

web archive arlington 2010

## 2010 ARCHIVES ....

### END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS @ ARLINGTON

Thursday December 2

All Preshil families and friends are warmly invited to share in the End-of-Year celebration at Arlington. The evening offers an opportunity to be entertained and to share time with friends before the summer break. Feel free to just stay for the concert or stay on and bring along a picnic to socialise with friends afterwards in the Front Garden.

TWILIGHT CONCERT/SING-A-LONG

WHAT: An opportunity for all Arlington children to join with Year 7/8 students, Arlington Strings, and children from the Arlington Elective Music Groups to share some music. The event will begin with a procession from the Nursery School by the children in the 3s/4s and their families.

**TIME: 5.00 - 6.00 pm (Doors open at 4.50pm)**

WHERE: Kevin Borland Hall, Arlington

### PRESHIL LUCKY DIP

Friday December 3: 3.15 - 3.45 pm

Outside Kevin Borland Hall

All 180 gifts from the lucky dip have been lovingly handcrafted by Preshil parents and are free for every Preshil child. Donations are welcome, but not necessary. All money raised will go to the school.

### CRAFTEERNOONS UPDATE

We had quite a number of attendees at last Friday's final Crafternoon, making felt bookmarks and more rings. A few of us got carried away, and started inventing whatever we felt like, using the beautiful thick handmade felt and rainbow stranded cotton – I ended up with some fuzzy felt bunnies in a chicken wire cage! I don't know about you, but I find thick handmade felt squares contrasted with bright embroidery silk stitches, visually tantalising! There is a shop on Station Street, Northcote, 'The friendship tree' run by two textile artists. They make the most beautiful felted scenes, complete with toadstools, moss and flowers, gnomes and tiny beautifully hand stitched animals. The shop stocks an inspiring range of coloured 100% wool felt, both thick and regular, and kits for making enchanting little things. I just thought I would mention it in case anyone felt inspired to make things over the holidays and wanted to get supplies. The conversation was interesting – it centred around the proposition – 'what if some of the kids hate what they get in the lucky dip?' This was a good issue to discuss, because even though we are proud of our work; the children may not feel quite so enthusiastic.

We decided to write to the teachers and ask them to workshop – especially with the younger children – how they might feel if they don't like what they got, and what strategies they might use to handle their disappointment, or alter their perception of the situation. This has been done, so the kids will be prepared!

We had quite a few children, playing at our feet, and a little baby on mum's knee, so the cakes and scones with lemon butter and strawberry jam didn't last long. At last count,

we had made, over the course of five weeks, and with considerable outside help from parents who could not make the actual crafternoons – over 180 items. That is more than enough for our lucky dip, which will be held next Friday November 3, immediately after school from 3.15pm; outside the Kevin Borland hall.

All up, I have to say that the Crafternoons have been a great success and thank-you so much to Judy Routt, who was the one who really pushed to make the lucky dip happen, as the 5s had hoped, after the winter festival.

Many thanks also to Marilyn, Kerri and Karyn, and the Preshil Council who were so good about letting us use Mug's sitting room.

A big thank you to all the parents who took part in the crafternoons – you are the ones who made it the warm and sociable event that it was each week. A particular thanks to the numerous parents who could not come, but took kits and did them at home.

We hope that we will be running similar craft/social-get-together sessions next year to make some stuff to sell at the 80th birthday celebration – so watch this space.

Have lovely summer holidays!

## **CELEBRATING MUG'S BIRTHDAY**

As per tradition, the children at Arlington feasted last Friday on Preshil cake to help celebrate Mug's (Margaret Lyttle) birthday. Happy 98th Birthday Mug! We wish you all the very best.

## **ARLINGTON DISCO NIGHT**

Kew Heights Sports Club (next door to Arlington)

Dance to the beat with your disco feet at the Arlington End-of-Year Disco. Come and join other Arlington families and friends at this break-up party hosted by Preshil Friends of Music and Art. All profits will be donated to the school.

Live performances by Preshil Bands

Dance Games and Prizes

DJ Mave

Bar open for adults

\$10 per child (price includes a sausage in bread plus soft drink)

Tickets must be purchased in advance from the ArlingtonOffice or your class rep - keep your ticket to see if you win the lucky door prize!

Please note: All children must be supervised by an adult.

## **CAMP REFLECTIONS**

The first week of this term was an exciting one for the 8s and 9s when they went away for three days to The Lady Northcote Recreation Camp near Bacchus Marsh. Focusing on outdoor education, team work and personal development, the activities included low ropes, the flying fox, a giant swing, archery, camp fire cook, canoeing and a team challenge. Two of the reflections from the children say it all.

From the moment I put my harness on I knew that it would fun but not scary. As they started to lift me in the air it felt intimidating but as I got higher I saw the most beautiful and amazing countryside and rolling hills. All the calmness got interrupted by the count down 1..2..3. I pulled the cord and for a second I felt as if I had left my stomach behind. But then it seemed to float back and I was on the ground. Next year for camp I would

like to go water skiing because I think it would be a good way to relax.

Harry C

I felt great and happy and I confronted my fear of heights. I went high on this thing called the giant swing. I had fun doing archery, low ropes, team challenge and that is it. For the camp next year I would like to do surfing and some sports like dodge ball.

Seb

The camp gave many further opportunities for learnings. Some fun activities for Maths included estimating and measuring the weight of the left over chocolate from camp. There was an amazing 1.9kgs!!!!!!

## **DID YOU TUNE IN?**

From Karen and Elissa

(Teachers 8s/9s)

What an exciting week it has been with the outstanding highlight, our Primary Perspectives radio program on Tuesday at 94.1FM 3WBC. We are so proud of our achievement, having worked extremely hard to create an entertaining, rounded and meaningful show. Everyone was involved in some way; interviewing, editing, song writing, mentoring and supporting each other along the way. The feedback we have received has been that we sounded confident and happy; what more could we ask for? Congratulations 8s and 9s! We have been assured that a podcast will be available for those who were unable to listen in on the day. We will follow this up over the next couple of weeks.

Straight off the back of the radio show the children have many ideas of where they would like to take our project next. We are committed to exploring some of the scientific concepts raised earlier in the year around alternative energies, electricity and power in nature. We won't give too much away just yet.....

## **AFTERCARE NEWS**

By Chris White

Our Aftercare Coordinator

On Tuesday October 26, what started off as a fairly normal day turned into an EXTRAORDINARY day. We had just finished our activity of Halloween Biscuits (delightful concoctions of biscuits with red and black icing). Some of the children had been out the front of the hall raising money for the flood victims in Pakistan. The children then came up with the idea of making up more biscuits and selling them to the parents. They ended up making \$40. It was fantastic. Thankyou to my wonderful Aftercare kids for doing something so spontaneous and wonderful. Thankyou too to the fabulous parents who happily paid the sums asked for and never cease to amaze me with their continuing support in everything we do.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Throughout this year, Danniell (one of our teachers at Arlington), has been working with Preshil children from the 8s and 9s in his program, the 'High Voltage Rock School'. News at hand is that their two bands, 'The Striped Pyjamas' and 'The Ghost Girls' have been asked to perform live at the International Launch of The Primary Perspectives School Broadcasting Initiative to be held at Box Hill Town Hall on Wednesday,

November 3 between 6.00 and 7.00 pm. The bands will perform as people are arriving and then during the drinks and wine break. Congratulations to all the children! Have fun!

## **COMING UP IS OUR RADIO SHOW**

**Tuesday October 26: 4.00 – 5.00 pm**

Thanks to Harry M and his mum, Cathy, the 8s/9s have been offered the opportunity to put together a radio programme on 94.1 WBC. The whole class has been working in teams to create the hour long programme around the theme of Power and 8 children will have the opportunity to go to the station and present it on air. Don't forget to tune in!

## **AFL FINALS – CONGRATULATIONS!**

**By Karen and Elissa 8s/9s Teachers**

Over the footy season, three teams from the 8s/9s competed in an online AFL Quiz. This quiz is a combination of maths, English and AFL questions that incorporates internet research skills. There is a one hour time limit and the children have to answer 10 quite difficult questions. Team One, made up of Harry L, Harry C and Lucas made it into the finals round. This is impressive considering there were a total of 248 teams competing in the year 4 competition. The boys did Preshil proud scoring 7.2/10 in the first week and 9/10 the following week. Well Done boys!!!!!!

## **SUPPORTING DNS**

**More from Karen and Elissa**

As already mentioned, in the 8s and 9s we started with the big question, What is power? The children expressed their ideas through art and during conversations. There was a big interest in the up coming election as well as power in nature and in scientific terms. As the election was coming up soon we decided to look explore in more depth the concept of people power and what power looks like in society. During the process we learned more about statistics and how they can be used to justify your position, particularly in relation to the election. We talked about the fine print as well as what information has been left out to make the statistic seem more impressive. Other opportunities to apply our learnings in maths also arose in response to one of the questions asked by the children, What are seats? After watching a short online video called What is Parliament? the children then looked at the numbers of seats each party had after the 2007 election. We converted these to fractions and had a guess at what percentages they represented. Each group used different materials to try and model these fractions and displayed our results in the classroom.

Our investigations culminated in the Mock Election wonderfully reported by Marina above. Thank you to everyone who took part in this day by turning up in person to vote or by sending in a postal vote. Our day book has all our photos and comments by the children.

After the election, votes were counted by the children. Primary votes were tabulated and a group of children also distributed preferences. This underpinned our focus in maths that week on bar charts where we looked at some examples of bar charts and interpreted the information contained in them. Each child did their own bar chart by hand showing the election results after the preferences were counted.

Congratulations went to David, Sam H and Nick whose party, DNS, won the election.

We talked about how the government would be organised. The children divided into groups, mostly according to their interests, and brainstormed ideas about how we can help DNS achieve their election promises. We are going to help DNS achieve one of their election goals by the end of the year.

The election platform of the DNS party is set out below – many thanks to Elissa who worked extremely hard to interview each party and find out in more detail what their priorities were in the Preshil election.

## **AN INTERVIEW WITH THE DNS PARTY**

David C, Samuel H and Nick J

What are your priorities for the up coming Preshil election and why?

Our priorities are the environment, homeless people, education, health, racism, anti-smoking and animal cruelty.

If there are no trees and the world is polluted all the humans and animals will die.

Smoking can kill you. Homeless people don't have homes or money and they need another chance. Education is important because there won't be a future if there is no good education. Racism is an important issue because we are all the same. Animal cruelty is an important issue because we came from animals and we don't want animals to be extinct.

If you are elected how will you address these issues?

We will encourage people to get renewable energy by putting up posters, making ads, writing letters and making phone calls, making a website and YouTube videos.

We will make a stall to raise money to buy a solar panel for the class.

We will encourage people to stop smoking by again putting up posters and making ads and You Tube videos.

We will raise money for the homeless people by means of a stall and busking because we all play an instrument.

Why do you think you are the best party for the job?

Most other parties are really only focused on one issue but we are focused on quite a few. We are a good team; we usually work well together. Generally, always. We will listen. We won't be typical politicians. We will give good reasons for what we do. We will do the right thing for the school.

Where to with our project now?

We are hoping to pick up on the children's interest in science and direct the power project towards that area now that the election hype is over. (Hopefully we won't be going back to the polls!)

## **REPORTING ON THE ELECTION – OURS THAT IS!**

**By Marina H**

A very big round of applause goes to 8s and 9s for a creative, energetic example of democracy in action. Following class discussions about what is "power", the 8s & 9s took a very active interest in the concept of 'political power' and the build-up to the Federal Election.

The whole class divided up into small 'parties', and spent a week working out what their policy priorities were, drafting and distributing policy materials, inventing slogans and advertising materials, writing speeches and setting up a Mock election.

On the Tuesday afternoon after the Federal election, parents and grandparents were

invited to come along and listen to these budding politicians. Each 'party' took to the podium, giving every child the opportunity to address the audience about issues of importance to them, followed by a short video they had made. After many rousing speeches and enthusiastic clapping from the listeners, the parents were invited to check out the 'posters' and then line up at the 'polling booth'. Here 'polling officers' checked off our names and issued voting papers, ushered us to writing booths and then to the ballot boxes. After which we all enjoyed an afternoon tea prepared by the children. Preshil's claims to foster the confidence and participation of each and every child, across a broad range of activities and competencies, were very apparent. Every child tried their hand at analytical thinking, negotiating, planning, writing, rehearsing, public-speaking, advertising, and creating persuasive media around issues they care about. How good is that? And they've learned much about Australian politics and had a lot of fun doing it. Congratulations to Karen and Elissa for their support in this outstanding project.



## CREATIVE BUSINESS

**From Dann and Cal 6s and 7s Teachers**

After a trip to Rocket Park last term where the children explored their project Listening to Nature, we decided that we really needed some cameras of our own and so Brendan,

William and Matt began to organise a stall to raise the money. There were many, many suggestions of what we should sell on this stall and numbers of items and pricing consumed us.

Many kind parents organised cupcakes to arrive on the day and some brave ones came and cooked with the children at school. Some children had been preparing for days and there was a lot more for sale besides cupcakes. There were spiders available: drinks not insects! Some children had been making paper crowns and paper doll chains. There was a group making paper frogs that jumped and a Beanie Kids run. On the day, Angus was very keen for people to guess how many lego pieces were in the model that he had made. He and a friend began collecting money early but then someone guessed it by mistake which led to many complications!

There was a paper aeroplane competition and a hoola hoop competition. The Soccer Penalty Shootout proved very popular!

William and Matt took some photographs around the school and had them for sale at their stall with some cupcakes.

Some children put on a play as part of our stall. It was a Christmas play that involved Mr and Mrs Claus being kidnapped by an evil witch who put a spell on all of Santa's elves. There were many highlights in the play, especially when Dann (one of the teachers) got a REAL egg smashed on his head. The children worked so hard on developing a story and breaking it into scenes and, as well as all of this, they even managed to design the costumes for the play. Well done to all of those involved and to our lovely audience. We hope to put the play on again at some stage for the whole school to see. We will keep you posted.

We had so many goods to sell that there were enough left over for a return stall the next day. Unfortunately the weather wasn't as good but we managed a few more sales.

In the end we made \$314.15; quite a tidy sum. Counting took ages but it was great fun and we had to add it all up a few times to find the total. There is nothing like counting real money!!! Last weekend Cal purchased 4 new cameras for the group which was very exciting and the cameras were out to immediate use by the children. Some children took photos of trees around the school and then wrote poetry to match their photographs.

## **SOME OF OUR POETRY**

Whenever I look at it  
It makes me happy  
It looks like little mountains  
And little blue birds  
Lily B  
The light is glowing bright  
Like some sunlight in the shade  
It flips and turns  
Josels and Jurns Till it runs out  
William G  
I sleep all night  
I sleep all day  
I will never  
come awake  
Sia X  
A boy named AA

Kicked the ball  
on to the....Goals  
It bounced  
Into the goals....  
And then landed  
And hit the top corner  
Atticus A  
When I look at Mummy Lion  
She makes me feel happy  
And all of my lions are friends  
I love my lions  
Tahj

## **AFTERNOON TEA AT THE MUSEUM**

Another exciting thing in the 6s/7s classroom was the preparation of the museum for our found (living) objects. A group worked hard at discussing and then implementing their ideas to create the museum in the space that they considered and measured. The classification and description cards were finished and the blocks were quite handy when constructing the display. A special thank you to the 5's for lending some extra blocks.

There were many learning opportunities in these activities resulting from, in particular, the logistical problem of supplying the living objects with appropriate habitats within the classroom. For example, worms do not like dry tan bark, and butcherboys and cockroaches are very good at escaping. But all was worked out in the end ready for our Afternoon Tea opening hosted at the Museum for parents and friends toward the end of term so they could enjoy the displays.

## **WHAT IS NATURE?**

**By Jemima**

Nature is trees and plants.  
They give us air – we need air to breath.  
Trees give us fruit.  
I like fruit.  
Nature is something that is precious to your heart and is gentle.

## **NURSERY SCHOOL FUNDRAISING: PHENOMENAL SUCCESS**

A very BIG thanks to everyone who supported the nursery fundraiser.

The sales of brooches, generously provided by one of our parents who is also a professional artist, dramatically exceeded expectations, enabling four rugs to be purchased for the nursery. The teachers report that they make the room cosier in many ways and the children love them – there is more room to spread out during reading time, they love the warmth of carpet in the block area and seek out the softest patterned rug for other floor activities.

Two existing nursery rugs have been donated to the 5s and there was enough money left over to buy materials for a nursery Term 4 cushion project and a light table for the 5s.

Nursery School Fundraising: Phenomenal Success A very BIG thanks to everyone who

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## PIZZA OVEN ELECTIVE

### From Jane Sawyer

This Elective comprised five children from the 8s/9s at Arlington working with five children from Blackhall/Kalimna Years 7 to 9. The task was to design and decorate the pizza oven, both to protect it from rain damage and to brighten up the area.

The pizza oven was built last year with the expert help and donated mud bricks from Rob, a past parent. A dedicated group of students and staff worked to build the oven over many weeks and then the pizza oven elective took over in second term to complete the construction.

During this design process much discussion was had about the sort of messages the images could convey. The finished result became a combination of all the children's designs and is dedicated to Rob's son Eddie, who was a Preshil student and sadly died of cancer last year. RIP Eddie. You live on!



## 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!



## WHAT IS A DOO DAH?

On a Friday near the end of every term at Arlington, parents provide a feast of cupcake and chocolate milk for morning tea for all the children at the primary school including children in the nursery school. A BBQ lunch consisting of a sausage in a roll or vegeburger, salad, juice and fruit is also provided for the children in the 5s through to the 11s, all prepared and served 'On the Bricks' (the brick paved area between the Kevin Borland Hall and the 8s and 9s classroom) by chatty parents wearing latex gloves. Vegetarian children are usually catered for. BYO afternoon snack. Each child from the 5s through to the 11s is asked to contribute \$5 to the cost of the Doo Dah. Nursery school children need only make a gold coin donation if they are at school on the day. Volunteers are always welcome

## FRIDAY MORNING GAMES

### **Sport with Bill**

Friday 8.15 - 8.45 am. Students can join Bill Madafferi (from Kew Heights Sports Club) on the footy field. There are different games each term: soccer in Term 1, Aussie Rules in Term 2 & 3 and cricket in Term 4. Take your pick and learn new skills.

### **Funball with Mave**

Friday 8.20 - 8.50 am in the front garden (Barkers Road) students can have fun with ball games, skipping, obstacle courses and much more.

## WINTER FESTIVAL REVIEW

A magnificent evening was had by all at last Friday's Winter Festival extravaganza. An absolute feast of delights was provided for both young and old(er) too numerous to

mention all here but oo tempting not to mention some: home made teepees painted by the children, a Big Top with resident story and fortune tellers, harmonic melodies exuding from the cellos and violins, a Kath and Kim rendition by the 8s/9s, face painting by the older children for the younger ones and tribal drumming signalling a parade by the children of their diverse range of hand made lanterns that flickered in the dark to celebrate the sun's return towards the summer solstice. All this in amongst food aplenty: dips, winter soups, gourmet sausages, cakes and wine and champagne. Three cheers to our key parent organisers, Judy, Megan, Allona, Neen and Charlotte! And not to forget Rob and Noel and Nic for the big top and torches and fire and to Katrina and Maryanne for their organization of the Arlington Strings Plus! and cello group and the front garden dads who supervised the footy. Our appreciation extends also to Victoria and her crew on the night who organised the grand finale by visiting puppeteer Richard Bradshaw and his marvelous shadow puppets, and ongoing gratitude also must go to Glenferrie Gourmet Meats, who always generously donate sausages for our Doo Dahs and did so for the Festival too. (Don't forget to mention you're from Preshil when you shop there!). Many thanks also to Factory X who donated swathes of fabric and other bits and pieces to Megan for the teepees and many thanks to the teachers who embraced it all. They rock!! Special thanks to Lilly The Cow (if you missed her, ask the 3s and 4s) and the Clown aka Chris! And to the pack-up crew, who made the magic (and the mess) disappear!! Congratulations everyone!