

*“People
before
things”*

October 2010

Ed. Clotilde Berryman

Fitzroy Community School NEWSLETTER



Food Donation Thank You from Myf and Jess

A big thank you to all FCS families who contributed to the last collection of groceries for the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre (ASRC). It was our biggest haul so far - we needed ten helpers just to get it out to the car. The goods were very gratefully received by the ASRC Food Bank which provides for approximately 140 families each week. Thanks also Myf and Jess for organizing this for us!



Alice – Reflection on a Creative Class

I feel very lucky to have joined the FCS family this term as the new Creative teacher. This week (last week of term) we embarked on a ginger bread house, or as we called it ‘the ginger bread mansion’. I must admit I was a little nervous given my many recent failures in the kitchen at home, but it would appear we have some talented young chefs in our midst and they managed to guide me through the recipe successfully. When completed our little ginger mansion sat plumply in the middle of a magic spotty tree farm with wonderful tables covered in deliciously sweet fairy size platters of food. This activity was a great success and reaffirmed to me that the kitchen is a great place to get creative, particularly if you have lots of willing helpers when it comes to cleaning up.

Alice – it has been great having you around school!

Sean (1990) and our school photographer wins photographic competition

Sean was awarded 1st prize in the Brunswick Street Gallery Picture This Photo Competition – from over 1000 entries. His winning work was the now controversial “Untitled #1” from the series “Boys Guns Etc?”



School Play

A big thankyou to everyone who helped with the play over the last eight months, with an especially big thankyou to Sharon for some amazing, glittering, bright costumes. Sharon, you set the bar so high, no-one will be able to follow in your footsteps. Also, a big thanks to Sam for her ongoing work as the producer, and John for making the night so much fun with the band!



Warfare by Max – Year Six

Before I knew it, I was falling through the night sky after jumping from the plane with my platoon. I had expected it to be a silent fall, but the wind rushing past me sounded like a train. When I looked around, I could see the faint outlines of the other parachutes floating gently to the ground. Once we had landed and hidden our parachutes, we headed for a meeting with local underground forces who would tell us about our mission. I knew that this would not be an ordinary mission because apart from my normal men, there was a team of experts in computers, chemicals and engineering. The other give-away was that for the first time we were not in uniform. We were dressed in black, wore no dog tags and had no papers. We were on our own. It wasn't until we had finished our meeting that we realised the size of the mission. If we were successful, the team of

experts had to all play their part. My team was only there to protect them as they worked. The plan was to raid chemical factories and steal the ingredients needed to make chemical weapons. These weapons would paralyze the enemy, not forever, but long enough for our guys to take control. You could hardly call this normal warfare where both sides hammer away at each other with as many weapons as they can get. Things were going really well. The chemical weapons had been made and we were ready to put them in place. It was just then that we were discovered and attacked by a large force. We fought hard but were shot many times and blown apart by grenades again and again and again, only to get up and do it again. This was modern warfare, the PS3 way.

A Tour by Zoe – Year Five

I stepped into the time capsule, feeling excited. Wizz! Wurrr! Whoosh! Bang! We had arrived. I cautiously stepped onto a long pier. A huge ship loomed over me. The driver of the time capsule said, "Welcome to your tour of the Titanic." I stared in wonder. Elegant ladies dressed in beautiful long gowns were talking excitedly in small groups. Men in top hats and suits puffed on long cigars. I smiled at a lady in a beaded red dress, but she looked straight past me, like I wasn't even there. The time capsule driver pushed me onto the gang plank and said, "We must hurry because we only have one hour to look – otherwise we are destined to travel on the Titanic." We entered the first-class main door. Before me was a beautiful, carved staircase. We walked up it and had a peek into the first-class cabins. They were amazing. On the beds lay colourful silk blankets. Elegant, sparkling chandeliers hung from the ceiling. Next we went to the engine room. We had to walk down into the bowels of the ship, through the second and third class areas. The engine room was huge. Young boys with sooty faces shovelled coal into furnaces the size of multi-story buildings. It was hot and noisy, and it felt like we were walking down a narrow street with tall, noisy buildings on either side. Our next stop was the steerage room. A short, jolly man in a ship's captain's uniform was proudly showing a lady all the gadgets. The time capsule driver said to me, "He was the best ship's captain of his time. This was to be his last voyage before retirement."

Suddenly the time-capsule driver looked at his watch and gasped, "Five minutes to go. Run!"

I quickly glanced around one more time and then ran. We ran through the first-class reading room with its beautiful leadlight windows, along the first-class promenade, and down the gang plank safely into the time capsule. We made it just in time. Whew!

As we were leaving I thought to myself, "Magnificent as the Titanic was, I did not want to travel on it."

Mud Games by Nick

Thanks to all the beautiful and much needed rain this year, the oval opposite the school was often quite muddy. This provided the opportunity for a bit of mud therapy. A good game of British Bulldogs played in the muddiest spot on the oval in which players are only caught when they have been brought down and rolled over is a great cure for any fear of dirt and mud which some children who have grown up during the drought possess - and it is great fun to boot! All the participants are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm, with a special mention going to Kate, Stefan and Sage for muddiness. Thanks and apologies to Chris the cleaner, and also to Netty for hosing us down at the end.



Biggies Camp to the Grampians! by Tegan

In the last week of August, the Biggies, Tim, Philip, Charlotte and I packed and headed bush – to the Tree Farm. The first night was full of 'Guess Who' styled trivia and Jack's birthday celebrations around the camp fire. The next morning we headed for the Grampians. A few hours later we were welcomed to Halls Gap by a few unwelcome guests in the cottage, MICE! It was only after spending time cleaning up after them, that we all saw the funny side of things! On Wednesday we went for a short walk to the stunning McKenzie Falls where we were met by a huge thundering

waterfall. Thursday was a longer walk, to the Pinnacle, and back, the return trip being via The Wonderland. Our final evening was filled with some very beautiful 'make-overs' (Tim definitely looked the best...) and a modelling/catwalk show. I think we are still trying to get the nail polish and eye shadow off. Friday, the final day (and also Grace's birthday) we packed up and set off early, finishing the camp with John Marsden's 'Tomorrow When the War Began' in Ballarat. A great camp, and fun was definitely had by all!

Thanks Tegan for your help over the term – and good luck with your teaching career!

Compost

We have a couple of families who regularly take our compost away for their gardens and chooks, but definitely have room for a few more. Please speak to Tim or Jeannette if you can help out with this, or just grab a bucket from the kitchen on the way home.

Absences

Please remember to phone school if your child is away sick – best time is between 8am and 8.30am – before the day gets busy.



Artists in our Community

Judy Chaplin-Fleming (mother of Reuben, and FCS play helper) has her own show on as part of the Melbourne Fringe – The Getaway. Until October 10.

Suzie Lewis (mother of Jordon and Hunter) was shortlisted for a sculpture series at the Brunswick St Gallery. Around school she is perhaps better known for the occasional jewellery class or for supplying some amazing pieces for our school fete.



Land Working Bee

Please come along and get dirty on Sunday the 24th of October, starting at 11am

Tinies Camp

Apologies for changing this – weather forecast was not good, and we really hope that all of our students first camp experience is a good one. A super-big sorry to all who had arranged to take time off work for this. New date is Mon 11 – Tues 12th October.

Weenies

School begins this year – please come along on Wednesdays in November, from 9am to 12.30pm for a taste of school!

School Fete

It is on Wednesday that 10th of November, kicking off at about 1.15pm, come along for a bargain!

A date to put in the diary

Library fundraiser – Sat 23rd October at 7 pm at st Peter Hall Gisborne st Melbourne.

State Election

Coinciding with the fete will be a series of roundtables with candidates for the Seat of Richmond. If you have a education question that you would like asked, email it to Tim.

Interested in hosting an international student?

WEP (World Education Program) is looking

for Volunteer Host Families for International Secondary Students arriving in February 2011.

For more information contact:

Nikki Medwell 1300 884 733 or wep@wep.org.au

Community Notices - Athletics, Guide and Cricket

Collingwood Little Athletics is looking for budding junior athletes.

Contact Robyn Maynard on 9480 0176

Merri District Girl Guides has spaces available for more girl guides. If you are interested contact Merri District Leader Gresley Wakelin-King (9482 4584) or mulgara.merriguies@gmail.com.

Edinburgh Cricket Club (opposite School)

Is seeking participants for their Men's, Women's and Juniors

For more information please contact Sally Marsden (0425 885 069) sally.marsden@bigpond.com or www.edinburghcc.asn.au

Middlies Music with Melbourne Uni

This term the Middlies, Arun and Saul had four sessions with Andrew Swainston and a group of Melbourne Uni students (we visited Melbourne Uni twice, and the Melbourne Uni gang came here twice). Under Andrew's guidance, the Melbourne Uni students worked with the Middlies to practice and perform three songs: Three Little Birds, Kids and the Doctor Who Theme. The Middlies showed great application and skill and really impressed all with their enthusiasm and energy, each session lasting about two hours at the end of which they were still going strong. A fifth session was given so that these pieces could be performed for the other students and teachers at FCS, who were all suitably impressed. Doctor Who seemed to be the crowd favourite. A big congratulations to the Middlies for their performance and a great thank you to Andrew and his students for their patience and hard work which produced a great show and gave the Middlies such a valuable experience. Thanks also to Arun and Saul for adding their help on guitar. We hope that this collaboration will continue each year.

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