

You know the end of the year is near when transition activities for 2015 begin. We have welcomed 10 new prep students and they have enjoyed spending time in the prep classrooms. Students who are moving on to Upper Primary have also had the opportunity to visit the Bundoora Campus and spend time in those classrooms. How exciting for them!

The highlight of the term was the “**Movie Magic**” performance. This performance linked to our **Story Time** unit and focused on the areas of dance and drama. It was the culmination of many months of planning, preparation and practice and the students were so excited about performing. The performance was a great opportunity for them to showcase how they had developed as performers and to share their creative work with friends and family. All the hard work and effort that students put in was certainly worth it. They were absolute stars. Our programs do encourage and support each student to be collaborative learners who show confidence to work individually or with others and this was so evident in this performance. The way the students prepared for, and then performed, really did personify the school values of **Happiness, Personal Best and Cooperation**.

As part of the library program the students learnt about **Aboriginal** dreamtime stories through a mini literature based unit on **Aboriginal** culture and history. Students looked at the ways that symbols and art are used to tell stories. An **Aboriginal Elder** and his son came to school to give us a small insight into Australian indigenous culture. Students experienced indigenous storytelling, a didgeridoo demonstration and were introduced to some indigenous artefacts including boomerangs and clap sticks. Students also took part in a smoking ceremony where various native plants were used to produce smoke. This is believed to have cleansing properties and the ability to ward off unwanted and bad spirits.

JCA and **JKD** organised a special pirate day. They had been learning how to read maps and use co-ordinates to find things on a map. In class they made different sorts of maps, their favourite was a treasure map! To finish off the unit, students came dressed as pirates and had a special pirate treasure hunt to complete. At each co-ordinate there were special activities like building a sand castle, doing exercises, finding dinosaurs in geli-baff, making a pirate hat out of newspaper and best of all having to sing a song to Kath or Kathryn! Chocolate gold coins and Freddo frogs were the end treasure and everyone had a fun day!

Once the **Story time** unit is completed, the Junior School will celebrate a great year's work, the achievements of all our students particularly those who are moving to Upper Primary, and of course Christmas! Our special celebrations will include an end of year assembly, class Christmas parties and excursions. There will be lots of celebrating to do!

The Junior School staff would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We thank you for your cooperation and support and look forward to working with you and your wonderful children again next year.



Kath Moore
Assistant Principal

Update of All Student Details

A printout of your child's information was sent home for you to check the details and make any necessary alterations.

Please return these to the office a.s.a.p. It is vital that we have the current information on your child, especially in the case of an emergency.

Carmel Hunter - Education Support Officer



CONCORD
SCHOOL

Connections

Middle Section Newsletter

concord.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.concordsch.vic.edu.au

411 Grimshaw Street, Bundoora 3083
PO Box No. 90 Bundoora 3083
Grimshaw campus T (03) 9467 3972
F (03) 9467 8018
Junior campus T (03) 9432 7978

MJT and **MEO** went on camp this term to '**Mirrabooka**' Brownie Camp in Ocean Grove. We started off at the Lobster Pot and learnt about the local environment and got a few tips about fishing: the different types of fish and sizes they should be in order to keep them when fishing. When we were fishing Austin caught a Whiting for the camps dinner that evening, unfortunately not quite big enough to feed all 14 of us!

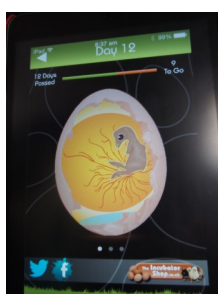
The next day we spent the whole day at the **Geelong Adventure Water Park**. We went from the dry activities including archery, go karting and mini golf to splashing about in Bonito's Bay. The students had the time of their lives with the water slides, lazy river and water playground. They all had an early night that evening, teachers too!



Thanks to Chris and Jennie for driving the bus for **MEO** and **MJT**.

To sum up the camp experience in one word would be 'phenomenal'.

In terms three and four, the Middle Section has been studying topics related to the Integrated Unit 'On The Farm'. For a little over three weeks **MTI** had the opportunity to study the life-cycles of some farm animals; specifically that of a chicken. The class had its very own incubator and hatched a real-live chick in the classroom, which they affectionately named 'Slippers' because of its unique ability to grow feathers on its feet!



This was a rewarding experience for each of the students, as they enjoyed checking in each day on an iPad app which gave us an in-depth view of what was happening inside the egg. They were able to help care of the chick after hatching; building it a home, feeding and cleaning up after it.

On Thursday 20th November the Middle Section was lucky enough to have a visit from three police officers from **Greensborough Police Station** to learn about **Rules, Responsibilities, Rights and Laws**. The students were in groups and rotated between a police talk, looking at the police car and completing police activity books. Some cheeky students were handcuffed and all got to have their finger prints taken.

A great day was had by all.

On Wednesday 12th November 2014, **MSP** and **MFC** went to perform at the **Kmart Wishing Tree** at Greensborough Shopping Centre. The students enjoyed singing Jingle Bells, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Santa Clause Is Coming To Town to a large audience.

The students had a visit from **Santa** and were excited to receive a chocolate stocking from him.

The students were requested to do an encore performance for all our wonderful volunteers at the **Volunteer Morning Tea**, on the following Wednesday. They sang even louder and with greater cheer.

Well done **MSP** and **MSP** on making everyone smile.



Chris Norman
Team Leader

SKH have been on an amazing 'Learning Journey' and have accomplished so much together this year. I believe that all students in **SKH** have had a wonderful year: working and learning together, performing, socialising, getting along and all working to their maximum ability. I hope you are all very proud of everything your child has achieved this year. We were very successful at the **Travel Expo** and enjoyed spending our profit at **LaPorchettas**! I hope you enjoy your child's **PhotoStory** (DVD) of their year in photos that will come home towards the end of the year. A huge thank you to all parents for working with me this year. I look forward to seeing you all at the **Christmas Concert** monday evening!

SJF have enjoyed learning all about **Australia** and sharing our knowledge at the **Secondary Section Travel Expo**. It was a fabulous night and we had a lot of fun. We are looking forward to celebrating our hard work by having a pizza lunch and watching a movie. We cannot believe the school year is coming to an end. It has been a wonderful year and we hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday.



The Secondary Section recently hosted a **Travel Expo** where each class researched and created products from different Commonwealth countries. **SKL** spent a term designing, painting and packaging three Canadian products to sell at the **Travel Expo**. At the event **SKL** advertised our products, tendered money and presented their learning journey to their family and friends. **SKL** is happy to announce that we made a profit of \$211.00 which will go to a class celebration and a donation to OXFAM charity.

SMP have really enjoyed learning about the different Cultures of the Commonwealth. After exploring the sights sounds and tastes of several different countries we settled on New Zealand as our focus country. It has been fascinating to learn about New Zealand and we all want to go there to visit. At the **Secondary Travel Expo** we made and sold Kiwi Magnets, Lord of the Rings rings and bookmarks and our all-time favourite, Hokey Pokey ice-cream. We sold nearly all our ice-cream, but had just enough left for all of us to taste while watching **The Lord of the Rings** when the **Secondary Expo** was over.



SSB and **SIB** students worked extremely hard toward the **Secondary Travel Expo**. The chosen countries of Jamaica (**SIB**) and England (**SSB**), offered many learning opportunities for the students to make discoveries and comparisons. The closer to



the **Secondary Expo** night the student's excitement built, they had organised, budgeted, packaged and labelled their products to sell. The great response from family friends that supported the event made it all worthwhile and the students and teachers were very proud of their achievements.



The **Secondary Section** students raised a very impressive \$2290 at their Travel expo earlier this term. **Oxfam Unwrapped** were delighted to receive a \$1000 donation; **Oxfam** was the student's choice of charity to give to.



As we are fast approaching the end of the 2014 school year, the **Secondary Section** students are evaluating their learning journey and celebrating the goals and great successes they have achieved. The Secondary Section will have a combined celebration on Tuesday 16th December with a whole section fun activities and BBQ day, including a disco in the afternoon.

I would like thank all students and their families/carers for a great year, and I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and holidays!



Christine Pillot
Team Leader

Students in the **Pathways Section** have had a wonderful year. Special events included completing their **Duke of Edinburgh Bridge Award**, the **Pathways on Show** evening, the **Year 9 Manyung** and **Year 10 Anglesea** camps, **section discos** and **staff versus student basketball tournaments**, the **Red Carpet Event**, the exciting fundraising activities organised and run by the students and of course all of the engaging learning which happened in classrooms daily. Here are some memories of the past 12 months...



Sarah Abbott
Team Leader

TSH students have been out in the community a lot in Term Four. Each week we have taken public transport to **Araluen Primed** and participated in a range of activities including; road safety awareness, music, mosaics, gardening and science. Each fortnight we have continued to attend **Kevin Heinze Garden Centre** and last week harvested a bumper crop of **kale and parsley**. Our most recent excursion to **Bundoora Park Farm** was linked to experiments undertaken in the **Discovery Centre**. Students enjoyed experiencing a practical approach to learning about sustainable farming, participating in meeting and feeding the animals on a farm tour, cow pat pick up, composting, planting native grasses and two tractor rides. We all had a wonderful time at the farm and are looking forward to more excursions planned for the final weeks of 2014!



As **TAFE** has finished for the **Hospitality students**, we decided to try out our barista skills on the staff of Concord last Wednesday. Students made chocolate hedgehog or lemon slice to go with the hot drinks. Students collected staff orders, made and wrapped slices, made coffees and delivered them to staff. It was a busy day and after lunch we were all quite tired. We discussed how the day went over our own hot drink and slice.



It was so successful that we intend to do it again next Wednesday 3rd December. This time we will make chocolate truffles to go with the drinks. We made latte's, cappuccinos, espresso and macchiato using the main staffroom's coffee machine. It was a great way to learn some work skills whilst doing something nice for our staff.

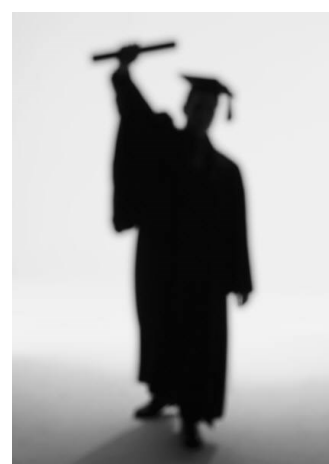
Thanks goes to **Roberta** for making sure the machine was ready for use and **Jo Kite** my education trainee, for organising the slices.

Great work everyone!

This week **TCC**, **TAP** and **TNK** went to **Kryal Castle** in Ballarat. It is a medieval castle with a moat at the front and a dragon and people dressed in traditional costumes. There were Lords and Ladies and Knights. It was heaps of fun. We went to the throne room and sat at King Arthur's round table. We tried on some armour and did some militia training. We had a sword battle and had to pretend to save the king and queen. It was hilarious. We learnt lots of interesting information about how boys and girls became knights in the Middle Ages. We also watched two knights jousting. The lances were made of soft wood that splintered when it hit the other knight's shield. One knight rode a beautiful black horse called Valiant.

Students have written and have been practising their speeches for their **"Walk down Memory Lane"** on **Graduation Night** on Thursday 11th December. They also created a photostory of their lives at Concord and these will accompany their speeches. It is an exciting time and students are looking forward to their big night. They are also practising the special item for the night. We won't tell you any more about it, so it will be a surprise. Claire C. has been hard at work devising the item and students are enjoying the fun. Parents and friends of the VCAL students, year 11 and 12, are all invited to the night.

See you there!



The VCAL Christmas Clearance Stall is on again!

The 2014 Christmas Clearance Stall will run from **Monday 24th November to Tuesday 9th December** in the Transition Centre at the Grimshaw Street Campus.

We have a wide variety of gifts to suit all members of the family.

Prices range from \$0.50 to \$5.00 with most items selling for just \$2.00!

Warren Gaff
Team Leader

Community News

Able Australia

Summer Holiday Program 2015

Jan 5th - 9th, 9 am - 3 pm

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