never had a chance, those poor mice

Tim was a mighty fine principal
Some even thought him invincible
Off the school roof he jumped
He was all bruised and bumped
As a superhero he wasn't that convincible

YEAR 6'S LAST CAMP

The 2007 Year 6's were farewelled with the customary camp at The Land just before the close of term 4. Also in attendance for the entire camp were Tim B, Chris and Paulzky. Aside from the usual frolicking and fun, a few of the many notable events follow: a new section of the train track was built; Tim's face collided at high speed with the dirt

when Chris got quite enthusiastic about pushing him in a little train cart; 'spotlight' was played late into the night; the boys did 'battle' with Chris and Paul, who were required to traverse a minefield of booby-traps and surprise attacks that were an entire afternoon in the making; and Faye put on a fantastic Last Supper, followed by a variety of weird and wonderful performances.



SWIMMING TO LIVE

As the morning sun edges it's way into a new day, I have wandered up and down the pool deck at Harold Holt Pool in Malvern day after day, year after year, bemused by the familiar bodies that splash, struggle, flop and sometimes slide up and down a 50 metre strip of water. These 'regulars' range in age from teen to geriatric and are mostly nameless to one another, yet there is always the acknowledged nod of the head or a "morning" in passing. They all have something in common – swimming. Some are there for a 'workout', most are there to 'kick start' their day, but all of them are there because they have embraced the 'swimming lifestyle'. Very few of them swim well, but that doesn't matter, simply because they are exercising at a level that prepares them for whatever the day has in store.

Teachingswimminghasbeenac considerable part of the many things I have done in my life. It is also the one thing that is always rewarding because there is always a positive outcome. I have been fortunate enough to have travelled the country coaching at all levels, meeting wonderful people of all ages who are focused on enjoying life through their swimming.

For the children at FCS to have the opportunity to understand the wonder of water is truly an excellent thing. I appreciate the value of having a part to play in that faculty by teaching

the children a technique of swimming that will hopefully be with them for the rest of their lives. Having been at the school for eight short years now, I have been privileged to see many children move on, equipped with the life-long skills that may encourage them to one day be a part of that 'early morning brigade' at some pool somewhere, swimming to live.

~Oscar (FCS swimming coach).

Thank you Oscar for your great work and dedication over the years!

WELCOME BACK!

Catherine and Nick have been overseas for the past year (mostly in the City of Angels). You'll see them both around FCS from time to time, spreading their good vibes and doing some good work. Great to have you back on Melbourne soil!

DOC IN THE MAKING

Imogen Hamel-Green (1996 FCS graduate) has decided on her next degree: Graduate Medicine at Unimelb. Here's hoping we'll all be getting free checkups sometime down the track...

LAWYER IN THE MAKING

Nick Elias has been accepted into Graduate Law at Unimelb. Having helped FCS obtain various grants and assisted Tim in ascending his mountains of paperwork, we know he'll make a fine lawyer. Here's hoping Nick will be like a Get-Out-Of-Jail-Free card for us all.



LIBRARY SHELVING

Pop up to the library and check out the fine display of Lachlan's carpentry skills. Very pretty Lachie!

LIBRARY WORKING BEE

We would love to get the new library up and running. A working bee will be held on Sunday 2nd of March from 1pm to 4pm. Please call Carol (Bridie's mum) on 9444 8303 if you would like to help. Thanks!

CHAPLAINCY

Mary O'Carroll is the new FCS chaplain! Thank you Miranda for your presence and effort through 2007. You're all welcome now to take your troubles and strife to Mary!

WELL DONE CHRIS

FCS has been turned upside-down and inside-out over the summer holidays. Chris all but slept at school over this time. Floors have been polished, shelving erected, walls painted, and the list goes on. Have a look at the Green (English) Room for example. Looks choice Chris!

SINGING

Welcome back to Kerri, our previous singing teacher. And many thanks to Jess for all her tra-la-la throughout 2007.

ACING IT

FCS had two former graduates complete year 12 last year: Joli Price and Marina Connolly, scoring an impressive 98.80 and 98.65 respectively! Both were at Melbourne Girls' Grammar. They are both off to Unimelb, Joli to do Engineering, Marina to do Music. Congrats, and all the best in the Tertiary scene!

2007 YEAR BOOK

Kathleen (Mimi's mum) did an amazing job of our latest Year Book. Meticulous, professional and very caring. Thanks Kathleen.

HAPPY 21st

Congrats to Miriam Hamel-Green (1999 FCS graduate) – back from a semester doing film at Berkeley (California) – on coming of age. Her birthday celebrations were somewhat of a reunion as well, bringing together a sizable bunch of the FCS community.

MORE PAST STUDENTS WHO MAKE US PROUD

Eric Gardiner (FCS graduate 2003) won the Best in State for Year 10 in the Classical Society of Victoria's Latin Reading competition, and was selected to play Othello in the Melbourne

Grammar Quadrangle Play (almost always given to a Year 12). Astrid Gardiner (FCS graduate 2005) was selected by the Head of Public Speaking to represent the middle school on Speech Night, and entertained a packed venue of Melbourne Girls' Grammar School with her talk titled 'Life is either a daring adventure or nothing, so go out and make your life an adventure'.

CAPITAL GRANTS PROJECT OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

The FCS community is invited to celebrate the opening of the Investing In Our Schools Project. With thanks to the Australian Government who mostly funded this project, we now have hardwood library shelves, and beautiful books to fill them, a projector screen for the media room, upgrades of 3 learning areas and removal of excess cabling. Exact date of opening (sometime in the first week of Term 2) still to be advised. Morning Tea will be



provided.

IT'S IT!

[Story, written by the Tinies after 1 week of schooling, with Nick B and Catherine]

it lives in a dark and slimy tunnel in a family of scary monsters.

it is blue with red spots.

it has green leathery wings.

it has big sharp teeth.

it has two long fangs.

it has a lion's head and a crocodile's body.

ALL THE WAY FROM YUENDUMU

Welcome to Donisha who has joined the Littlies. Donisha is from the Yuendumu community several

hundred kilometres north-west of Alice Springs. She is staying here for at least 6 months with her grandmother Cecily who is studying at Victoria University with Jill, Marlon's great aunt.

FAREWELL MILENA

After many moons working at FCS as a Maths and English assistant, Milena is heading out to explore this blue-green ball. Bon voyage Milena, and travel well!



SWIMMING

All children will swim every Wednesday in Term 1 at the Fitzroy Pool. Could any much-appreciated-parental-help please manifest at FCS by 11:30am. Biggies will metamorphose into Big Fish by also swimming every Thursday and Friday for the rest of February.

BIGGIES CAMP

Kyneton will be blessed by the Biggies' presence between the 10th and the 15th February. Tim B, Mary, Clotilde, Philip, Viktor and Solomon are lucky enough to be allowed to tag along.

SWEATY REMINDER

Just a wee note to remind you that the Athletics Carnival Day is this Term, 10am Friday 14th March. Come down and cheer at the Edinburgh Gardens.

PAULINE'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Ross il Forn – Baked Rice

This is a popular Maltese dish familiar to my childhood. My father used to make it any time there was left over rice. On my recent visit to Malta, I was determined to gather a few traditional recipes from my Aunty Gemma. This dish is basically a bolognese sauce with cooked rice. I made this at school last Friday and the children (and staff) loved it.

You will need:

400g long grain white rice; 2 zucchini – diced; Olive oil; 2 brown onions – diced; 2 cloves garlic – chopped; 300g minced meat (beef and pork); Balsamic vinegar; 2 Tbsp Tomato paste; 800g chopped tomatoes; 1 tsp sugar; Basil; Mixed spice; Nutmeg; Curry powder; 6 eggs; Milk; ham – roughly chopped; 100-150g grated cheese; Salt; Pepper.

Preheat oven to 180°C. Boil rice until nearly cooked. Separately fry zucchini in a little olive oil. Fry onion in olive oil until soft in a large saucepan, then add mince meat and fry until brown. Add garlic and tomato paste, then tomatoes, a splash of balsamic vinegar, the spices and sugar. Bring to boil, then reduce heat and simmer for about half an hour. Season with salt and pepper. The bolognese should be the consistency of thick soup. Meanwhile, hard boil 2 eggs and cut into quarters. Butter a large oven-proof dish. Whisk remaining eggs together with some milk. In a large pot, mix together the sauce, rice, egg mixture, ham, hard boiled eggs and a little of the grated cheese. Pour mixture into oven-proof dish and top with grated cheese. Bake for about 1 hour. This will feed a hungry family of about 6-8. Serve with green salad and steamed veg.

YARRA NEIGHBOURHOOD ORCHARD

Bring your excess home-grown edibles to swap for someone else's. A great new initiative to reduce waste and strengthen community. Call Peta on 0411 89 618 or email peta@cultivatingcommunity.org

READING CHALLENGE

FCS children are being encouraged to take part in the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge which aims to promote a love of reading. The 2008 Challenge runs from 30th January to 31st August. Jackie will be dropping off more information in your kids' pockets soon, and also offering prizes as the Challenge progresses. Feel free to chat with Jackie or visit <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/>. If you meet the Challenge this year, the Premier of Victoria will send you a certificate of achievement. And of course, you get to read good books and improve your reading skills.

ACTIVE FAMILIES CHALLENGE

The Premiere is proving to be very challenging

indeed. He's gone and challenged us to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 days between the 9th March and 20th April. Register at www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au to get ideas on what to do, relevant events, and a chance to win prizes and a completion certificate.

CLIFTON HILL FOOTBALL CLUB

Juniors (6–15 year old, boys and girls) can register on Sunday, 17th February, between 10am and 1pm at the Yambla Reserve (Cnr Yambla & Ramsden St Clifton Hill; Melway Ref 2DB2). There will also be a fundraising BBQ lunch. All welcome. For more info, contact FCCHjunior@gmail.com.

SKY SCRAPING

We hope to start third story construction in the Easter holidays. Have a look at the architectural drafts pinned up in the hallway.

GUESS WHO...?

We dug up some old pictures. Can you guess who these two characters are?



THE CONTINUAL COLLECTIVE CHESTNUT (PART 2)

Well done to Nick Elias for producing the best continuation of Viktor's story. He wins a gift voucher at a lovely local café for his efforts. For the first instalment, see the November newsletter (available on the FCS website).

...As soon as the words were out of his mouth, Freddie began to wonder if they were true... Yes, his grandmother had a garden with many kinds of flowers and bushes, but she was a very different sort of gardener to The Odd Big Man. Her hair, like her garden was always neatly arranged and well kept, and even if (as his mum had said many times before) she had a green thumb, she certainly didn't have black hands.

The Odd Big Man stared at Freddie for a long time. He kept staring, long and slow at Freddie until Freddie began to think he'd said something wrong...

"I don't garden... I grow," said the shop owner. Freddie smiled, a little confused and asked, "And then you sell the things you grow?"

"They're not things, they're plants. They're very old. They have a past, stories which change and grow. Plants happen slowly... I happen slowly."

Freddie looked again around the odd collection until his eyes came to rest on a gnarled bush in a tattered pot hanging by itself in the back of the shop.

"What about that one? What's its story?"

"Old... an immigrant. Its ancestors came from Babylon long ago... This plant has killed, and it has also saved..."

"Wait here," said the Odd Big Man. "I have something for you..." ...

To compete for the next prize, please email your continuation of the story to paulzky@gmail.com



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