

*“People
before
things”*

APRIL 2009

Ed. Paul Liknaitzky

Fitzroy Community School NEWSLETTER

WELCOME ZIGGY!

Sam brought her second child – Ziggy B. Allen – into the world on 22nd January, weighing 4.1kg. Hooray Sam! Congratulations to Sam, dad Mikey and sister Daisy!

Ziggy



WELCOME LUIS!

Sarah Cooper-Cooney (FCS 2000) bravely birthed her first child, Luis Christopher Atticus Poblete on 17th of February, weighing in at 3.5kg. Well done Sarah! And congratulations to Sarah, dad Luis and the whole family.

Luis



MORE WELCOMES!

Welcome to the 13 new Tinies and their families, expertly assisted by Tinie helper Chloe! And welcome Clay, a wonderful addition to the Littlies. Welcome also to our three new piano teachers, Jacinta, Clare and Dave! And after bringing another human life into the world, Sam will be joining us for sport/netball again in Term 2 – great news!

A HAPPY DAY

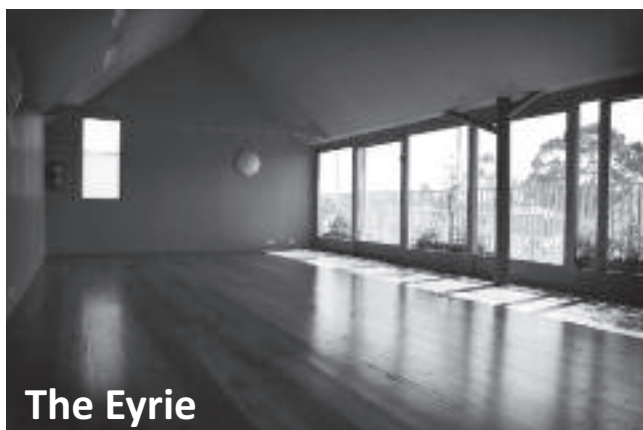
Congratulations to our new teacher Natalie Haimon on her wedding to Paul Banks on the 28th March. It was a beautiful day held in Gippsland, with some of the FCS crew in attendance. Community was the theme of her big day, a theme dear to us all.

SOARING WITH PENGUINS

Myfanwy Jones (mother of Marlon and Llewi) had her first novel – The Rainy Season – published with Penguin in March. Congratulations on getting published with the “Big Bird” for your debut Myf! “The Rainy Season charts the most delicate shifts in pressure – of the heart, of the weather, of a city – a superbly atmospheric and deeply empathetic novel.” Sophie Cunningham, author of Geography and Bird. Available now from all good bookstores.

COMPLETION OF A SKYSCRAPER

FCS has moved up in the world! Our third storey, boasting a slightly larger floor space than the Meeting Room, was completed in February 2009 and named The Eyrie. The New Maths Room below it has doubled in size, and the toilets below them have had a complete (and very blue) makeover. We’re already enjoying the enhanced spaces. Many thanks to Louise and Mauro.



The Eyrie

A GREAT FETE MATE

Our colourful and vibrant Fete on Wednesday the 18th March was a blast. We also raised \$1164! This money will pay for 6 months of school fees for 5 children at our sister school Enling Primary in Kunming, China. Their

families will no doubt be thrilled. Thanks go to the product suppliers, those who purchased, and the Biggies for being the merchants.



Chloe at the Fete

SCHOOL CAMPSITE AT THE LAND

As we all know, the school campsite has been obliterated - only one shovel and one cup saved. There was no insurance on these buildings or contents. So what we are asking is if anyone has surplus tools, crockery, camping gear or other useful stuff that they might have been going to give away or throw out, please hang on to it to help start the new school campsite. It will take a while to sort out new steps down to the site, clear old debris, etc. Then we will start a new tent camp for use while we embark on building plans. The process has already started, with a new toilet going up recently through the sweat of Arthur Cottom, James Bargh, Iain Lyndsay-Fields and Philip and Sean O’Carroll.



Iain at The Land

MAKING THE NEWS

In March FCS featured in two articles in the Herald Sun. The first reported on a general trend towards independent schooling in Victoria in 2008. Despite a rapidly growing

population in the state, public schools enrolled 700 less students in 2008 as compared with the year before, while non-government schools increased their enrolments by more than 5000 children over the same period. Visit <http://tiny.cc/FCSindependent> to see the full article.

The second article described a push by independent school parents for a voucher system. This campaign – one that Tim is very passionate about – was started by FCS. MPs have received many letters from parents advocating a portable funding system that would allow parents to choose where to spend Government funding. Go to <http://tiny.cc/FCSvoucher> for the full article.



RAD GRADS

Philip and Faye attended Wilson Hall at Melbourne Uni on Saturday 29th March to see daughter Catherine graduate with a BA in Middle Eastern Studies and were delighted to see Emma Jackson (FCS Year of 1997) graduating with a degree in psychology on the same day! Congrats to you both.

POEM: An Autumn Day, By Zoe (Middlie)

*I See Autumn leaves falling to the ground
I can hear the happy birds singing
I smell the dry grass
And feel the hot sun on my back
With the taste of red rosy apples in my mouth
I just drift off to sleep*

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Andrew Morgan (FCS 1997) recently graduated with an Honours degree from in Arts/Science and has been granted a PhD scholarship at Uni Melb. Ginevra Morgan (FCS 1999) recently received a Melbourne University Japanese scholarship. Both went to FCS and then Alia College (an alternative High School), and are yet more positive examples for those with misgivings regarding high academic achievement from people educated at alternative schools. Well done Andrew and Ginevra!



BIGGIES CAMP: KYNETON & CANDLEBARK

Tim and Clo took the Biggies to the Kyneton Resort from Sunday the 15th February for 5 days. Two maths classes were conducted each day, squeezed in between the bucket-loads of tennis, swimming and general frolicking. Tim loved it when the Biggies did a couple of cleanups without being asked. It was good to have Warren and Nick B pop in to visit too. The troupe also visited and attended at John Marsden's school Candlebark for a day. Their Biggies beat our Biggies at rounders (though with one innings to go, a rematch is called for) and Jess took the girls horse riding while the boys built flying contraptions. For some reason our Biggies were exempted from the Fitzroy Word Skills class! Thanks to Catherine at Candlebark for cooking us lunch, and to everyone there for making us welcome.



MIDDLELIES CAMP AT DEREEL

Tim B, Tim R and Nina took the Middlies to the Dereel Tree Farm from 23rd to 25th March. Clotilde, Charlotte and Philip stayed a night too. They did a 2km night walk and some children said they had never seen so many stars before. There was also a fitting dose of firewood carrying. And in good FCS style, no one complained about the rain when it bucketed down.



TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Tim B and 3 of last year's graduates (Estelle, Meg and Audrey) are currently in China for 16 days. They will spend 3 days helping out with the English classes for year 6s at Enling Primary School. They will also roam and explore the countryside and no doubt improve their Chinese.

TRIVIAL

The Biggies, along with Nat, hosted a Trivia night in March. They raised \$178 which will be put towards the front garden. It was a fun night where kids and adults could show off any useless information they had and stand a chance of winning prizes for it. Many thanks to parents and others who attended.

UKE4KIDS

The Biggies had a fun session with a ukulele teacher Yanai. Anyone wanting to take up ukulele lessons can contact Dassana at info@uke4kids.com or 0418 356 574.



Ethan and Daniel

BALLERINA RATS (cf. Ninja Turtles)

The Year 3s visited the Australian Ballet, along with Jackie Chanzi and Jeannette. The kids went backstage to ogle at the many wonderful costumes and fit out some head-dresses. The boys particularly enjoyed trying on the rats heads. Thanks to Jackie for organising the trip.



SWIMMING (by Oscar)

The development of any swim program with children always has questions such as: are they physically strong enough, emotionally prepared to learn, patient enough to learn, and so on. During my eight years with FCS teaching the wonderful children that have passed through the corridors and rooms of the school, I can honestly say they have probably been the most rewarding years of my 45 years of teaching at any level.

Without doubt the philosophy and ethos that is imbued within the school's structure make 'teaching' do-able and rewarding – even if it is, in my case, simply teaching swimming. For me it is a 'gift' and I often reflect on the school's 'gift' to those that I coach at an adult level as triathletes or in Life Coaching sessions. The



Mietta at the Fete

children have the qualities of: understanding, patience, self discipline, acceptance, desire to learn - I could go on. 'Gifts' that I can only hope for with those that I coach outside of FCS. I have learned much from the children at FCS over the years. It is probably the best reward one could have from teaching anyone at any level. Their willingness and acceptance to learn and improve is what I take away with me each Wednesday. It is very fulfilling. Thank you for that.

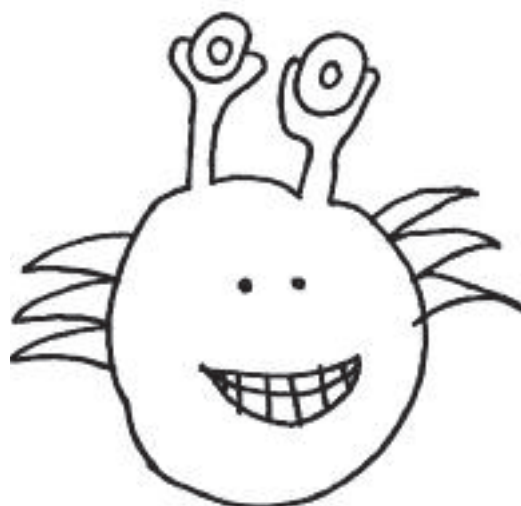
My only hope is that the skills that I've endeavoured to teach, as difficult as they are, will be carried through into the children's adult years when they think to have a swim for whatever reason. And I think it is time for some parents to take on board what the children are doing so that they in turn can understand what the children are actually learning. I can do this at Kensington Community Pool on Saturday afternoons – it's a three hour session which includes: video analysis, booklet, DVD and the full gamete of the program. Worth a thought. Happy swimming, Oscar.



Antonia, Ela & Rowdy

WEDNESDAY SIZZLE

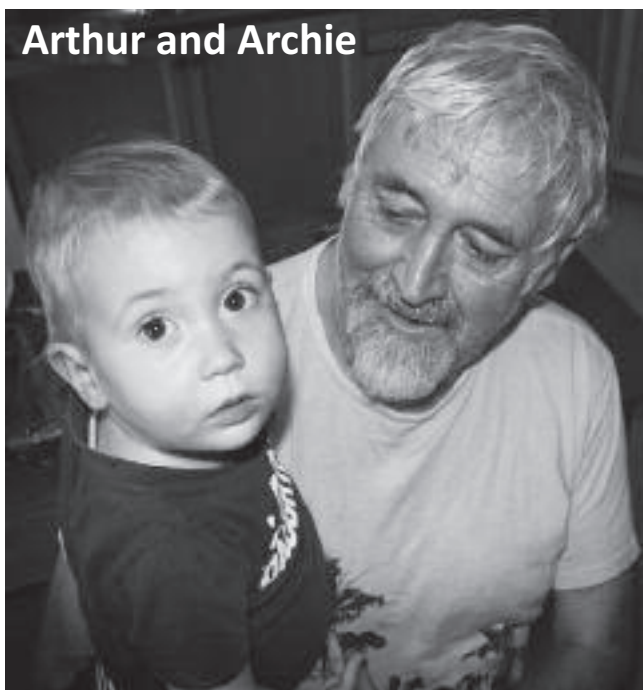
Thanks to those who have helped out with the Wednesday BBQs in Term 1, its scumdiddlyumtious! We'd love other volunteers to put their hands up for Term 2. If you think you might be able to lend a hand regularly or on a day in Term 2, please call Gabby on 9482 6853 or 0421 640 285.



By Hannah

RECIPE: TWO PARTS HYDROGEN, ONE PART OXYGEN – JUST AD DRIVERS

We will be splashing at the Brunswick Pool from Term 2. More drivers are needed to transport the children each Wednesday. Leaving school at about 11:40am, returning about 1:30pm. Regular or occasional help welcome. If your children are not to swim on a particular day, please write a note or speak to Tim or Jeannette.



Arthur and Archie

EARLY BIRDS

Please be on time (before 8:45am) for school on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. It is important that children arrive before the meeting starts. Cock-a-doodle-doo!

SOUP KITCHEN

Many thanks to Julie (Coco's mum) for the lovely soup she cooked up for us all. Soup Thursdays will be starting again in Term 2, and any soup making volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Soup can be made at school or at home (you're welcome to borrow our huge pot). If interested please speak to Tim, Pauline or Jeannette.



Saul in guitar class

FOOD FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Thank you to those who contributed to the food collection for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. In the last quarter of 2008, Foodbank supplied 237 people with groceries every week. We will be doing a major collection once each term from now on. Thank you to Jess, John and Myf for organising it.



Dante

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school classes start 2nd week of Term 2. Siblings or lift-sharers of children in after school classes are not allowed to wait at school unsupervised. Nikki's class is already full (limit of 10 kids), so book early for Term 3. Classes are paid for directly to the hosting teacher. Call them to discuss prices. Also, please come 5 minutes early to collect your children from after school classes. Teachers may need to leave promptly!

Little Chef Cooking School

Mondays 3pm–4:45pm

Pauline 0425 745 069

Nikki's Art Class

Thursdays 3pm–4pm

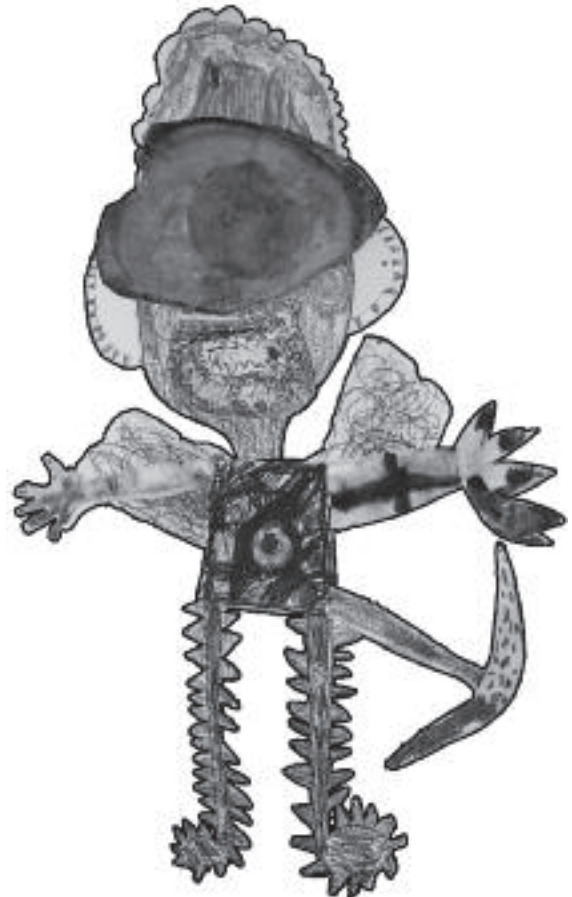
Nikki 0423 161 102

Sam's Gym Class

Thursday 3:15pm–4:15pm for
Biggies and Middlies

Fridays 3pm–4pm for Littlies and
Tinies

Sam 0407 360 138



Monster, by the Littlies



Ashley

PAULINE'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Never Fail Pizza

For the dough:

- 7g dried yeast
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 185ml warm water
- 380g plain flour
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

Mix yeast, sugar and salt in bowl with warm water and let sit in warm place for 15 minutes until mixture is frothy. (Don't use if the yeast doesn't activate). In large bowl, combine flour and olive oil. Add yeast mixture and form into soft dough. Place dough onto a floured surface and kneed for about 5 minutes until the dough is smooth and elastic. Oil large bowl and place dough in it. Let stand in warm spot until it doubles in size (about 1 hour).

Preheat oven to hot. Divide dough in half, then roll out onto floured surface with



Amy & William

rolling pin, keeping the shape rounded and even in thickness (about 5mm). Oil base on pizza tray and place rolled out pizza dough onto tray. Now you are ready to add your favourite toppings. Start with a tomato sauce base, add a little mozzarella cheese, then whatever you like. Finish with an even sprinkling of cheese and bake for 15 minutes or until cheese has melted and base has started to brown. My favourite autumn topping is caramelized onion, fig and Gorgonzola cheese. Yum!



By Zak A

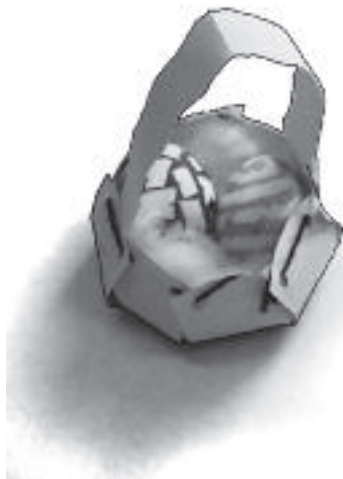
DECORATING EASTER EGGS

Due to popular demand, here is the recipe for natural dyes that we used to colour our Easter eggs (see pic). Firstly, hard boil eggs. Or you could use a needle to pierce a hole through either end of a soft egg and gently blow the egg matter out. Then wash. To create patterns, stick on sticker shapes, draw on eggs using oil



Celeste on camp

wrapped over them to keep leaves in place. Then add the following ingredients to a litre of water and boil, then simmer for 30mins with 2 tablespoons of vinegar. Sit eggs in dye for at least 30mins (the longer you leave them the stronger the colour). Brown = strong black coffee; Yellow = 4 tablespoons of turmeric; Orange = 4 cups onion skin; Blue = 4 cups of red cabbage (yes, makes blue!). Have a happy Easter!



ADVERT: U11S NEEDED FOR THE FITZROY JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Fitzroy Juniors Footy Club needs more Under 11 Players to complete our teams. Other age groups are filled but we still have places for players born in 1998 (U11). Registration forms can be downloaded from www.fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au and mailed to the Club or emailed to the address below. New members must supply a photocopy of their birth certificate/extract or passport that can be kept on file. Enquiries:

Sophie Arnold 0421 214 334 or enquiries@fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au



Hannah & Charlotte

ADVERT: MULTICULTURAL HOMES

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange, an Australian not-for-profit organisation specialising in international student exchange programs, is seeking volunteer host families for high school students scheduled to arrive in Australia in July 2009 from Germany, Italy, France, Holland, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Brazil, Canada and the USA. Host families can choose from students staying for a range of either 3, 5 or 10 months and they all attend local high schools whilst they are in Australia. The main purpose of cultural exchange is to challenge youth towards international understanding and tolerance, encourage further learning, self knowledge and awareness - invaluable characteristics in today's world. To enquire, visit www.scc e.com.au , email sceaust@sce.com.au or call Southern Cross Cultural Exchange toll free on 1800 500 501.



Phone: 03 9489 5700

Fax: 03 9482 3226

Email: info@fcs.vic.edu.au

Web: www.fcs.vic.edu.au



Fitzroy Community School
595-599 Brunswick Street
North Fitzroy, Vic 3068

State Govt. No. 1819
Federal Govt. No. 3048