

web archive 2010

BIG DAY IN

Close on the heels of the excellent student musical performances at Dizzy's Jazz Bar, Preshil held it's 3rd annual 'Big Day In' concert at Blackhall on Thursday November 25 from 1.00 to 2.40pm. Due to bad weather and impending storms, the concert was held indoors for the first time - it was a bit of a squeeze in the music room, but the intimacy of the venue provided a warm and friendly ambience for great music making. We were pleased to be visited by the Arlington 10s/11s as audience and performers for the concert.



The Years 7/8 'Groove' band kicked off the event with the help of some of the Arlington 10s/11s music class members in a vital and energetic performance of Fred for tuned percussion (xylophones, marimbas), piano, kit drums, hand percussion, electric bass and lead guitars. William M's lead guitar break was inspiring. The Year 10 class band gave wonderful renditions of Radiohead's All I need and the jazz standard, Autumn Leaves. The Preshil Chamber Orchestra played Black Orpheus with some wonderful work on the flute by Cailean D and violin and cello by Emily W. The Year 7 Band really rocked with Louis E and Mafi W (vocals), Jasper M (kit drum), Michael F (bass guitar), Nick M (percussion) and Liam Norman (piano) There were also many wonderful duo and solo performances, by the following students: Lalage Z, Elliot J, Ben C, Felix M, Nick S, Tess T, Ruby D, Henry O, Sunday S, Marnie B and Jordan O. The concert finished with a strong and energetic set by the reformed 'Follow the Sheep' with Nick H (lead guitar), Ben Z (bass guitar) and ex-Preshil student, Matt B. The exciting thing about this concert, and many others this year, is that so many students are now prepared share their musical 'souls' with the Preshil community. The standard of performances is really outstanding. Well done all.

Rodney Waterman

WEDDING SINGER DVD ON SALE

"The Wedding Singer" DVD is now available from the cottage. \$5 to cover costs of the DVD production.

Thursday or Friday night available each with a bonus Special features DVD including bloopers and a fabulous look behind the scenes.

Matt Topp and Alistair McNeil from Year 10 have worked extremely hard to produce this wonderful momento.

YEAR 10 CAMP TO WOLLANGARRA

Last Friday, one of our resident experts on Wollangarra, John Collins, gave Year 10 students a detailed presentation about our forthcoming camp. All manner of questions were answered and two Year 11 students, David and Katie, shared some of their reflections about their rewarding experiences at Woll'. It promises to be a memorable and educative trip. I am excited about the opportunity that presents us all and cannot wait for Monday November 29!

Parents and students may be interested to look at the following links:

www.wollangarra.org

<http://www.preshil.vic.edu.au/2010/10/from-the-parents-3/>

The writings of Preshil parent 'Fred M', found via the link above, are very much in harmony with the entire rationale for the Wollongarra camp.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/allinthemind/stories/2010/2872548.htm>

The podcast and transcript found via the link above relates to 'Nature deficit disorder'. The program poignantly highlights the importance of outdoor education opportunities.

James Caudle (Yrs 9/10 Coordinator)

YEARS 10/11 THEATRE RESTAURANT

Tuesday November 9: 7.00 pm Kevin Borland Hall
Tickets are now on sale until Tuesday 4.00 pm for the Theatre Restaurant Production: Effie and Da Swanz to be presented by Years 10/11 Theatre Studies and Kitchen Garden students. Rated M15+. Tickets \$20 - includes 3 course meal and entertainment. To purchase tickets T: 9817 6135. Limited seats available so book early. No door sales available due to catering requirements. All parents and children over the age of 15 are welcome.

PRESHIL IN-HOUSE FILM FESTIVAL (PIFF) SENIOR

Thursday November 18: 7.30 - 10.00pm

Kevin Borland Hall, Arlington.

All family and friends are invited to a night out to see the VCE students' films from this year. Free entry.

Enquiries: David Cobb T: 9817 6135; E: davidc@preshil.vic.edu.au

FRENCH DAY BONJOUR!

Wednesday November 24

Year 7 and 8 French day is on again this year with the usual crepes, plenty of French music, berets and French games to play.

9.00 am - 1.00 pm: French electives - Yrs 7 to 8

10.30 - 11.00 am: Fruit time

12.00 - 1.00 pm: Lunch (Arlington)
1.00 - 2.00 pm: Lunch (B/K)
2:00 - 3:30 pm: AIM factor Yrs 7 to 10

VCE CAMP

Monday to Wednesday, November 22 - 24

Mt Morton Camp and Conference Centre, Belgrave

The new VCE camp format starts this year and will encompass a transition camp at the end of the year for students going into and those continuing VCE. For this year, the camp will only be for Year 11 students going into Year 12 in 2011 as Year 10 students will be going to Wollongara. A separate program will be provided for this group of students at the start of 2011. The aim of the camp is to provide students with study skills, time management strategies and health and wellbeing advice to help them deal with the demands of VCE. Contact: Marisa Lawlor T: (817 6135; E: marisal@preshil.vic.edu.au

PRESHIL IN-HOUSE FILM FESTIVAL (PIFF) JUNIOR

Thursday November 25: 7.30 - 9.30 pm

Kevin Borland Hall, Arlington

An opportunity for family and friends to view the films made this year by the Year 7-10 students. Free entry. Enquiries: David Cobb T: 9817 6135; E: davidc@preshil.vic.edu.au

FRENCH @ B/K

Oohlala, what a busy time it always is for French! Here's a snap shot of a few of last term's events.

At the Movies

From Delphine Laboureau and Molly O'Neil

On Tuesday August 17, Years 9 and 10 French students went to ACMI to see a recent French comedie called "L'emmerdeur" ('A pain in the ass' in English). Students thoroughly enjoyed themselves while practicing their listening skills. This was also a good opportunity to brush up on some French swear words...

This excursion was organised and significantly subsidised by the Association of French Teachers Victoria (AFTV) of which Delphine is an active committee member.

FAREWELL

From Delphine Laboureau and Lucie Dickens

The following day, Wednesday August 18, French students from Years 9 to 12 farewelled our three exchange students, Manon, Enzo and Maxime, who stayed with us for five weeks this term. We all gathered at Fruit Time and shared some lovely croissants and cakes from La Torpezienne patisserie. Miam miam!

Manon gave a little speech and we could all see she was a bit sad to leave. She had a lovely time here at Preshil and wishes to come back to Australia "apres le Bac" (after her VCE). Merci to Lucie for organising the food and all the students who helped on the day.

PREPARING FOR EXAMS

Our Year 12 French students, Romey, Cathy, Michael, Des and Fin, gathered on Sunday morning, August 22, at the Melbourne Convention Center alongside 1500

French students from all over Victoria for Les Matinees du Francais, organised every year by the AFTV. They were briefed about the format of the French exam, the Dos and Don'ts of a good exam and were given the opportunity to practice their listening, reading and writing skills. They were given a booklet and plenty of tips to do well at their exam. We wish them BONNE CHANCE!

NEW CALEDONIA

From Delphine Laboureau and Rodney Waterman

The adventure of the 16 participating students on the trip to New Caledonia started at 6.00 am at Melbourne Airport on Thursday September 2. Watch our for the link (coming soon) to our blog...

FRENCH CONNECTION

By Isabella and Emily from the Year 7 team.

In the past two terms, the Year 7s have been working on a French play called Salut Mon Ami. At the end of Term 3, we walked over to Arlington to perform our play to the Arlington kids.

They showed us some of the French plays and songs that they were working on. It was very impressive!!!! They sang the songs really well and their pronunciation and actions were amazing. Then we performed our play to them in three separate groups, all in costumes. Then they had to vote which group was the best by judging who showed the most emotion and had the best French pronunciation. The winning group got movie tickets to see a movie of their choice. We then came back to Blackhall/Kalimna and got individual prizes. We really enjoyed going over to Arlington to socialise and interact and have fun with the awesome kids.

In the end we all had such a fun afternoon and hope that we can do this kind of thing more often.

Good job everyone!

EXTREME ORNITHOLOGY

More on Extreme Ornithology

From Rod Waterman

See their latest blog <http://extremeornithology.blogspot.com/>

MATHS NEWS

Welcome to Andrew Belegrinos as our numeracy support person. Andrew has a wide range of teaching experience and has also worked on the development of animated multimedia content for VCE Mathematics textbooks.

Andrew has been working in close cooperation with teachers to give extra assistance to students in their mathematics classes. Most of Andrew's time is spent in Years 7 and 8 mathematics classes and in a couple of Year 10 classes.

LOLLY SCULPTURE

From Jane Sawyer

These lolly sculptures were a result of the Edible Art Elective Preshil Chef Challenge held last term. There were three sculptures (three teams). The challenge was to create an abstract sculpture, 30 high, from lollies using only tooth picks, dental floss and icing sugar to help. Sounds easy huh? You should try!



VALEDICTORY DINNER

The annual farewell dinner for our VCE Students will be on again this year on Friday October 22. All VCE parents are once again invited to pre-dinner drinks to help the students celebrate this wonderful occasion.

MIND * BODY * HEALTH

All students and staff are welcome to take a break from the stresses of the day and revive their body with a mix of Yoga and Pilates. Mats provided but loose pants or leggings needed. Hope to see you all there! Weekly - Mondays 1.00 - 1.30 pm in the ArtSpace Contact: Marisa Lawlor E: marisal@preshil.vic.edu.au

ABOUT THE 'BREAKFAST CLUB'

For the past 3 years the 'Breakfast Club' has been a regular occurrence in the Blackhall/Kalimna staff room. Started by two senior school teachers, Jen Clarke and Christine Edwards and now organised by Molly O'Neill and Kay Powlesland, it was, and continues to be, an opportunity for those who might have a tendency to skip breakfast to ensure a healthy start to the day as well as a chance for all secondary students to get to know others in the senior school. Staff take on the responsibility for the shopping and preparation each week and only ask that students do their own washing up. All Blackhall/Kalimna students and staff are welcome to share some fresh fruit, toast (raisin or plain), Milo and fruit juice and to come and linger or just grab a bite. Wednesdays 8.10 - 8.50 am, Blackhall/Kalimna Staff Room.

STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM

Presented 'Living in Between' at Preshil on September 1 and 2 to the students during the day.

A special presentation also took place at the ArtSpace, at 6.30pm on Thursday September 2 which included a multicultural feast. This was an open invitation to anyone in the Preshil community to meet these students who all came to Australia as refugees from a diversity of countries and personal circumstances. For only \$5.00 we saw powerful and moving presentations, listened to their music and ate traditional food prepared by the students.

THE SPIRIT OF PLACE AND SPACE

By Fiona Martin (Drama Teacher)

Throughout second semester 2009, Years 7/8 students were involved in an integrated study program with the goal of developing an original performance piece. As noted in previous NewsDiaries, students worked towards presenting their self devised work as part of the Drama Victoria 'Footprints over Melbourne' project to be performed to a group of local and national delegates as part of the conference.

The methodology involved students studying and practising a series of theatrical techniques and genres including abstract theatre, mime, tableaux vivant, numerous movement scores, soundscape, Greek theatre, physical theatre and non-naturalism. This process required students to think laterally about what theatre is, where it can take place and its various applications.

The performance took place at the Ian Potter Gallery at Federation Square and 'toured' around the gallery responding to various art works and features of the gallery. The work was an ensemble piece, the result of many visits to the gallery, workshops about non-naturalistic theatre, research about the architects at Federation Square and the artists whose work students were responding to. The Gallery opened especially for the Preshil cast for a family and friends performance on Wednesday, November 25 and the piece was received with enthusiasm from all who came.

The performance to conference delegates and subsequent talks given by Fiona, Felix and Elaine (Year 8 students) on Friday, November 27 was an incredible success with the delegates enquiring about the dramatic process involved in such a 'wonderful and inspiring piece of performance'. Delegates stayed back to congratulate the cast, ask questions and express their excitement about the piece. Delegates commented on the eloquence of the students, their confidence and focus and showed me the notes they had taken as stimulus for their own future teaching practice. I am very proud of the work that the Integrated Studies group has done. They have been great ambassadors for Preshil and its unique philosophy.

SCIENCE AT PRESHIL

By Jenny Henderson (Science teacher)

Preshil has two fully equipped laboratories for Science at Blackhall and offers Biology, Chemistry and Physics at VCE level. Some Year 11 Chemistry students are using titration analytical techniques to find out how much acid is in a sample. An accurate volume of a known concentration basic solution is reacted with a measured volume of the unknown acid, eg a vinegar solution.

CONNECTIONS 2009

By Kay Hann (Art Coordinator, Blackhall/Kalimna)

It was the first word that came to mind as I entered the exhibition 'The Dwelling' at the Australian Centre of Contemporary Art because the students (2010 transition class for

Year 12) immediately connected with the work of the Australian artist Callum Morton. They had, on a previous excursion, visited his 'Valhalla', the house temporarily displayed in front of the National Gallery of Victoria during the recent international festival. The ideas behind the works made an instant connection for them and then introduced them to all the other works that were centred on or around the idea of 'a dwelling' or what it is 'to dwell'. So many possibilities for them to reflect on!

Our Education Officer was thrilled to have us as we were the last group before she moved onto another position. 'Preshil students are always so responsive, ask questions and make interesting comments', she volunteered.

We then crossed the road to visit the graduate exhibition at the Victoria College of the Arts and viewed the great diversity of ideas and variety of media. More "connections" were made with the works and students. Tess McKenzie (Preshil 2004 graduate) had her work exhibited and we also met up with David Rumbold (Preshil 2004 graduate) (Arts, Melbourne University) and James Douglas (Preshil 2004 graduate) (Cinema Studies (Hons), Melbourne University) who were also viewing the exhibition.

Our next venue was Federation Square and the National Gallery of Victoria to see a stunning performance, 'The Spirit of Place and Space' presented by Fiona Martin's Years 7/8 Drama students. All these students had made "connections" between history, art, music and drama in a work they had created themselves. The students had also made connections to many of the art works, traditional and contemporary, and presented interesting and thoughtful interpretations.

A short walk from Federation Square and we arrived at Anna Schwartz's beautiful gallery to be greeted by another ex-Preshil student and current parent, Zahava Elenberg. Frank introduced Stephen Bram (ex-Preshil) and his work after we listened to a performance by the Arlington students. The crowd was a mix of parents, friends of the school and ex students all re-connecting again as this was the first of the special events planned to bring the school community together.