



# NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2013

Ed. Paul Likhaitzky

### THE PASSING OF A FRIEND

On the evening of Sunday 18th August, our dear friend Eileen Trebilcock passed away. She died peacefully and surrounded by close friends singing 'You are my Sunshine'. Sharing this moment with Eileen was a true gift to those present, including Helen, Leslie and Faye, who have all been very close and supportive friends to Eileen for many years. Eileen had been a friend of Faye and Philip for over 25 years. During her life she dedicated a lot of time helping out at FCS, particularly assisting students with reading, and later also helping out with The Fitzroy Readers. Thank you Eileen for all the special memories that so many of us at FCS will treasure all our lives. We will miss you.



### AN OCCASION!

Once a decade, there is a very special afternoon tea. Well, October the 16th is the one. We hope

that friends old and new are able to join us on this occasion. 3pm as usual.



### A STORM IN A TEA CUP, by Sam

Congratulations to all the students on a wonderful play! Special mention to all the Grade 6s: Celeste, Clay, Erica, Jackson, Kate and Zak. What a wonderful spectacle! Once again the very talented team of students, staff and parents pulled off another brilliant performance. What a wonderful group of students. I couldn't be more proud! There are too many people to thank, but I would like to mention a few. A massive thank you to Karen (Costume Director) for her beautiful and stylish costume design and execution; to Anne for her amazing design and tireless work; to Suzie Lewis for her creative splash and talent; to Emma, Olivia and Megan for their brilliant additions; to Arthur for all his handy work; Kerry, Warren and Mikey for their musical talent and dedication; to Nikki for her magical make up; to John and Jack for the lighting; to Tao, Mark and Megan for the video; to Jono and Tim for the hilarious script; and to all the past students and student teachers. Special thanks must go to my partner in crime, Claire! Thank you for all your cups of tea and help throughout the entire process, from the first script read to every little detail. Wouldn't have happened without you! Hooray!

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### **THE NAIL, by Zak (Yr 6)**

So hot was the blacksmith's anvil.  
So freezing was the water they plunged me in.  
So terrifying was the trip to the mystery destination.  
They yanked me out of the box.  
They hammered me into the ground.  
They left me there.  
I spent my life there.  
I held those sleepers down.  
I felt my life was ended when no trains rattled by.  
I was prized out of the sleeper.  
Shoved into the garbage.  
Then nothingness.  
Then someone helped me.  
Peter took me.  
Peter helped me.  
Peter gave me a home.  
Peter saved me.



### **THE GREENS VISIT FCS, by Tim**

Our re-elected member for Melbourne, Adam Bandt, spent two mornings at school in Term 3, chatting with parents and staff – and was very well received. Congratulations on being re-elected Adam! Points of discussion included

the regulation of schools and The Greens' policy to impose a compliance framework on our school similar to that required of government schools. We hope that the wisdom of children prevails and that The Greens revisit this policy. The other point of discussion was The Greens reintroduction of The New Schools Policy, a Hawke-era document that gave government schools an effective veto over the establishment of new non-government schools. Given the demand for schools of our type, we hope that Adam is able to get The Greens to reconsider this policy too.



### **WELCOME BACK, AGAIN**

Welcome back to Ted and Chester, parents Wayne and Joelle, and brothers Charlie and Sebastian. Ted and Chester will be re-joining the school for the third and final time, as this time it is permanent.

### **EGGSPERIMENTS**

From fish dissection, chicken mummification and crystals to testing teeth and rusty nails in various liquids, science with Claire remains a hit. New and marvellous ways continue to be developed in an attempt to ensure the safe passage of an egg from the upstairs balcony down to the street (albeit with a bit of egg on the occasional face...)

### **AN EXHIBITION, by Clay (Yr 6)**

The National Car Art Exhibition is here in Melbourne for three days only. Don't miss your chance to come and see some amazing works of art, including a splatter painting done by an F1 car's exhaust on an aluminium plate. Relax on our couches and chairs: boots, bench seats or bucket seats. You can even see some cars in love; Patricia Piccinini has entwined two cars together. And an amazing piece of art is Leonardo da Winchy's 'Monaro Lisa', made entirely out of Monaro parts. There are also many other exhibits, such as a car cut in half and a spark-plug sheep. There is also plenty of great

entertainment for everyone, including a jumping castle for the kids, slot car racing and rides in a 1965 Ford Mustang! Showing in 2027 at the Melbourne Exhibition Building. Don't miss out!

### **POOCHWISE**

Some friendly folks from the Responsible Pet Ownership Program came to talk with our Tinies about being safe with domestic animals. The kids enjoyed the session and playing with the pooch in tow.

### **MIDLIES CAMP, By Julia (Yr 3)**

I am glad that I chose to go on Middlies Camp because I really enjoyed it. I really liked dissecting the fish. I also liked the treasure hunt which was all around the Tree Farm, and the flying fox. There was a nice French student called Guillaume who made up funny names for us, like Macpac, Blue, Mr I Love You and Small. It was funny. When we were all sleeping in Jabba the Hut, Guillaume called Daniel, "Danielle". It was really fun being on Middlies Camp because I am normally with the Year 2s. It was cool eating the fish we dissected for dinner. I had so much fun, and I would love to go on camp with the Middlies again.



### **YUM IN THE TUM**

A big thank you to all the school parents who contributed to soup on Thursdays, warming both our tummies and the cockles of our hearts.

Thanks also to all those who helped with the BBQ, it has been amazing! Thank you also to Alison and Alison and Alison, and Amy, Petra and Kaz for filling us up with such wondrous spreads on Fridays!



### **FLY LICE**

Tim cooked a whole BBQ worth of fried rice for the whole school in the 7th week of term. This consisted of 5 full rice cookers, three dozen eggs, three bottles of soy sauce, three bags of carrots, peas, corn and a small pile of onions. The chopping occupied a tribe for an hour, with Tim insisting that the carrots had to be chopped finely... who wants a giant carrot chunk in their fried rice? The meal was a hit, with many returns for seconds and thirds, and the occasional fourth!

### **STUDENT TEACHERS**

Many thanks to Catherine, Claire, 'James Tiberius' Kirk and 'Johnny' Yuta for all your energy, ideas and general helpfulness!

### **LETTER FROM 'JOHNNY UTAH'**

As a student teacher in FCS, I've learned many things not only from teachers but from students. The children who have learned in this school are very lovely. They behave independently. They study voluntarily. They think by themselves. And what's more, they are affectionate and kind with each other. I've never met such wonderful children. The environment which this school gives is really favourable. I hope you children appreciate your teachers, your friends, and your families. I really appreciate your kindness. I love FCS. See you again! Yuta Watanabe (Johnny), Tokyo, Japan.

### **WINNING, by Marlon (Yr 1)**

My name is Marlon and I like chess. Once I played chess, then I won. Yes! Then Ari said, "I'll play the winner." So I played Ari. I moved my pawn. Then Ari moved his knight and I got it down. Yes! I got the knight. Then Ari got my pawn. Then I got his king. "Look, I got your king. I

win!" I said. And then Ed said, "I will beat you." "Oh no you won't." I said. So I played Ed. He placed his pawn. I placed my knight. I got his pawn. He got my knight. I moved my bishop. He moved his castle. So I moved my bishop and it was check. I moved my bishop out of check and he moved his castle. Then I saw a gap and the gap went to the king and I moved through it. I won! I did it!



#### **NETTING THE BALL, by Sam**

Congratulations to the FCS Netball team which won the inter school and zone competitions and only lost one game in the regionals, missing out on going to the state championships by only 6 goals. The team work, determination and skill on the court were great throughout the term and exceptional on the big game days. We had other schools' coaches coming over to us and congratulating our kids on "not dropping their heads" and for playing with great sportsmanship.

#### **CROSS-GENERATIONALS, by Olivia (Estela and Rafael's mum)**

On a cold Wednesday morning some of us gathered at Curtin Square for our first game of netball in at least 25 years. The Biggies were preparing for their regional comp, and Tim had enlisted a few parents who had netball in their distant past to play a practice game against the students. Once the mothers remembered the rules of the game and got moving, they seemed to rediscover their competitive spirits. We clearly wanted to win! The game became increasingly focused, fast and fierce, but the Biggies were more practiced and quicker on their feet than the creaky mothers, and soon left us in their dust.

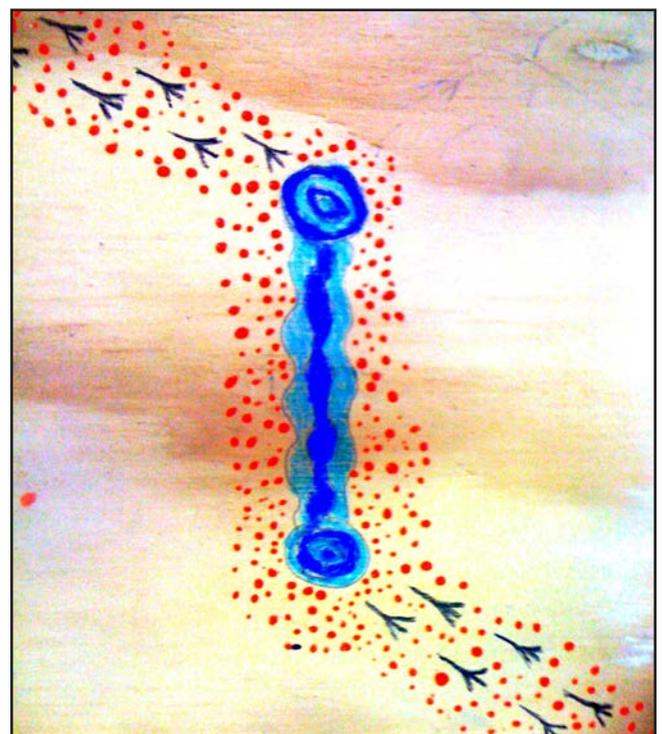
Looking forward to the next playoff!

#### **CAMPING, by Nick**

I took two Biggies' camps this term, the first at the Tree Farm and the second at The Land; both were amazing. I was constantly impressed by how well the different groups got on: while the groups playing each game or engaged in each activity revolved and changed, no one was ever excluded, and an effort was often made to include any camp members not participating. The other thing that again impressed me was the spirit with which all undertook the various activities, be they self-created ones or assigned ones such as collecting wood or washing dishes. In fact, washing dishes often involved more fun and laughter than the many other activities. The highlight of the camp at the Tree Farm was probably the go-karting, though spotto and the hammock provided lots of fun. At The Land, a new campsite was created down at the creek. This involved quite a bit of construction using all available natural materials, and the shelter that resulted proved to be both sturdy and water-resistant in, at times, quite inclement weather; it came complete with a campfire upon which lunch and several snacks were cooked.

#### **COLTAN**

Zoos Victoria are recycling mobile phones in an effort to lessen the demand for coltan, which is mined from gorilla habitats in central Africa, and putting the money raised towards primate conservation. If you have old mobiles, please drop them in the box at school, and Myf will take them to the zoo.



## CAMP-PAIN

A note on packing for camps: when packing for camps, please only bring essential items. These might include a sleeping bag, change of clothes, raincoat, warm jacket, torch, gumboots and hiking boots. We are often tight for space as we prefer to take as few vehicles as possible. Tents, sleeping mats and pillows are not needed. Backpacks are preferable to wheeie suitcases when travelling on rough terrain. Please don't tie sleeping bags or water bottles to other bags as this makes packing more difficult; just write your name on everything. Thanks!

## FRENCH! MIAM!, by Clo

After School French classes quickly filled up in the 3rd Term. The timing might be a reason for its popularity. Also, some people had been requesting French classes for some time. I'm glad I put myself together to make this happen. We learn with a lot of fun. The younger group have a lovely "gouter" with a lots of "s'il te plaît" and "merci beaucoup", then learn some new vocab and finish with lots of games. The older group is more focussed and thirsty for learning. I'm amazed by their curiosity and their capacity to memorise French vocab. As a special treat, the class is cooking Madeleines for the last class, MIAM!

## OUTINGS, by Daniel (Yr 4), Edward (Yr 1) and Rafael (Prep)

Outings are excursions where we go to places to get experience of what the world is like. We have been to Merri Creek, Darebin Parklands, Collingwood Children's Farm, Normanby Avenue, the city centre, a mosque, a cathedral, a temple, the Melbourne Museum and art exhibitions.

Outings are fun because we see animals and get to climb trees; we get to roam free! Lots of kids like it!



## BIGGIES HOOP TIME REPORT, by Keith

The Biggies travelled to Albert Park in Term 3 with competition on their minds. It was an enjoyable event, and all the training paid off with both teams doing very well. Our Future Stars won all their Pool games but just missed out on taking the extra step. The starting five all performed to their best: Erica was dominant in the Centre, Zak and Silas were very good as guards, and Jackson and Kate were outstanding as forwards with Celeste and Clay doing well in pinch-hitting roles off the bench. The Rookies won three of their 4 games with Dante scoring well, Llewli and Jack providing good run and Ella, Mietta and Bridie all showing determined defensive grunt. Of course winning isn't everything; players learn the importance of training, fitness, teamwork, determination under



pressure, while developing the ability to show good sportsmanship, think things through and inner discipline. Thanks again to Tim, Jeannette and all at FCS for their support of Biggies Basketball.



### **THE FOUNTAIN, by Jackson (Yr 6)**

I have stood in the same spot my whole life  
The people stare at me as they pass by  
Some say that I am just a fountain  
Others see me as a work of art  
I cry with happiness everyday  
My tears make pools of water  
That surround my feet  
The other structures in the gardens are envious  
of me  
The buildings around me are like giants  
I look to them as if they are my ancestors  
The rain and wind has softened my skin  
I am very old now  
But I am not ready to retire

### **THROUGH THE RANKS**

Our Weenies will begin the transition to Tinies in 4th term over 4 Wednesdays, the first of which will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **GRAMPIANS, by Tim**

The Grampians Camp was a gift – the gift of spending time with a really lovely group of children, watching them explore, play, laugh, scramble and swim. Bouncy balls in the many streams and creeks of The Grampians. We enjoyed a 12km hike from Halls Gap followed by a dip in the Stony Creek, which can only

be accurately described as freezing. I was especially proud of Edie and Julia, our youngest two companions for whom it was a bit of a test of fitness/determination, and who kept on in good spirits, admitting toward the end that they were getting jelly legs. Biscuits were eaten, apples crunched and oranges slurped at various points between skipping over rocks and spotting the odd kangaroo or emu, all to the sound of happy voices and the tramping of many feet. Thanks also to Kirk and Claire for good company.

### **EAGLE POSE**

Miranda continues to offer yoga at 9am each Wednesday in the Eyrie. The classes are free and open to all.

### **DONATED IVORY**

Thank you to Catherine and Uwen (Celeste's grand folks) who donated a piano to FCS – lovely to have these new and improved keys getting such good use!

### **REMINDER**

An extra camp for the Reds will be held from the 28th-30th October at The Land.

### **BOOK REPORTS**

Our traditional book report recitations will take place as usual at the Fairfield Boathouse Amphitheatre on the last Monday of 4<sup>th</sup> Term. Parents of Biggies most welcome. 10:30am, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

