Dear Families of Trinity Gardens School

It’s always a pleasure to have reasons to say thank you and for this newsletter there are two reasons.

Firstly, an enormous thank you to the band of energetic and helpful parents who generously gave their time for our recent working bee. Our large and expansive grounds are appreciated by children and their families, however they do require ongoing maintenance. If you look around you can easily see newly trimmed branches and mulched garden beds. Many thanks to the Jeffries family and Newman’s Nursery for their kind donations. Thanks also to the Built Environments Sub-Committee of Governing Council.

The second thank you is extended to the parents of our Year 7 students who went to Canberra last week. The thanks is for supporting your child to attend this incredible opportunity. I was fortunate to be one of the staff attending and the experience reinforced to me the value of the trip. Of course each important place we visited held much value for its own purpose but in addition spending time away from home and interacting with peers was of equal value. I felt proud of the manner in which the students conducted themselves. As I was exiting the plane in Adelaide I was stopped by the Qantas staff who queried if I was a teacher with the school group. I told them I was actually the Principal and they said then I was just the person to speak with. They wanted me to know how impressed they were with the manners of the students and they said they were the best school group by far.

Then one steward said, “Seeing as you are the Principal, put that in your newsletter”, so I thought I would!

Lastly thank you to the Federal Government for providing a contribution of $60 per student through the Parliaments and Civics Education Rebate.

The other attending staff members for the Canberra trip were Francesco Ierace, Amelia Field and Mark Molloy. They are to be acknowledged for their guidance and care of our students. As this was Mark’s first tour I asked if he would share some of his reflections and here they are . . .

Kind regards
Vicki Stokes

TRINITY GARDENS SCHOOL
EDUCATIONAL TOUR OF CANBERRA
2013

This year my class, Steiner Education 7 along with Mainstream Year Sevens were fortunate enough to be able to attend the Trinity Gardens School Educational Tour of Canberra. As a first time attendee, I was intrigued by what lay in store for us.

‘Canberra’, is the anglicised name derived from the local Ngabri language denoting a meeting place. The aboriginal naming of this place has bequeathed a legacy spanning millennia of meetings between people. Meetings where stories are shared, where relationships are cemented and sometimes challenged, where children are taught the stories that will carry them into adulthood and where knowledge is acquired and shared in equal measure.

Modern Canberra was the architectural vision of one man Walter Burleigh Griffin, and his wife, Marion Mahoney Griffin, in...
the second decade of the Twentieth Century. As an entirely planned city, influenced by the ‘garden city movement’ it is noticeably different from any other Australian city. For one thing, most of its roads are of ample width to handle traffic demands and its spread has conformed more or less to the geometrical conventions of having two axes of symmetry with interlocking triangles and hexagons. Our bus driver, Kelly thought it by far the easiest city she’s been in to navigate around. When we visited the National Capital Exhibition Centre on Day One, the beauty of its layout was apparent from impressive 3D model that gave us an overview. Our students were set the challenge to design a facility Canberra did not have at the moment. They came up with some innovative ideas, such as a national stadium to host international soccer matches, and with some concession, other sports, a plan for a Children’s Embassy, an Australian Achievement Museum and a National Gaming Centre (no, not another casino for a Children’s Embassy, an Australian Achievement Museum and a National Gaming Centre (no, not another casino but a place to acknowledge Australia’s gamers). This indeed required ‘higher order thinking!’

First impressions were, ‘it’s such an ordered place’, with incredibly small amounts of general litter. Public servants, politicians and foreign dignitaries and their staff are obviously highly trained in these matters. The drive past Tidbinbilla highlighted for us the depth of Australia’s foreign engagement as we drove past the Seymour with interlocking triangles and hexagons. Our bus driver, Kelly thought it by far the easiest city she’s been in to navigate around. When we visited the National Capital Exhibition Centre on Day One, the beauty of its layout was apparent from impressive 3D model that gave us an overview. Our students were set the challenge to design a facility Canberra did not have at the moment. They came up with some innovative ideas, such as a national stadium to host international soccer matches, and with some concession, other sports, a plan for a Children’s Embassy, an Australian Achievement Museum and a National Gaming Centre (no, not another casino but a place to acknowledge Australia’s gamers). This indeed required ‘higher order thinking!’

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What are Plants?

Room 19A Yr 4 Roslyn Angelos

Our class brainstormed the requirements needed to grow healthy plants. We planted broad bean seeds in wet tissues and sand to prove our predictions for healthy growth. We observed daily the broad bean plants germinating, growing roots and leaves. We recorded that plants require water and soil to flourish and natural light absorbed from the sun, to create photosynthesis for healthy growth.

Water and soil are both essential requirements for plants to thrive.

During maths we kept daily records of the measurements of the bean sprouts and some grew to ten centimetres tall. We realised that if the beans had been planted in an outside garden they would have reached maturity and grown even taller. As our class is inspired to demonstrate this we will be planting broad beans in the school garden this term and taking measurements of their growth.
Year 5 History

With Mr Antenucci in Rm 21A

We researched the question “What changes did the Aboriginal people notice during the Colonial Period in Australia?”

We discovered that the changes included and related to the treatment of people, food, drink, cooking, catching animals, types of animals and transport.

We expressed our findings by painting on bark using Aboriginal style art.
Poetry in Room 18A
with Ms Richards

What makes poetry different?
In Room 18 we have been wondering what makes poetry different from other forms of writing. We have discussed the nursery rhymes we learned when we were little and we have started to look at other poetry such as limericks and Haiku. We have learned that poems convey meaning with fewer words than narratives and that these words are sometimes divided up into verses. Poems also have a beat or a rhythm. With the onset of winter we made snowflakes and read a beautiful Haiku poem about the snow.

Left: Xavier, Liam, Sophie, Tyson and Yuli making snowflakes.
Right: Felix, Taylah, Henry, Katia, and Sebastian composing their poems.

Does a poem have to rhyme?
Poems can be about anything you want to express yourself about and although they often rhyme, we discovered that Haiku poetry does not rhyme but it does have a special rhythm. Using winter as a theme the students wrote their own poems in the Haiku style.

Below: Amber, Billy, Sam, Tyson and Daniel preparing their poems for display

Are syllables important?
To write a traditional Haiku poem the students had to be able to recognise and count the syllables so that the poem had the right rhythm. We practiced counting syllables in our names and other words before we wrote our own poems.

Left: Jasmine, Nuno, Anika, Riley and Yang Yi checking the number of syllables in each line of their Haiku poem.

For inspiration, the class discussed all the things they liked about winter before creating their own special Haiku poems. They had to make sure that they had the correct number of syllables in the three lines (5,7,5) and that their poems conveyed that special winter feeling. When they were completely satisfied they published their poems for display alongside their snowflakes. Their efforts were outstanding!
Week 7 - Helpfulness is being of service. It is doing useful things for people such as things they cannot do for themselves, something they do not have time to do, or just little things that make life easier. There are times when we need help from others. We need people to teach us, and people to give us their strength or ideas. Sometimes we just need a friend to talk to. This is a good time to ask for help.

Week 8 - Determination is focusing your energy and efforts on a task and then sticking with it until it is finished. Determination is using your will power to do something when it isn’t easy. You are determined to meet your goals. Even when it is really hard, or you are being tested, you still keep going.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

Next 10% Survey
Reminder to parents/guardians to complete the final survey of “The Next 10%” active transport program, in order to go in the draw for a $50 uniform voucher, to be drawn at the school assembly on Friday 21 June. Surveys can be handed in to the front office. The survey was printed on the back page of last fortnight's newsletter.

Scooter Shed
Please remember that the scooter shed is for scooters only—no bikes. A bike has been left in there for over a week. This will be sent to charity at the end of term.

Missing Stroller
A child’s stroller was left at the school gate and has been at the School Office for over two weeks. This will be sent to charity at the end of term.

Casual Clothes Day
28 June Friday
Gold Coin Donation
Wear your pyjamas!
Try this healthy lunch box idea

Zucchini slice:
375g diced zucchini (about 2 medium in size)
1 chopped onion
1 cup grated cheese
3 slices of bacon, diced
1 cup of SR flour
1/3 cup vegetable oil
5 eggs
pepper to taste.
Mix all ingredients together, pour into a lasagne dish approx 30cm x 20cm lined with baking paper.
Cook in a moderate oven for 35-40 min.
Delicious in the kids lunch box in place of a sandwich.
De-lish!