

NEWS LETTER



Upcoming Dates

First Day Term 2
Tue 16 April

ANZAC Day Holiday
Thur 25 April

District Cross Country
Thur 2 May

Normanby Ave Adults' Dinner
Fri 10 May 7pm

Year 7 Information Night
Tue 14 May 7pm @Brunswick St

Mid Term Break
Fri 24 May

Brunswick St Adults' Dinner
Fri 31 May 7pm

King's Birthday Holiday
Mon 10 June

Brunswick St Play Richmond Theatre
Wed 19 June 1pm & 7pm
Thur 20 June 7pm

Last Day Term 2 & Disco 7pm
Thur 27 June

597 Brunswick Street
Nth Fitzroy, Vic 3068
03 9489 2356
info@fcs.vic.edu.au
www.fcs.vic.edu.au



AUTUMN 2024

SPORTS DAY

Another great Sports Day finished off Term, with the Gifts won by Flo & Finn! For the seventh straight time, the Normanby Avenue parents prevailed in the adults' tug-of-war.



Rumours are circulating of gruelling training schedules, professional coaching, illegal betting syndicates, water-logged tracks...

Big Thanks to Steph for organising the event and to all parents who helped out.

NEW ARRIVAL

Warren and Clare welcomed baby Maxwell during Term 1, little brother to Django. Max is adjusting well to life on the outside, and has already seen a concert, fete and sports day! Django is a very proud and loving big brother.



ENGLISH

The love of learning, language and literature has been evident at all levels. Tinies have begun reading and taken home their first box of readers. Poetry recitation has been a highlight. An exciting term of poetry writing for all is ahead. Our Year 5 Biggies have, with aplomb, met the challenge of the greater demands at Biggie level.

Middlies Camp (Normanby Av)
By Craig

With the sun casting its magic into our bodies, we entered Wild Dog. It was set to be a blissful camp, filled with nature,



friendships and plenty of water fun. It delivered! The group was eager to come together and explore everything that Wild Dog has to offer. Creek play, adventure walks to different swim spots, trampoline games, Spotto, dam swims, and the sound of birds in the morning. Everyone was willing to pitch in and help out, which makes all the difference to the overall experience. Another day would have been thoroughly enjoyed!



MEDITATION by Sue

Meditation has been on the timetable for Year 4 (Brunswick St) this term. We have explored

body awareness, breathing techniques and connecting to each of the senses in turn to come right into the present moment. It has become a special time together. The children have approached this open-heartedly and discovered new-found skills:

“I love meditation because you can just relax and realise stuff around you. I like just listening to the things around me. Sometimes you can hear cars and trams and the birds. Meditating makes me calmer and sleepy.” (Raphael)



“I think meditation has really calmed me, although I do move a lot. I think my thoughts are more clear. Thank you for this lovely class!” (Eleanor)

“It’s cool for my head.” (Seph)

“I love meditation. It helps me feel relaxed. I want to go to sleep. I love to listen to the sounds. I like feeling my body parts. It’s one of my favourite classes. I like closing my eyes.” (Theo)



“I like meditation because it is like falling asleep and very cosy. Meditation makes me feel peaceful and calm.” (Lana)

“I love meditation. I’ve felt more calm. I’ve been getting through the days a lot more easily. I have been sleeping better. I’m not getting too angry. I love having a blanket over me and falling asleep. It’s been a really peaceful term.” (Anjali)

“I am aware of my own body and now I know I can meditate!” (Cecilia)

Nin The Gnome

by The Tinies (Brunswick St)

Once upon a time there was a brave little gnome called Nin. He lived in an old hut beside the forest with his faithful friend, Paddy Pig. In the forest lived a wicked old witch. She loved to munch on the bones of little children.

One day two little children went missing. Their parents were very upset. Nin took Paddy and set off into the forest to rescue them. He came to the witch’s castle and snuck in. Paddy waited outside. The witch was in the kitchen making a fire to cook the children. Nin crept down into the dungeon. He found the children locked in a room. They were scared and crying. Luckily the key was in the door. Nin opened it and took the children out.

They climbed the stairs quietly, but the witch came for the children. They fled out of the castle and jumped onto Paddy. The witch chased them. As they galloped away, the witch cast a spell. Nin dodged, but the spell sliced off his nose. He fell off Paddy and broke his arm.

Paddy stopped and Nin climbed back on. They sped out of the forest.

First Nin took the kids back to their parents who cried tears of joy. Then Nin went to a gnome doctor to get his arm fixed. But his nose never grew back again.

The End!



Normanby Ave Outings by Kate

This term there have again been quite a few walks along Merri Creek to play at CERES, and on hotter days, some trips to Darebin Parklands to paddle in the creek. More recently, children have enjoyed playing with autumn leaves and acorns in parks. The children always amaze me with the diverse games they engage in on these outings. There are a lot of dramatic play and construction projects which evolve in the natural environment, using sticks, rocks, leaves, mud and flowers.



We have also visited some of Melbourne's cultural spaces. One group of Middlies was lucky enough to arrive at the M Pavilion just before the start of an Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) chamber music performance. We all enjoyed listening to some beautiful music.



All Middlies enjoyed a trip to the NGV International's Triennial Exhibition. The children were delighted by several of the artworks we experienced, which were catalysts for thoughtful discussion.

Normanby Ave Biggies Camp by Gabby

It was wonderful week with the Normanby Biggies. We played many games of tennis and cricket before sunset. The kids loved having a swim in the hot weather and were able to entertain themselves for hours in the pool. It was a brilliant chance for all the children to have free time together, eating wonderful meals and sharing laughs.



ART by Steph

Art incorporated the topic of weather in many beautiful projects. We used collage to create different weather imagery (such as rainbows, sun, and clouds) and painted sunsets with watercolour and oil pastels. We also transformed egg cartons into lovely bowls! This process required students to mash, squeeze, and mold recycled egg cartons and then paper mâché the outside with decorative paper. Hopefully these bowls last some time and will hold the kids' precious items (not to be used for food!). Thank you to everyone who sent in egg cartons!



Outing To Cibi by Joelle

The Normanby Ave Middlies were fortunate to visit Cibi cafe in Collingwood to learn about Kamawanu's Tenugui, beautiful Japanese hand-dyed fabric strips that can be used for many purposes.

We met visiting artists from Tokyo who helped us, while Meg and Zenta were typically generous with refreshments. We all had a lovely time and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Cibi owners Meg and Zenta for many years of school support.

SCIENCE (Tinies, Littlies, Juniors)
By Craig

This term in younger years science we've been learning about the needs of living things. We created our own beautifully smelling worm habitats, naming the wormies and watching them tunnel through sand and soil. We also explored the senses and carried out research into our sense of sight, testing whether two eyes are in fact better than one. Our findings may surprise. Finally, we created our own shelters from natural materials: protecting little Duplo figures from an impending storm (watering can). Great scientific fun!

CAMP
by Pascal

It was a wild and windy day at Wild Dog. We decided to go for a dip in the creek. We approached the ledge and dived off! A couple of us went in the canoe, which was very fun. At the end of the day, when all the kids were tired, Craig made us a yummy feast. Overall it was a fun couple of days. Miranda wanted to stay another day!



The Important Thing

The important thing about a pool is you can swim in it when it's hot.

You can play games.

When it is cold you can go into the spa to get warm.

It needs water.

You can hear the water splashing.

But the important thing about a pool is you can swim in it when it's hot.

(by Helena)



The important thing about a school is that you learn to read and write.

You can make friends.

You have lots of fun.

It grows when it gets more kids.

It has fun teachers too.

But the important thing about a school is that you learn to read and write.

(by Maaz)

The important thing about a bee is that it spreads pollen.

It can fly and buzz.

It is yellow with black stripes.

It is also very small,

And it helps us grow our fruit and vegetables.

But the important thing about a bee is that it spreads pollen.

(by Anouk)



The important thing about a doll is that it cheers you up.

It is soft.

It's not too big or too small.

You can cuddle it at bedtime.

It can be painted, or drawn on, to look good.

But the important thing about a doll is that it cheers you up.

(by Seb S)

Wednesday Helpers by Netti

It's been great to have Rocco (grandfather of Tiny Raphael) and Fran (nanny of Tiny Atticus) join the 'Wednesday crew'. Rocco's barbecue skills and Fran's scones have been a welcome addition this term. Thanks again to all the lunch helpers!



To The Vet

by Brunswick St Juniors

Lily was a twenty-seven-year-old zoologist. After graduating, she had gone to India to work with tigers. While she was there, she rescued an orphaned tiger cub. She took him home and raised him. Jimmy became her pet – and her best friend, too. When Lily returned to Australia, she got special permission to bring Jimmy with her.

One day, when Lily came home, Jimmy didn't greet her. She found him in the garden, next to a dead tiger snake. He lay there, growling and moaning. Lily rushed to get her car, then helped Jimmy in. He felt very



cold. Her eyes filled with tears. As Lily drove, she called the vet. It was a weird conversation: tigers, tiger snakes and big cat seemed to be confused. Lily was concentrating on driving and ended up with an appointment for a big cat called "Tiger" – but she didn't care, as long as the vet saw Jimmy.

Lily helped Jimmy as he hobbled into the reception area. Chaos erupted: dogs barked, cats screeched, parrots squawked, guinea pigs squealed and the humans screamed. Pandemonium reigned briefly – and then the waiting room was empty. When the bell

went for "next", Lily and Jimmy went through. The vet was sitting at his desk, typing up some notes. He turned and saw Jimmy, lurched back screaming and fell off his chair. Startled, Jimmy gave a loud roar. The vet lay curled up on the floor like a jelly. It took Lily a few minutes to calm the vet down and explain the situation.



After that, everything went smoothly. The vet gave Jimmy the anti-venom and examined him carefully. He made Jimmy lie down in a back room and rest. That evening Jimmy was feeling better. The vet said he could go home, letting him out the back door, so as not to scare the other animals. Suddenly Jimmy spun, leapt up at the vet, put his paws on his shoulders and licked his face to say thank you. As they left, Lily promised to bring Jimmy back for a check-up. The vet didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

FETE

Thank you to all who generously supported the Fete with donations, produce and more – a dollar to pat a kitten was an inspired innovation! Money raised goes to Ouagadougou Neighbourhood House in Burkina Faso.



SCIENCE by Steph

In science this term we leaped into the wonderful topic of weather! We made sundials, anemometers (wind measuring instrument), tornados and clouds in jars. We tracked the weather each week, looked at the weather around the world and learnt about the seven seasons of the Kulin People.



Brunswick St Biggies Camp

By Gabby

The Brunswick St Biggies had a fantastic camp, spending hours down by the lake and in the games room together. It was wonderful to see all the children getting along so well, making jokes, and laughing. Our sweet teeth were well satisfied all week: A huge thank you to the parents and children for all the cakes and meals that kept our bellies full. A particular highlight was the kids' determination to catch a fish – dead or alive.



Middlies' Camp (Brunswick St) by Nick

The twenty Brunswick Street Middlies headed off to Wild Dog with Nick, Kate and Gabby for a few days of fun and adventure. Beautiful weather meant that full advantage could be taken of the surrounds, particularly the dam, where swimming, boating and jumping off the



jetty were enjoyed by all. The children showed great spirit in all they did, be it blackberry picking along the creek, Spotto at night and even helping to keep the barn clean. The



children are to be commended for the way that they interacted, with kindness and inclusiveness being shown at all times. It was great to see them all relax and enjoy a different environment, with little difficulties overcome without hesitation or worry. Well done, Middlies, and thanks for a great camp.

BASKETBALL

Keith has been coaching our basketballers for many years, with skills and sportsmanship both staples of his approach.

Thanks, Keith, for so many years of dedication, and for organising regular games against other schools and our ongoing attendance at Hoop time.



SWIMMING

Oscar has been heading up our swimming program for a couple of decades, bringing his great love of swimming and wealth of experience not just to our children, but also to coaching the school's swimming teachers. Thanks, Oscar, for sharing your talents for so many years.



Drawing by Oscar



A REAL HEAD-SCRATCHER

Nits have been sighted in the school holidays! Please keep an eagle eye for a suspicious itch and check hair to ensure children begin Term 2 nit-free!



WANTED: Sheets for Camp

We somehow manage to lose quite a pile of single fitted sheets after camps.

If you have a spare (or two) you are happy to donate to school, please bring them in.

TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR 2024

Fitzroy North & Thornbury

Ph. 94815324 Ph. 94849982

www.sunrisepreschool.vic.edu.au

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