Montague Continuing Education Centre

NEWSLETTER

9th December 2012

Principal's Report

Since our last newsletter there have been a number of highlights, camps and celebrations here at Montague. Our VCAL students have worked diligently to complete their Literacy, Numeracy and Personal Development units and are a real credit to themselves with the support of our wonderful teaching staff.

On Thursday evening at our Formal we will have a great opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our students' year and I look forward to catching up with friends and family.

Mindfulness

This program that a number of students and staff benefited from will continue in 2013, which is very exciting as Janet Etty-Leal, the facilitator, formed a great rapport with students.

Art Exhibition at Federation Square

December 11th at 11am - works by students with ethnic background will be on display.

Camps

Both Rubicon and Canberra camps were a success and I'm sure students gained a lot from these experiences. I would like to thank and acknowledge the time and effort that staff put in, firstly organising these camps and being on the job 24 hours for a week.

Enjoy reading many articles by the students.

Kind regards

Geri

Information Evening 2013

Staff will present programs and meet with parents Thursday 21st February at 6.30pm.

Start Date and Curriculum Days for 2013

Staff returns Tuesday 29th January, students return Thursday 31st, thus first 2 days being curriculum days. Further curriculum days are Thursday March 7th and Thursday June 13th. These have been approved by School Council.
Alan, Jared, Cody, Elly, Forrest, Owen, Khushboo, Sam, Jayden and myself, Lyndal, together with Peter and Natasha, met at Southern Cross Station at 8 am on Monday the 19/11/2012, ready to catch the train out to Albury. We all got on the train and we were pleased to find we were travelling first class. The chairs were comfortable and there was plenty of room. It took 3 hours to get to Albury.

When we got to Albury, while Tash went to get the bus, we ate our lunch and went to the shop at the station. Then it took 4 hours to drive to Canberra. We stopped at Holbrook to look at the submarines.

We went straight to the camp site and found our cabins. All the girls went shopping to buy food for the week. Then the boys cooked our BBQ for dinner that night. We were all exhausted and went to bed.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of November

The first activity we did was a boat ride on the lake. It is called Lake Burley Griffin after the man who designed Canberra. We all had a turn at driving the boat, it was really fun. We went to the New Parliament House, and we sat in the gallery and listened to the debate. We went to the war memorial museum and saw the big tanks and uniforms that the men and women wear. Also some guns and the wall full of names of people that have died fighting in wars.
That night we had spaghetti for dinner.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of November

Today we went to the art gallery and the Old Parliament House. Khushboo dressed up as the rake and Jayden dressed up as the speaker. In the afternoon we went to the top of Black Mountain to look at the Telstra tower. The views from the top were beautiful, we could see all over Canberra and the mountains. It was so high a few of us were feeling sick!
That night we had an early dinner and then we went to the model village. It was interesting to see how they put all of the buildings together. There are models from all over the world.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of November

We went to the National Institute of Sport and saw lots of athletes training hard. I tried out the wheelchair basketball with Sam and Cody. We also had a go at jumping to see how high you can go. It was good fun. I jumped 27.5 cm. Next we went to the Mint, where the coins are made. A few lucky people got to make a coin, and I was one of them! The best bit was seeing $2000.00 of $2.00 coins being made. It was very noisy. The same for 20
cent pieces. It was interesting to see the olden days money and how it is different from today's money.

We went back to camp for some free time and to get ready to go out for dinner because it was our last night in Canberra. We went to Waggamama, which is Japanese food and very tasty. I had tofu...yummy. Then we went to the cinema to see James Bond in Skyfall. This is a really good movie and very exciting. I loved it.

Friday 23rd November

We packed up the campsite and started off for Albury in the bus. Then it was back on the train and back to Melbourne. We got back to school at about 7.00pm, very tired but very happy.

It was a great camp, and we all really enjoyed it. Thank you to Natasha and Peter for taking us on this wonderful camp.

Lyndal Van Es
Canberra trip

On Monday 19\textsuperscript{th} we went Canberra we had to all met at Southern Cross at 8am to go to Canberra by country link train. One the way on the train we stopped at lots of placer’s like Wangaratta and we got off at Albury and got a mini bus.

We stopped at the big submarine and the Dog on the Tucker Box. When we got to Canberra we went to the caravan park and we had a TV in the cabins. Jalal, Forrest, Owen and I watched TV all night one day. The next day we went for a boat cruise on Lake Burley Griffin. All the kids got to drive the boat. All the Australia of the year is represented on the footpath on the water. There are lots of plaques with their names. There are also blank plaques for future Australians of the Year.

All the flags of the world are represented. We went to the Australian war memorial and learnt about all the wars Australia were in. The next day we went to the new Parliament House. We had to leave our phones because they were debating about the education
system and TAFES and how not enough students are passing or doing VCE.

We then went to the Australia Art Gallery and saw all these weird paintings. We sat in a big stone dome. It was surrounded by water.

The next day we went to the Australian Institute of Sport and Olympic runner girl showed us around. She showed us the gymnastics, the basketball, swimming, the gym and the volleyball courts. She took us to the interactive section and I had a go at the wheelchair basketball. It was like we were in the Olympics.

We went to the old Parliament House. They explained it really well. They got us to answer questions on the interactive board and we learnt about the big debates.

The Aboriginal Tent City Protesters were there. They have been there for years. The original Parliament House was only built for a temporary period. We saw the Prime Minister’s office. People could walk past and see the P.M. working at his desk.

We went to a fancy Asian place called Wagga Mamma for dinner. Some had chilli squid tandoori and chicken noodles. We then went to the movies. I saw James Bond with the boys and the girls went to Twilight.
Forrest went to see Argo. Forrest was just being Forrest. We then went got to sleep because we were leaving the next day.

I forgot to mention visiting the Telstra towers. Peter had fears about getting to the top. He didn’t look over the edge. We had a hot chocolate. Peter had an ice cream. We also went to a mini London house. It was called Cogentin Green. It was full of little houses from all over the world. We went for a little train ride which went around the houses. It was really good there. There will be a new mini house next year of old the Parliament House. It takes about six months to make a house.

Alan went for a swim in the pool. It was good and refreshing. We ate burgers and sausages. The boys cooked the meat and the girls made the salads.

Overall Parliament House was the best because I understand politics. At school we need to learn a bit more about politics and voting. Some people didn’t really pay much attention to a lot of the information.

Oh I forgot the Australian mint which made the 2 dollar coins. I’m glad I’ve got the concept to understand politics and enjoyed the whole experience.
Thank you Tash and Peter for taking us. I’ve always wanted to go there but mum and dad have not been interested on going there.

{Word count 640}
Tomorrow When the War Began Book review
Author: John Marsden

Tomorrow when the war began is about a group of teenagers that lived in a town called Wirranee. The group of teenagers went on a camping trip near a lake and that’s how the war started.

The main characters are Fi, Homer, Chris, Kevin, Robyn, Lee, Eillie and Corrie. The character I like was Fiona because in the beginning of the movie she started out to be all rich and got what she wanted and then when she went on camp with her friends she became all dirty and muddy and she helped her friends when the war was on.

I liked the book because it had a lot of information about what had happened in the story about what had happened with the group of teens that went on camp and how the war had started in the book. It made a good movie because it had a lot of action and there was fighting and it showed in the movie how the war started.

I would recommend this book to all teenagers who are into war, camping and fighting.

By Toni Pezzimenti
Lucy's New Life

By Tannara Grey
Chapter One

Once there was a girl called Lucy. She ran away from her home after she had an argument with her mum. Lucy didn’t know what to do, she walked and walked and walked around the city, and she had nowhere to go. She found an abandoned house and she stayed there all through the night; she was so scared and lonely. The next day she woke up and headed down to the highway.

She was walking, when all of a sudden a car stopped the person driving inside the car offered to take her away. She accepted the invitation. But was worried that she made a mistake about getting into the car.

This person was a woman, she looked like a lovely woman, and she was short with blonde hair and blue eyes. She looked at Lucy and said, ‘where do you want to go? And then Lucy replied saying ‘I would like to go to Sydney. The lady said “, that today was her lucky day; She was heading up to
Sydney to go and see her sick grandparents. Then she asked Lucy why she wanted to go to Sydney.

Lucy couldn’t really tell her that she had run away from home and wanted to go to Sydney to get away, so she said that she was heading up to Sydney to see her father. Lucy didn’t want to lie to her but she felt she had no choice, so then they headed off. The lady said “it’s starting to get dark so they were going to stop for the night.”

Chapter Two

The next morning Lucy was starting to miss her mother she said to herself that that she wasn’t coming back because she to be able to be on her own. The nice lady came to her door and said, ‘it was time to go so Lucy got up showered and got dressed and had breakfast and headed up to Sydney. Lucy then remembered that she had a friend who moved to Sydney a few years ago.

The lady dropped Lucy off outside her friend’s house. Thank you Lucy said to the lady, for giving her a ride. The lady gave Lucy her number and
said if you ever need me, just call. Lucy thanked her again. The lady drove off Lucy went up to the door and knocked but no one seemed to be home. Lucy knocked again and her old friend’s mum came to the door. “Omg Lucy what are you doing here? And then her friend’s mum invited her in. Her friends mum called her daughter; she came down stairs, saw Lucy, ran up to her and gave her a hug yelling “IVE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!!”

Chapter Three

Lucy best friend’s name was Lindy. They couldn’t believe it and both asked “why she was in Sydney? “ Lucy said ‘can I talk about it later; please I just want to spend time with Lindy if that’s ok? They went upstairs and hung out.

Lucy was thirsty after a while she went downstairs. She overheard Lindys mum talking to her mum They seemed to be discussing what was going on with Lucy talking she then said that Lucy was there so Lucy ran upstairs, pretending that
she didn’t hear anything. In the middle of the night, Lucy left without telling Lindy and her mum.

Chapter Four

The next morning Lucy headed for the city and she went inside a store. It said on the window STAFF WANTED. She went inside and applied for the job. She was hoping that she got the job so she could make a living while she was away from everything and everyone she knew and loved. Lucy then went off and explored the city she found a nice house for people who were homeless so she went up to the door and knocked. A lady came up and opened the door and asked can I help you? Then Lucy said ‘I would like to have a room please’ the lady said, ‘if you want to live here there are some rules you must know my dear. First the rent is $20.00 a week, second you must be home by 10 pm and third no bringing boy’s home this is a house for woman and forth you need to have a job. Lucy said ok here is your first weeks rent I just applied for a job I’ll be home before ten and I will never bring a boy to this
house you have my word. Then the lady said her name was Olivia smith. My name is Lucy nice to meet you and thank you for letting me live here she said happily the nice lady took her up to her room and said I hope you enjoy your stay here and make yourself at home.

Lucy got a call from the shop she applied to work at and she picked up the phone and said hello the nice man on the phone said is this Lucy and Lucy replied saying yes it is the nice man then said congratulations you got the job you start tomorrow at 10 am. Lucy replied and said thank you so much then hung up the phone then she ran down the stairs and said to the lady I got the job I start tomorrow at 10 in the morning Lucy was so happy she got the job.

**Chapter Five**

It was the next morning Lucy got up and got dressed and said goodbye to the headmistress and headed off to work she was excited for her first day. Lucy had arrived early for work so she
went over to the shop across the road and had her cup of tea it was 10 o’clock she went back across the road and then she went inside said good morning to her boss and started working. Lucy got her first customer she was so excited she took their order and cooked their chips and wrapped them up and gave them to her customer and got the money and put it in the till. It was a very busy day at the shop the boss was really happy with how well she worked today and gave her her pay she packed up the shop cleaned up said thank you to the boss again for giving her a job and she went home and told the headmistress I got my first pay. Lucy went up stairs got changed and sat down and watched television and rested up for another day of work even though she had the day off tomorrow she still had to rest up so she could go shopping to buy some new clothes for herself to wear. It was the next morning Lucy woke up got dressed and went shopping she went crazy she couldn’t stop shopping she just wanted to have the best day ever and have fun and buy
some nice new clothes for herself and she even brought a present for the headmistress to say thanks for having her it was 5 pm so she wrapped up shopping for the day and headed back to the house she was staying at and she got home went inside and called the headmistress then the headmistress came and Lucy gave her the present she brought her and said thank you again and the headmistress said thank you Lucy that was sweet of you to buy me something.

Chapter Six

It was the next morning she headed up to work she got there went inside and got to work Lucy said good morning to her boss and got to work.

A few hours later it started to get really hot inside the shop it was supposed to be a warm day today it was supposed to reach 30 degrees and so then the boss said to Lucy were closing early today because it’s just too hot to work today so go to the beach and have fun. Lucy said are sure that is what you want to do. Her boss said yes I’m sure;
you don’t deserve to work in these conditions, you’re an amazing employee you deserve to get out and have fun. Lucy replied saying “thank you enjoy your day too”. So Lucy headed off to the beach and spent the rest of the day having fun and enjoying herself and she even made lots of new friends. There was this one person though who she really thought was cool her name was Alisha. Alisha was the nicest girl she had ever met and they became really good mates. It was getting late so Lucy went home and got changed and went to bed and got a good night sleep.

Chapter Seven

As weeks and months went by Lucy started to love her new life but as time went on she missed her mum even more than before. She never thought about going home. Eventually one year went by she was now 19 years old.

Lucy said to the headmistress, “I need to tell you why I’m really here. I came here a year ago today. The only reason why I’m here is because I ran
away from my mother. We got into a fight and I had packed my suit case and left. Before I came here there was this house that nobody lived in so I stayed in that house for the night and the next morning I had walked down the freeway and this lady picked me up and dropped me off here. She asked, “Why I’m heading to Sydney and I lied to her and said I came to see my sick grandparents. She dropped me off outside a friend’s house and stayed there for the day because my friend’s mother called my mother and told her that I was there at her place. During the night I left and just walked around. Then I found your place for homeless people and that was when I had applied for the job. I saw the sign in the window saying STAFF WANTED and that is why I ended up here. I didn’t want to leave my mother but I had no choice. I was so angry with her. Now that’s why I was here.”

The headmistress said, “I understand I did the same thing when I was your age. I have not seen my mother for 15 years.” Lucy went up stairs and
packed her bags and said, “Thank you for everything, “and went on her way. She headed up to the shop and told her boss what she told the headmistress and she gave her boss a gift for saying thank you and she said her goodbyes.

Lucy called up the lady and asked her if she could give her a ride back to Melbourne. Then Lucy said, “I really appreciate you taking me back home.” The lady picked Lucy up and took her back to Melbourne.

Lucy was so nervous but she still went up to the front door and knocked her mother came to the door then said “Hi who are you”, Lucy then replied and said it’s me mum, it’s Lucy “her mum was so happy to see her. “I’m so sorry I left I’ve missed you so much” Lucy was happy she was back home and Lucy and her mother were closer than ever.
Reflections for terms 3 and 4

I liked literacy because Lee makes it fun for us to learn and I enjoyed reading and weighting.

It was fun when I had drivers ED because Tasha made it interesting to learn and read the learners book. I can't wait to get my learners because drivers Ed has helped me a lot.

I liked work experience because I got to work with motor bikes it was a great experience. The people that I did work experience with they were really nice and I really enjoyed it because I got to work with motor bikes.

My favourite class is literacy because Lee makes it more fun and interesting to learn.

By Lyndal Van Es