



Clonard Chronicle

Edition 8 - June 3, 2011.

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Reconciling is about always taking the next step... Each little success creates a platform for more success - a little more self-esteem, a little more sense of what's possible. It's not grand policy half so much as attention to detail. And persistence - making sure it works. Mick Dodson, 2009

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is an annual celebration from 27th May – 3rd June. It is where Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come together as one. The theme for this year's National Reconciliation Week is "Let's talk recognition" and we began the week at Clonard with our Reconciliation Assembly on Monday.

The week is framed by two key anniversaries of events in Australia's history which provide strong symbols of the aspirations for reconciliation. May 27th was the day of the 1967 Referendum that saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognise them in the national census. June 3rd is the day we celebrate Mabo Day. On 3rd June, 1992, the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which legally recognised that Indigenous people had a special relationship to the land—that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for Indigenous land rights called Native Title.

In our assembly we inducted our new FIRE carriers. FIRE stands for *Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education* and we said thank you to our inaugural FIRE carriers, Kelsey Love and Jordan Machnyk. This position is held by leaders within our school who take up the challenge of promoting events and educating others about Reconciliation. Kelsey and Jordan took on this challenge and their enthusiasm was inspiring. Three Year 11 students have taken on the new positions; Ashlee Feeney, Ashlea McMaster and Kelsey Whyte. They are supported by Sabrina Yewdall, Grace Halleday, Kirstie Lock and Maddie Fenton who have formed our FIRE carrier committee. Already they have been involved in Close the Gap day and an induction day at Coranderk.

In our last newsletter, our Principal Damian McKew wrote about his experience visiting Santa Teresa near Alice Springs for the first time. Since 2001, I have been fortunate to regularly visit the Ltyentye Apurte community of Santa Teresa. This has been a great learning experience for me especially through the relationships that have developed with the elders and the young people within the community.

Our views are often shaped by our early experiences and the views expressed within our families. Often this can be limited especially in our interaction with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Many people have visited communities and have supported walks and celebrations which show the respect that is needed. Sometimes we just haven't had the interaction that enhances our intentions and ideals. Many people also think that this amazing culture is limited to remote communities but locally

we have the strong cultural community of Wathaurong. With the support of the Wathaurong community we have held events that have added a great richness to our school. This week we have had lunchtime activities led by the FIRE carriers focussing on recognition as well as a film night, family barbeque and a Year 9 activity afternoon with St Joseph's College. We will end the week with an inspiring student forum with young Indigenous leaders such as Allen Christiansen (AFL footballer), Jodie Ryschke (Wathaurong Close the Gap) and Glenn Shae (creator of Story Teller board game).

Every year I learn more and more about our Australian heritage. I have experienced first hand the awe and esteem shown towards Elders such as Aunty Betty Pike in Geelong and Imelda Palmer at Santa Teresa and cannot help but be amazed at the respect that is shown for family. The Wathaurong community in Geelong and the Catholic Education Office have been instrumental in supporting our indigenous students and our school.

So whether it is watching Message Stick on the ABC, going along to the flag raising ceremony at Wathaurong or encouraging our children to honour our elders, we can all be proud to know that this week we can all learn more about our heritage as Australians. In doing so we enhance the dignity of all by doing something that is right.

Best Wishes

Michelle Brodrick
Assistant Principal

Calendar

Wed 8th of June	Middle School & VCE Dance performance (7.30pm)
Thur 9th June	Middle School & VCE Dance performance (7.30pm)
Mon 13th June	Queen's birthday holiday
Tues 14th June	Year 12 Exams begin
Wed 15th June	GAT Exam

A Crush on Rush...

The Year 12 Theatre Studies class enjoyed a special treat when they went to Red Stitch Theatre Company's production of *The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later* last Friday night. In the audience and sitting in front of the girls was Academy Award winning actor, Geoffrey Rush! While concentrating on the play proved somewhat of a challenge, the girls kept their cool when the Australian acting legend graciously agreed to a photo with the class. This excursion will be remembered for a long time to come!

Ms Janine McKenzie



Performing Arts aplenty

Appreciative audiences enjoyed the production of *Man the Balloon* this week. The project was a combined effort of one of the middle school Performing Arts class and Mr Tong's Materials and Technology class. The set took many hours of planning, construction and dressing and impressed all those who saw it. Congratulations to the cast and crew for their dedication, hard work and camaraderie. Thanks also go to those staff whose time and skills were so generously shared to make this production a success: Mitch Lang, Vince Lynch, Keith Prince, Patrick Cryan, Linda Kiernan, Marion Buckley and Michael Tong.

This coming week will see the middle school and VCE Dance classes present their work, as well as a showcase performance of Great Scenes of the Twentieth Century. The dance evening will be on Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm and the middle school Performing Arts class (2) will perform their work on Thursday 8th June at 7.30pm. Both performances will take place in the Kildare Performing Arts Centre. There will be no admission and all are welcome.

Ms Janine McKenzie



Spend \$10 to save \$500!



All students in Years 7, 8, 10, and 11 now have allocated College netbooks. These netbooks are provided on the basis of an agreement entered into between the College and the parent(s) and the student.

Via this agreement, students are committed to take all reasonable steps to secure their netbook and prevent it from being stolen, lost, or damaged.

An instance which recently came to our attention was one where a College netbook "went missing" from a student's locker WHICH WAS NOT LOCKED. To compound this problem, the student chose NOT to report the fact that the netbook was missing for *two months*. By that time there was no possibility of locating the netbook.

For some reason a significant number of students choose NOT to lock their locker. This clearly puts their own valuables at risk, not to mention their school equipment, including their netbook.

While it would be nice to think that all property is safe on the College campus, in reality, we know this is not always true. It is best to be sure.

In the instance reported above, the student's choice to NOT employ a \$10 lock will see her parents charged around \$500 for the replacement netbook. **Parents will be invoiced for replacement cost in cases where a netbook "goes missing" from an *unlocked* student's locker.**

Students should immediately report any problems, whether general or specifically related to their netbook. Home room teachers, year level coordinators, and Help Desk staff are all ready and willing to help.

Mr Cahill
Network Manager

Torquay Froth and Bubble Literary Festival

Andy Griffiths is coming! Learn how to draw a dragon with *Deltora Quest* illustrator, Marc McBride! and so much more all for FREE, like: An interactive play by Author of *Too loud Lilly*; a Winnie-the-Pooh musical; 3 story tellers and screen acting. For the adults there are author talks, musical bush poetry, workshops, Poet in residence from The Australian Poetry Centre, human library (one-on-one with an author), second hand book stall and so much more. Refreshments available. The Torquay Froth and Bubble Literary Festival is on again 18-19th June at Torquay College and is free for all. www.torquayfrothandbubbleliteraryfestival.com

Marrma' Rom Foundation



Marrma' Rom means *'Two Worlds', 'Two Cultures' or 'Two Belief Systems'* in Yolngu Matha, the language of the people of Arnhem Land. The **Marrma' Rom' Foundation** is a leadership program to empower the next generation of young men from Yirrkala and North East Arnhem Land. The vision of this Foundation is to enable young men from Arnhem Land to walk confidently in **Two Worlds**.

The **Marrma' Rom Foundation** aims to share the strong, rich Yolngu culture of language, ceremony and customs with the people of Geelong. In exchange the participants will learn about the world in which we live. They will gain valuable knowledge and skills that will help them survive in this ever-changing, technology driven society.

Yirrkala is an Aboriginal Community in North East Arnhem Land. It is traditionally a very strong community with a proud history.

The **Marrma' Rom Foundation** is a leadership program for 15 – 17 year old boys from Yirrkala or surrounding communities, who have shown leadership ability and a commitment to education. The young men will become independent and develop 'life skills' that will enable them to live in both worlds. They will be the role models for their community in the future.

A major focus of the foundation is on health education and teaching the boys about healthy life choices. Aboriginal Australians have a significantly lower life expectancy than Non-Aboriginal Australians, in particular those that live in remote communities. The Marrma' Rom Foundation is going to strive to 'close the gap' on health and enable the boys to transfer this valuable knowledge when they return to their community.

Yirrmal Marika, Marradakhthun Marika, Nonggunu Wanambi and Dimathaya Burarrwanga commenced the program on April 21st 2011 and will stay for at least one year. The four boys are living in a downstairs 'teengage retreat' and are being supported by Cameron Begg and Melissa Patterson, former teachers of Yirrkala School and of these boys. Melissa is currently working as a teacher at Clonard College.

Three of the boys have been given scholarships to attend St. Josephs College in Geelong. Yirrmal, Marradakhthun and Dimathaya go to school 5 days a week. Nonggunu has enrolled in a Certificate 2 Conservation and Land Management program with National Green Jobs Corps at Diversitat and works as a groundsman at St. Josephs every Friday.

The **Marrma' Rom Foundation** is a Not For Profit Charitable Organisation with a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. The Foundation is yet to find funding, and is operating on savings and Centrelink payments. If you are able to help with funding to support these young men on their endeavour, please contact **Cameron Begg, CEO of the Marrma' Rom Foundation on 0421797536 or email marrmarom@yahoo.com**. You can also become a friend of the **Marrma' Rom Foundation** on Facebook.

UN Young Women's Leadership Forum at Grammar on 18th May

On Wednesday 18th May, two Year 11 Students (Tayla Ellis and Monica Sphabmixai) and four Year 10 students (Emma Ly, Tara Blythe, Madelaine Keegan and Bree Lucas) attended a UN Young Women's Leadership Forum at the Geelong Grammar.



Tayla Ellis completed the following reflection on the day:

"Firstly we had two guest speakers, Catrina Rowntree and Lou Sans. They spoke about their journey and the path they followed to get to the places they are now, and provided inspiration for the audience to persist and follow our dreams.

Then we had a group discussion about male and female stereotypes and how true or untrue they are. We also spoke about the way in which the media represents female athletes and how sexualised they are compared to male sports stars.

After that we had lunch which was really yummy.

Once we trekked all the way back to the main building we split into four groups and put together an argument about something that was related to women in sport. My group discussed the influence the media has on women in sport and how certain publicity may deter girls from wanting to play sport.

Each group presented their views for a couple of minutes, and then it was time to leave.

The whole day made me realise how big of a role and how much influence the media has in sport in general. Female sports get little publicity compared to male dominated sports such as football, rugby, soccer, etc. It makes it really difficult for girls to realise the importance of female sports as all they see is men playing sport".

Well done Tayla and to all the girls who represented Clonard on the day!

Mr McCallum/Ms. Dewar

Canteen News

Thanks this fortnight to Sue Anderson, Chris Harding, Fi Rae, Lucy Occibove, Anita Fitzgerald, Nicole Fursland, Cathy Schurmann, Nicky Nelson, Sue Harman and Lucy Mae Li Ching Yan from Year 12, your time and assistance is always appreciated.

Please note, that due to a seasonal increase in fruit that fresh fruit, watermelon and Fruit salad have all increased in price.

Fresh Fruit 80c a piece
Watermelon \$2.00

HOST A JAPANESE STUDENT



APPLY NOW!



Clonard College will be hosting a group of
Japanese students from:
26 July to 7 August 2011

The students are from a Specialist Art & Design College and will work on an Art Project with Clonard College students

- Students can travel by bus to & from school
- Japanese language not necessary
- Provide normal Australian meals
- *Volunteer host families will receive a fee to assist with hosting costs*



For further information - please call:
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