

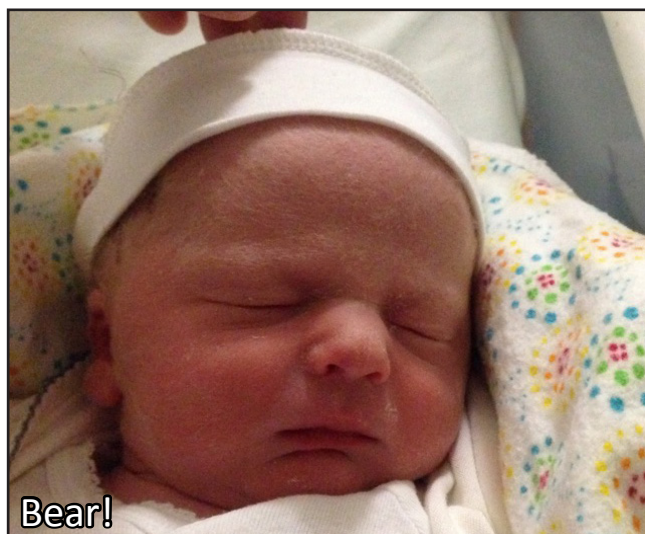


# SUMMER 2016

Ed. Paul Liknaitzky

## WELCOME BEAR!

Bear Jupiter Green Davis was born the night of December 8th to Alice Green and Matthew Davis, Normanby Ave parents of Honeybee (2016 Little) and Sunny (2017 Tiny). Well done, and congratulations to you all!



Bear!

## 40th ANNIVERSARY

The 40th FCS Anniversary was a celebration of the success of our school in helping to raise beautiful, young people, and the chance for friends, old and new, to gather, share, and reminisce. Thank you Faye, for putting this event together.

## FORTY YEARS ON, by Philip

How many times have I said to myself 'I wish I'd attended this school myself?'. I do hope that many more children in the future will be able to attend a school like ours. Faye and I started FCS 40 years ago in order to create a better quality of life for children and for the adults they become. The critical new element for our broader curriculum was interpersonal interaction skills. Essential for both personal life and career. Rather than rewrite everything that was said on the day, I refer you to the bottom item on the home page of FCS, where you can download a 2-page precis.



40 Anniversary

597 Brunswick St, North Fitzroy, Victoria 3068

Phone: 03 9489 2356 Fax: 03 9482 3226 [info@fcs.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@fcs.vic.edu.au) [www.fcs.vic.edu.au](http://www.fcs.vic.edu.au)



SOMETHING I LIKE TO DO ON MY OWN, by  
Indigo (Yr 2, Normanby Ave)  
*I like to dream up stories.  
Thousands, millions and even more.  
I find a quiet spot,  
Peaceful and calm.  
There my thoughts spin free.*

WHAT IS MINDFULNESS? by Susan Smith  
Being mindful is a moment to moment awareness of what is happening right now. So why is it important to be fully present? One answer is to better discern the difference between what is happening right now from one's response to what is happening. Practically, the easiest way to be aware of the richness of the present moment is by connecting with the senses. Mindfulness practice sessions are offered every Wednesday morning in the Eyrie (Children from 8.30-8.50am; Adults 9 - 9.30am). One-on-one instruction is available to anyone who is interested. Even a few minutes of mindful practice each day can have a profound impact on one's life.



THE JOY OF TEACHING ENGLISH, by Faye  
I have delighted in all my classes this year. Beautiful, enthusiastic children and lots of learning, lots of great classes. Once again, we thank Philip Harvey for his poetry input. Philip is a former FCS parent, and although Bridie graduated in 2014, he continues to come for the love of it. Certainly a highlight of the year was 'Poetry for Parents'.

## CONGRATULATIONS ELLA

Ella (FCS: 2014) was recently the recipient of multiple awards at The Academy of Mary Immaculate – Academic Excellence Awards for languages and performing arts, and a Music Achievement Award. A stunning effort. Well done Ella!

## A DAY IN THE LIFE, by Alia

From the excitement in morning stories, to the preparation and devouring of the delicious and spectacular lunch, to the hilarious magic show before home time, there was laughter and contagiously positive energy throughout the day. The Biggies lugged equipment to and from the field for Sports Carnival. Teams worked tirelessly to drag other teams across markers, collect and catch tennis balls, score goals, or knock down canisters. Everyone raced their hearts out in the sprints and gift. And all of these accomplished with huge smiles and great spirit. A day in the life of a 40 year old - FCS!

## ROUNDERS, by Nick

This term the Biggies and Middlies of both Brunswick Street and Normanby Avenue took part in inter-school rounders. The children played with great spirit, with a premium placed upon good sportsmanship. They also displayed great skill, with many games won. Congratulations to the grade 6 students who showed wonderful leadership, helping to coach, guide and encourage the younger and less-experienced players.

## NORMANBY WEENIES, by Joelle

What a pleasure it has been to get to know the ten new students and families who will join our campus in 2017. We had a great time reading, painting, playing, doing sport, going to the park, and even doing maths and English during their four visits this month. We welcome you to our community and hope you grow to love the school as much as we do.

## MELBOURNE UNI ARTS DAY, by Nat

This term we had the absolute pleasure of participating again in the Melbourne Uni Arts day. It's been fabulous every year, but this year we were initiated into the brand spanking new building which gave the whole day an extra special feel. Once again the student teachers

ran a myriad of fascinating and creative activities, all designed to provoke, inspire and excite the students, which they certainly did. What a wonderful day! Thank you Melbourne Uni! Thank you Marnee!

WAITING FOR YOURSELF TO GROW, by Isaac (Prep, Brunswick St)

*I am growing*

*I want to be stretchy man*

*So I can stretch*

*I would have a jetpack*

*I would be able to see space*

*I would meet friends, the aliens*

*I have a pet worm*

*He is a long, long worm*

*I want to be as long as he is*

*I would save people by*

*Stretching all the way over*

*There are lots of bugs crawling*

*On my long, long worm*

*Those bugs are trying*

*To make the worm longer*

*The worm and I could save anyone*

*We would be super heroes*

*I would stretch to break the machine*

*To destroy the universe*

*My worm would kill Dr Black*

*By going around and around his neck*

*And squeezing*

*In real life I just have to wait.*

MUSICAL MEETING, by Warren

For much of the year we have begun the week at Brunswick St with a musical Monday Meeting. The enthusiasm with which the children have attempted all manner of song,

chant, round and tongue twister has been fantastic, and there are often requests for repeat renditions of popular numbers in music classes later in the day. Elvis has been a particular favourite this year!

GENEROSITY, by Joelle

Once again the Barton family (Arno, Queenie, Max) held a Halloween party for the Normanby Ave campus community, and once again the community showed their generous spirit, raising almost \$400 for the Koala (heart) ward kids this Christmas. A sincere thank you from the Wearn-Jarvis family, who spend a fair bit of time in this ward. The school is also supporting a refugee Christmas lunch that will be provided by Iggy's family. Our families have given to many other causes throughout the year, and we feel blessed to be a part of this generous community.

NORMANBY'S GOT TALENT, by Joelle

The Biggies science class was made extra exciting with experiments facilitated by scientist Scott Chandry (Alyssa's dad). They collected bacteria samples and watched them grow on plates they had prepared. There were some spectacular results, and the opportunity to experience a 'real life' experiment. Another parent who brought her skills into the classroom was artist Robina Smith (Lucian's mum). Robi facilitated a spectacular finger painting of the FCS lion to commemorate the 40th birthday of the school. Thanks also to the parents (Arno and Queenie's, and Amrapali's) and grandparents (Beth's, Tom and Luke's) who help out on a regular basis. We love having you around.

SEARCHING FOR THEIR KING, by Joelle

At Normanby Ave we have been fortunate to have the caring and enthusiastic Vicki volunteering her services as a singing teacher this semester, and working alongside Clo. The children studied Farid ud-Din Attar's poem The Conference of the Birds. This poem tells the story of the birds of the world in search of their mythological king. Attar uses the birds' journey as a metaphor for the different stages in the Sufi path to enlightenment. Vicki and Clo brought the poem to life with song and dance and presented it at our end of year concert.







Visiting Patricia Piccinini's studio

THE STORM, by Redford (Yr 5, Brunswick St)

*The forecast was for stormy weather, but the captain was confident in his ability to navigate his way around the cape. It was 9pm when the storm hit. Barely visible through the rain was the rocky cliff. And they were being pushed ever closer to it by the monstrous wind. All the men were heaving on their oars to try and get the ship to turn away from the dangerous rocks. But the wind had no weakness, and soon the men began to tire. One of the men stopped rowing but the captain urged him to go on. With a great shuddering cry, the boat hit the rocks and held fast. Water started to trickle into the boat. Gradually it gave way, letting the water drag it down into the depths. Men started jumping into the water. Most of them were swept into the rocks, smashing their bones and breaking their fingers. Finally, the boat drifted to the bottom of the sea, and the wind stopped blowing, and the waves stopped crashing, and the rain stopped pouring, and all was still.*

COURAGE & VULNERABILITY, by Clotilde

A tribe from Normanby performed a little concert for a lady called Pina who has terminal cancer at Caritas Christi Hospice in Kew. Pina had taken singing lessons with Vicki (our singing teacher at Normanby Av), and Vicki felt it would be uplifting for Pina to see the children. So, we went with paper cranes in our hands and songs in our hearts. Charmed by the concert, Pina sang to us a song she had learnt with Vicki. When we asked her which song she preferred, she said

the Hakka, because it gave her courage, and courage was what she needed most. Before leaving Pina, a student gave her a paper crane as symbol of peace. Then, another student offered the entire bag of paper cranes so she might give them away to anyone she met. Pina showed us her vulnerability, and had a beautiful impact on us during the visit. Afterwards, Pina texted Vicki: "Now my heart is warm and smiling! Pink and yellow!"

JUNIOR GIRLS' CAMP, by Netti

Janelle and Netti and the junior girls headed off on a hot day for a 3 day camp at The Land. Whittlesea has THE cheapest Op Shop ever seen, and many bargains were had. Celebratory ice creams and milk shakes (it was Gracie Cecilia's birthday) helped to cool us down and a swim at the pool topped off the journey. Arriving at The Land, a swim was taken up with gusto, with the creek having enough water for entire bodies to get wet! (It has been just a trickle for a long time.) Getting to sleep was difficult in the bunk house with the heat, but eventually every one drifted off. Rain the next day made fire lighting impossible, so Janelle cooked a very popular pumpkin and sweet potato soup and pasta for us on the gas stove. The next morning, a much cooler day encouraged us into the octagon, with the pot belly stove for warmth. Some played spoons, some read books, some did hand stands, and when there was a break in the weather that evening, all raced for the bunkhouse so as not to get wet before bed. On the way home, we visited the Whittlesea library. Hot, cold, wet, dry – all accepted with good humour. Well done girls!



FCS art, à la Patricia Piccinini



### ENCOUNTERING FCS, by Jannelle

I first came across Fitzroy Community School in 2012. I was researching reading programs for a first year university assignment and stumbled across the Fitzroy Readers. After researching the Fitzroy Method and the school in general, I knew this was a place I wanted to explore. Four years later, I was given the opportunity to complete my final 10-week placement at Normanby Ave. During my first week, I participated in a sports lesson at a nearby park on a very cold and rainy day. The children began the lesson with laps of the park and I remembered worrying that they may slip in the mud and get wet, which would have been quite the disaster at some of my previous schools! By the end of the lesson, as the children rallied around two of their shoeless friends, who were wrestling in the muddy grass trying to be the first to steal the other's sock, I realised this was not going to be an issue at FCS. My placement here was incredibly different from anything I had previously experienced; I learned so much from all the dedicated teachers at FCS, and would like to give a special thank you to Joelle for giving me so much time, support, and guidance.

### FAREWELL GRETA

Greta (FCS: 2004) is leaving us next year to complete her grad year at Alphington Primary. Greta recently won an Outstanding Academic Performance for the Bachelor of Education 2016 at RMIT. Thank you for your many wonderful contributions at school Greta, and all the best!

### FCS ALUMNI

Andrew Morgan (FCS: 1997) completed his PhD in "A generalised holographic approach to coherent diffractive imaging" in 2013. He then moved to Hamburg, Germany, to take up a post-doctorate position at DESY (The Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron), a national research centre that operates particle accelerators used to investigate the structure of matter.

Ginevra Morgan (FCS: 1999) majored in Japanese language and pure and applied mathematics. She went on to work in the field of mathematics, analytics, and operations research. Her work has taken her regularly to Chile, Malaysia and various locations in Australia. She recently returned to Melbourne from travelling around Europe and the UK, and is currently employed as a Business Consultant in the software development industry.

Ben Morgan (FCS: 2002) completed a Bachelor of Film and Television, and his short film 'No Company' won an award for Best Thriller at the Hollyshorts Film Festival in Los Angeles in 2014. A number of Alians (ex Alia students) worked as crew during the film shoot and his Dad (Bob) had a cameo appearance! It had its premier Australian screening at the Perth International Film Festival, where it won the Audience Vote for Best Short Film. This year, Ben attended the Hollyshorts Film Festival again, where a music video he co-directed ('Follow Me') was selected to screen. He continues to be employed fulltime in the Film and Television industry.

Calum Lindsay-Field (FCS: 2003) has been selected as an Atlas Corps Fellow and will be working in Washington DC in 2017. This organisation trains people from developing countries in leadership skills.







Working with Patricia Piccinini

### HOT OFF THE PRESS

Congratulations to the Brunswick St Middlies for completing the creation of their Recipe Book. For a sneak peak, or to purchase a copy for yourself, visit: [www.tinyurl.com/FCS-album](http://www.tinyurl.com/FCS-album)

### WEDNESDAY FUN

Term 1 swimming occurs at the Fitzroy Pool. We all walk down, although parents are always welcome to drive and help wrangle the Tinies. Please apply sunscreen to face and arms before arriving at school on Wednesdays (and every day in summer). Long sleeved rashie vests are a great idea for summer, and lessen the need for sunscreen. Also, Lolly Day maximum dollar recommendations are: Tinies \$1.20, Littlies \$1.50, Juniors \$2, Middlies \$2.50, and Biggies \$3.

### PAYMENT MEMO

When making a school fee payment by internet, please include your name or invoice number, as many payments are for the same amount.

### COMMUNITY

We know parents are busy but if you haven't been in for a while, do drop in anytime for a cuppa. There's almost always a small child who would like to sit on the couch and listen to a story.

### ADVERT - Online Holiday Program

Become your own music producer with Activate Music Academy's Online Holiday Program! We'll workshop your songs, make new friends in the community forum, and get creative to win awesome prizes. Complete beginner? Been making beats for a while? We're going to have a great time making music together! Register and find out more at: <https://activatemusic.academy/online-holiday-program/>

### YEAR 6 FINAL CAMP

The final camp for our graduates was a fun and inclusive occasion at The Land with Tim and Greta. Faye made her usual cameo and shared a delicious meal with us on Thursday night. The ease with which the children interact with each other was once again a joy to behold.

### GRADUATES

Blake, Chester, Edie, Eli, Julia, Oliver, Taiga, Xaviere, and Lucie - Thank you all for your wonderful contributions to our school, and best wishes for the future. Do come back and visit!



2016 graduates