FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

During the recent holidays a group of sixteen Wairoa staff and students ventured off to Bali, Indonesia for 14 days as part of our biennial school overseas trip. From all accounts they had a wonderful and memorable learning experience and have been able to apply their Indonesian language learning in real and authentic situations. I sincerely thank Pippa Milroy, Lyndal Chittleborough and Dave Coulter for their willingness to plan and undertake this journey with our adolescent students and for the care and attention that was given to all of the travelling young people during the experience. I hope you enjoy reading about their adventures.

CATHY FRANCE – PRINCIPAL

BHASA INDONESIA TRIP – 2016

“Coba berani” (try to be brave) was the take-away catchphrase left to us by our Flinders University native speaker friends at the end of Term 3 prior to our trip to Bali. First point of courage after departing the frangipani-scented Ngurah Rai airport in Indonesia, was sampling seaweed (enak) and honey cheese (tidak enak!) chips on the very late night drive to our first base in Ubud.

Brave we continued to be, everywhere and always! Placing our breakfast orders using Indonesian was our first exhilarating success. Nutting out bargains in colourful markets, cheering with our bike-riding guides in a scratch match soccer game beside a 500-year-old ‘guardian tree’, and politely refusing countless ‘kind’ street offers of taxis/hats/sarongs all satisfyingly took us out of our comfort zone. “Jalan-jalan saja!” (just walking) regularly crowed the touts, echoing us, delighted that we had offered them something beyond a terse “not want.” Our rewards for being courageous were multiple.

Some students were brave in the face of resolutely Indonesian speaking arts and crafts instructors. Considered repetition of fruit carving instructions or commands around how to work silver or fold banana leaf correctly to make Hindu blessings stretched our fan-cooled patience. Some (formally fitter) teachers were too busy “coba berani’ simply scaling various volcanoes of an early morning to muster energy to answer the Indonesian chatter of our students breezily skipping forth and back!

“Astaga!” (Oh my goodness) after an hour’s walk to the hill-top village of our waitress, Wayan Dharmi, majestic Gunung Agung (big brother) overseeing all. And then “I am … nine years old,” we painstakingly elicited from a neatly uniformed fifth grader, to great celebration, at Wayan’s former primary school on our eye-opening visit the next morning. Fun too, that we had rehearsed some Indonesian songs to sing together with the school children.

Snorkelling around sunken Japanese ships, chatting with fishermen, requesting a fork just because we knew how, trying and enjoying multiple unfamiliar dishes, hysterically laughing when Hanuman (money character in the fire dance) plucked lice from Harry’s head, and shooting the breeze with a tree-top palm wine maker were some of the many experiences that were doubly enriched by revisiting them in morning group and afternoon private language lessons.

Bali Trip 2016 was importantly so much more than fun. It was also much more than a language experience. Our students were able to reflect on how they stepped up in every regard. They were gracious, appreciative, supportive, adventurous and created their own opportunities to be brave. We commend their energy in what we feel sure will be their first of many “coba berani’ (courageous) travelling experiences.

LYNDAL, PIPPA & DAVE
BOARD COMMUNIQUE
There were a number of important items to work through this month with the big one of ratifying the school budget for the year ahead. Being a small school, our budget is highly sensitive to student numbers. Despite Paul Noon only being in the 'hot seat' for less than a year, he has done an exceptional job of articulating next year's budget to the Board. This included a thorough overview of the key sensitivities for next year and ensured Board members were comfortable to ratify what was a very comprehensive budget. Paul was acknowledged by the Treasurer (on behalf of the Board) for the highly valued contribution he has made to our school in the short time he has been with us.

Time was also spent working through a draft Master Plan of the facilities for both Wairoa and Yultiwirra. Board feedback will be taken back to the architects before going to the facilities committee for discussion and prioritisation of future capital works.

Lisa Palmer – Board Vice President

NUDE FOOD
Last term whilst reviewing the Healthy Food Policy, class parent reps suggested that we implement a “Nude Food” day once a week and encourage families to use minimal packaging in lunch boxes. We acknowledge that trying to do every day of the week can be difficult but after discussing the idea with staff we felt that asking for one day a week is probably achievable!

As of THIS term we are asking that all students at both Yultiwirra & Wairoa bring a lunch box with minimal packaging on MONDAYS.

Staff will be discussing this with their classes encouraging thoughtful environmental practices. We seek parental support with this new initiative.

STIRLING CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
The date for this year’s Stirling Christmas Pageant is...
Sunday 20th November.
The pageant-wide theme for this year is ‘Aussie Christmas’.
Our school interpretation of this theme is...
‘The last chip on the beach’!
All children and adults will dress as sea gulls, squawking, flapping and squabbling while greedily following a single giant chip. Wairoa students will create a giant seagull puppet to add height and movement to this humorous scene. A team of Wairoa students and staff have taken on the creative design and construction and will work with Yultiwirra students to help construct costumes.

Keep the date free and please complete & return the notice that is being sent home this week if your child will be participating in the pageant.

CHESS SUCCESS
During the school holidays Matthew Daly (Cycle 4) competed in the Adelaide Hills Open Tournament and won first prize for U14 category. He then continued his chess at the Chess centre and came Equal First in the 60 minute tournament that was run. Congratulations Matthew!

Want to give chess a try? The school Chess Club, run by David Koetsier and Austin Alberts of Chesslife, is held on Thursday afternoons. Beginners are welcome!

YULTIWIRRA WORKING BEE
Sunday 13th November
10 am – 2 pm
This Working Bee will build upon the good work that was started at last term’s working bee. Our School has a wonderful Bush Play area that is much loved by our children. At the Working Bee we will continue to focus on revitalising this unique play space.

We are seeking a group of parents who would like to help enhance the Bush Play area. It would be great if you could come for some or all of the time!

Tea/coffee and a sausage sizzle lunch will be offered to those who participate.

The goals of this Working Bee are to mulch bush pathways, whipper snipping, build a stage in the bush, plant bamboo, chop a fallen tree, erect cubby frames, and continuing fixing erosion problems.

We would LOVE your help!
Please see the full job list and tools required on the display board in the courtyard. A note will be sent home to all families. Please return the slip to the office by Monday 7th November.

WELCOME NEW STAFF
We welcome Roxanne Lewis who has begun working in the OSHC program this term.

2017 CALENDAR
This year the fundraising committee has organised a professionally printed calendar for 2017.

The 2017 calendar commemorates the 2016 Festival of Arts held in Term 1 this year. The calendar includes the art works created by all of the classes in the school along with the art work produced by the child care children and talented parent Scott Butcher, who created the beautiful charcoal drawing of Maria Montessori. Each class produced a collaborative art work on canvas that were auctioned at the 2016 Festival of Arts.

This is your opportunity to have a “keepsake” of these beautiful works of art.

This beautiful calendar is only $15 and there is a limited amount available!
So get your orders in quickly and don’t miss out!
A great Christmas present for your friends and family!!

Support the school and place your orders now. Calendars available until sold out!
Please complete the order form sent home or, alternatively purchase the calendar directly from the office.

OPEN DAY – YULTIWIRRA
Thank you to parents Suzy Hill, Jodie Searle and Melinda Salmon for volunteering to act as guides at our Open Day this week. Your help and generosity is appreciated.

WELCOME NEW STAFF
We welcome Roxanne Lewis who has begun working in the OSHC program this term.
INFANT PROGRAM
The children were eager to take advantage of a sunny day and spend some time outdoors. Eden is concentrating on practising his balancing skills on the walking the beam.

CYCLE 1 PRESCHOOL
Many of the preschool children have been interested in different modes of transportation as well as emergency services. In response to this we had a visit from the Aldgate CFS late last term where we learnt about fire safety, for example if there is a fire in the house to "get down low and go, go, go". The lovely CFS volunteers even let us try on the fire helmets, squirt water from the big hoses and sit in the fire truck! Then this term, Catherine from the Mount Barker police station gave us a talk on ‘keeping safe’. We learnt about their different modes of transportation, what an ‘emergency’ is and what to do if there is one (i.e. call 000) and how to identify the police (i.e. the badge and uniform). The children were very excited at the end when they got to see a real police car.
"I see wattle on the badge." Saskia
"I see a light on the back of the horse (saddle).” Finn
“You call 000!" Oscar Were

CYCLE 1 PRIMARY
This week in Science, we began learning about electricity. As an introduction to this topic we talked about and experimented with static electricity. It was a very exciting lesson!!
"We got a piece of material and some tissue thin (tiny squares of) paper. We rubbed the (woollen) material on the comb and it (the paper) floated up.” Marley
“How the stuff went up was because of static electricity. It was pulling them up.” David
“We rubbed the balloons on our head and the hair stood up. Jhett’s hair stayed up!" Nyasha

CYCLE 2
We are all delighted with our fresh, newly painted and carpeted classroom. Our Cultural Studies focus this term is Festivals and Celebrations around the world. The children have discovered the history of the ancient pagan festival of Halloween and are quite excited to be dressing up on the day sharing a snack of orange, black & white food! Our sewing skills are also being refined as we sew together our Friendship quilt sections into pillows and library bags and sew Halloween pumpkins using string art. We will also learn about the festivals of Diwali, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and of course, Christmas.

CYCLE 3
Cycle Three’s focus for the term is The Human Body. Students have started by researching the skeletal system and will continue to look at the different systems in the human body. As well as research, students have also used different Montessori materials to understand the system. Students have also developed their vocabulary in spelling groups and have been involved in science experiments focusing on the strength of bones. We have even viewed a real skeleton!

CYCLE 4 & SENIOR STUDENTS

Spring is Sprung! Café
Looking for a great atmosphere, beautiful surroundings, delicious cake and good, hot coffee?

Come along to the Wairoa Spring Café on Thursday 17 Nov 9.15am
Bring your friends and family along. 142 Old Mt Barker RD, Stirling, 5154.
Turn up the ‘private drive’ and go all the way to the top.
While you are there…
- Talk to the girls’ action team about issues preventing the full participation of girls in society.
- Ask students about their recent Bali Expedition.
- Check out progress in the garden.
- Find out about the experiences of the Robotics team.
- See Stirling Pageant plans.
- Taste some low-sugar goodies… – and then come back that afternoon for Bianca’s screening of That Sugar Film!

MUSIC WITH MAREE
Rehearsals for our End of Year Concert are currently underway alongside our regular music lessons. Cycle 3 students are also working on their claymation projects using the school’s newly acquired iPads. We once again welcome back the Gamelan instruments to the Common Room and are looking forward to enriching this term’s Indonesian and music lessons.

THAT SUGAR FILM
Screening brought to you by Bianca Lanzilli as part of her independent research project
Date: Thursday 17 Nov 2016
Week 5, Term 4
Time: 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Place: Wairoa campus
Booking: Please let office know how many are attending and organise childcare if needed.
TERM 4 DIARY DATES (for the coming fortnight)

Wednesday November 2
Cycle 3 & 4 Music Concert – 6.30pm

Wednesday November 2
School Photos – Yultiwirra students & sibling photos

Thursday November 3
School Photos – Thurs/Fri preschool & Wairoa sibling photos
students & Wairoa students
Marketing Task Group – 4pm

Monday November 7
Indonesian Cultural Performance for Yultiwirra students

Tuesday November 8
Year 6 full day transition visit to Wairoa
Finance Meeting – 6pm

Thursday November 10
WHS Meeting – 3.45pm

Friday November 11
Cycle 1 Primary visit to Monarto

Sunday November 13
Yultiwirra Working Bee 10am-2pm

Tuesday November 15
Facilities Meeting 8am Yultiwirra
Executive Meeting 6pm
Board meeting 7pm

Thursday November 17
Wairoa cafe 9.15 – All Welcome!
That Sugar Film – 4pm-6pm - screening at Wairoa

Sunday November 20 – Wednesday November 23
Adolescent Program Extended Expedition
Duke of Edinburgh students

Wednesday November 23 – Friday November 25
Adolescent Program Outdoor Ed Camp
All Cycle 4 students

Wednesday November 23 – Friday November 25
Cycle 3 Outdoor Ed Camp

FUTURE KEY DATES FOR TERM 4

Sunday November 20
Stirling Christmas Pageant

Wednesday December 7
Year 6 Graduation

Friday December 9
Middle School Exhibition of Work & Learning
Cycle 4 Graduation

Monday December 12
End of Year Concert

Wednesday December 14
Term 4 Ends – 2pm finish

“LIKE” US ON FACEBOOK!

You may not know that the school now has a Facebook page! Our Facebook page is another way we can communicate with parents. ‘Like’ us on Facebook to keep up to date with school community news, events and activities. Type ‘The Hills Montessori School’ into your Facebook web browser and look for our school logo.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.”
Maria Montessori

TERM DATES 2016

TERM 4: Tuesday 18th October – Wednesday 14th December

TERM DATES 2017

TERM 1: Tuesday 7th February - Friday 14th April
TERM 2: Tuesday 2nd May – Friday 7th July
TERM 3: Tuesday 25th July – Friday 29th September
TERM 4: Tuesday 17th October – Wednesday 13th December

FIRE WOOD

Stock up for next winter!! The school has firewood available for sale - $25 for a car boot load or $50 per 6 x 4 trailer load. Register your interest at the school office and then we can organise collection and payment.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ellie & Josh on the arrival of a daughter, Harriett – a sister for Maddie (Cycle 1 Primary) & Phoebe (Infant Program).
Chantel Farmer (Cycle 1 Primary teacher) & husband Alistair on the arrival of a daughter, Lucy.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Montessori families, close friends and ex students are all invited to join an art focussed play group at The Barn after School Thursdays 3.45 – 5.15pm (through term times) at Wairoa 142 Mt Barker Rd, Stirling. We will have many materials and activities set up for a social messy play time for kids and parents who want to stay or children over 5 years can be left and collected at the end of the session Please come along to try. Cost is $5 per child or $50 for the term. For more info or to register interest contact Amy (Ruby and Sash’s mum) 0431 187 588 www.thebarnwebsite.com

ALFIE KOHN – A thought provoking and inspiring presentation by the renowned American author Alfie Kohn of his first tour of Australia. For educators, parents and anyone with a strong social conscience about the rights of children. Saturday 12 November 2.30pm-4.30pm. Tickets $20. Bookings www.alfiekohnaustralia.com.au

MT BARKER SA DENTAL SERVICE – Dental care is FREE for all babies, children not yet at school and most other children under 18 years old at school dental service clinics. The local clinic is at Mt Barker Primary School located on Dumas Street. First dental check ups are recommended between 12 – 18 months of age. Call 8391 0858 to make an appointment.

INPUT ARTS WORKSHOPS – Workshops for Term 4 - Drama Games with Delia Odam, Summer Splash!! – Street Theatre with Chiara Gabrielli, Stillwalking & Juggling for 9-15 year olds with Tony Hanna, Adelaide Hills Ukulele Group with Christopher Carr & Circus Expressions of Interest for workshops for 4-6 year olds and 7-9 years olds to talk place Monday afternoons after school with Jess Pierce. Go to www.inpotcom , email quill@inkpot.com.au or call 0429 673 327 for further information.

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