

*“People
before
things”*

July 2011

Ed. Paul Liknaitzky

Fitzroy Community School NEWSLETTER

BATTLING FRIENDS FOR A TROPHY

Candlebark once again showed themselves to be great sports as they joined us for what is fast becoming a lovely tradition between the two schools: the Candlebark-FCS Sports Day. We all had a rollicking time with fierce competition in all events. Candlebark saw us off in Tug-O-War and Lord of the Rings, and put up a good show in Sprints, Tennis Ball Madness, Islands, Shy Ball, Tunnel Ball and Bean Bag Relay. After totting up all

the scores, we once again got to keep hold of the trophy. We then all piled back to school to feast on the glorious banquet that the BBQ Queens had prepared. With kind words of thanks and a big bag of lollies, Candlebark invited us to their school in November for yet another round of sporting madness. Thank you Candlebark for a great day!

GREEN ROUTINE

From Mary: *Clotilde and I have had a great time getting out and about with the kids on Friday mornings. Our excursions have had an outdoor/gardening focus so the places we've been to include the Children's Garden at the Royal Botanical Gardens, the Collingwood Children's Farm, Ceres, a local indigenous nursery, Quarries Park Adventure Playground, a couple of community fruit and vegetable gardens, and the Merri Creek (to pick up rubbish). Each week we take a tribe of kids and we've found that the spread of ages lends a relaxed and fun energy to the outing. It always feels nice to blur the boundaries between school and the outside world and generally the groups interact with the community and environment in a way that works for everyone! One mysterious citizen was so pleased to see us out at Tinpot that they secretly shouted all eleven of us a drink!*



Principals In Arms

INK AND CELLULOSE

Once again, the last term was filled with literature and poetry. Philip Harvey introduced the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards this year, and Carol O'Connor and Faye hosted literature intensives – which were whole day events – for the Biggies (spurring the avid readers on with slices of pizza). The MS Readathon is also travelling along at pace, but there is still time to enter the competition – reading and raising money for a good cause!

POEM, By Rafi

Autumn

Yellow leaves falling

Trees red, green, brown and orange

Hundreds raining down

CAMPS

This term the school continued its reputation as the never-at-school school, with five camps in total and more outings than NZ has sheep. Thanks to Jeannette for three runs to the bush, Nick, Lachlan, Warren, Chris and Tim for looking after all of our little darlings. Thank you to the many drivers for carting us such a long way. Also, a stunning effort by all those who braved the cold and the rain, and did not once complain. True FCS spirit!

A camp report from Nettie: *Unlike the tempest unleashed on campers last year, the weather this time was tranquil and benign – always a good start to a camp. The new cubby*



Visit to the Collingwood Children's Farm



Littlies on camp at Dereel

built by Tim and many helpers was a welcome addition to the usual tent city. Activities included Edie's birthday party, a fashion parade (thanks Erica), hunting with bows and arrows (the mice were a bit too quick!), being tied up in (and falling out of) hammocks, toasting marshmallows and chopping trees (dead ones). The long walk to Corindhap Park for picnics and lollies (it was a Wednesday) rounded out the camp – 4 days without any electronic gadgetry!

POEM, By Erica

Autumn

Brown crunchy

Diving jumping rustling

Leaves on the ground

Covering flying flowing

Bare colourful

Change

STAFF (STAVE) TURNS ACCEDENTIALS INTO NATURALS

A big thankyou to Linda (violin) for her efforts transforming squeaks into graceful melodies, and to Dave (piano) for turning plonks into tinkles. Linda is off to Italy for postgraduate violin studies, while Dave heads to Alice Springs for a greater challenge than FCS. Is that really possible?

FCS SPORTS DAY

A big thank you to James, Haydn and Francesco for many hours of dedication and high spirits. Great fun had by all! Tug-o-war and FCS Gift were once again highlights.

CROSS COUNTRY

Half of the school participated in the local cross-country race open to local schools. Six qualified for the next round, Zone – Lexie, Zoe, Anna, Jan, Zak A and Kate, of which Lexie, Zoe and Zak got through to yet another level, the Regionals. (Jan and Anna would've also got through, but were on camp). Well done runners, and good luck for the next round!

STUDENT TEACHERS AND HELPERS

Our Term 2 student teachers have been busy. Pet was a hit with orienteering, poetry and tacos; Dilan has been working away, making movies for Movie Night; and Nathalie has started work with the Biggies to produce an array of outfits for the fashion parade. A big thanks to Kiara for coming and helping out with art and netball. It was also lovely to see past students, Mimi and Scott (Fitzroy High School), back in their old stomping ground for work experience. There are so many other helpers at school: readers, listeners, chefs, bash-up buddies, story tellers, BBQ masters, trainers, cleaners, etc, without whom the school would not be the vibrant fertile ground that it is! Thank you all!



H2O-IN-A-HOLE

Swimming next term will be at Northcote pool. Please let Nettie know if you can help with driving (departing school at 11:30am after a scrumptious BBQ, and returning at 1:30pm).

HOOP SCOOP

Biggies will be competing in the Hoop Time basketball competition against numerous other schools on the 19th of July. We would love some parent volunteers for scoring and cheering. Good luck Biggies!

MRS CAREY'S CONCERT

Tim took the Biggies to Nova Cinema to see Mrs Carey's Concert – a documentary on the production of a musical concert at MLC, Sydney – and relived many of the conversations he has had with staff during productions of FCS plays. A must-see for anyone who would like to know what it is like to put on a school play.

DESALINATION – SONIC STUDY

Thanks to all the participants who donated their urine over the course of 24 hours to a study on salt intake in children's diets. The results will be forwarded to you all soon.

POEM, by Jordon

*Poetry is a key that opens
A treasure chest of wonder
Expressive words that bring
concern and
joy to your heart
Poetry creates pictures in your mind
wondrous
powerful pictures
Sea poems take you on dangerous adventures
Alien poems whirl your mind away
on a cosmic saucer
shaped like a poached egg
Nature poems whisk you away on the summer
breeze
like a petal
Love poems
make your heart melt like chocolate
dissolving in the sun
The key to the chest is the writer.*

NETBALLING

From Sam (Coach): Once again our 3 netball teams had a very successful term. The players ranged from grades 3 to 6 and gave 100% each week. There was always a flurry of excitement on a Thursday lunch time to see who would be going. We also had great feedback from the umpires, who remarked that our kids were wonderfully behaved and were all good sports. One of our teams remained undefeated. Our B team, mostly Middlies, was awesome with at least one victory every week! Thanks to Kiara for umpiring and Tim, Nick and Becs for coaching. Off to Zone we go!





Pre-weenie Banjo

WALKING LIKE A CAT

The Biggies are currently designing their own clothes and will soon be very busy sewing them up for the FCS Fashion Parade held in November on Movie Night. The Catwalk Squad would love any donations of fabric and other fashion accessories. For any enquiries, please email Nathalie (marie.leongtim@live.vu.edu.au).

MORNING MEETINGS

Please make sure that you are on time for Meeting in the mornings. They are important in bringing the school together for the day.

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If you have a computer that has extended its functionality to candle holder, book shelf or paper weight, you may like to help with the computer room upgrade. We're looking for machines running with a minimum of 500MB RAM, 2 GHz processor and XP (if you don't speak 'Computish', call the school and we can help you figure out what you have).

EMAIL FROM CANDLEBARK

Being in a reflective mood, I was thinking about the whole nit situation, and how things have changed over the last 10 years or so. It seems to me that nits have now become ubiquitous; they are to children's heads what cane toads are to Queensland.

With the holidays coming up, and new reports of nits this week, I thought it was a good time to remind you of the need for vigilance, prevention and extermination. If we all launch major onslaughts on the heads of the little ones during the holidays, it's not impossible that we could launch Term three in a golden nit-free glow. What a wonderful thing that would be.

"I have a dream..."

All the best

John

POEM, By Chloe

Trees

Woosh swishy

Blowing crunching rustling

I love Autumn trees

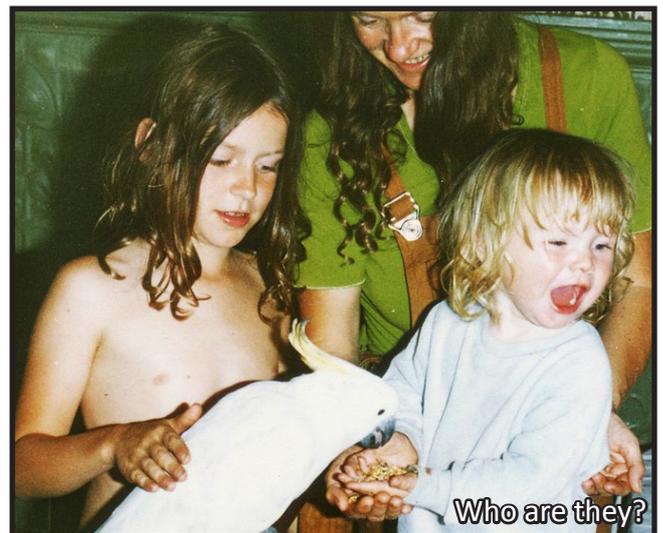
Breaking crackling flying

Wet noisy

Leaves

SPOT THE PEOPLE

Can you recognise these three people? (Clue: taken in the late 1970's).



Who are they?

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