Edition 16
November 30 2016

table of contents

dobsons .......................................................... 8

achieving their heart’s desire
The end of the year is fast approaching and the festive season is upon us. Christmas boxes, the spirit of giving and the sound of carols are in the air! 'O Holy Night’ sounded magical the other day as the gorgeous soprano chorus wafted out of Watson Hall, filling the passage ways with the sound of the most angelic voices.

By the time this edition of Echo reaches the airwaves, we will have had Orientation Day, students in Years 2, 3 and 4 will be away on camp, and the Year 1 students will be meeting the dingo pups at the Ballarat Wildlife Park.

The week after, we get together for our Community Charity Fair (which will be on the oval, as the oval works are now be starting after the students leave), wishing the current Year 4’s well at their graduation, and finally celebrating the end of a successful year with the singing of carols and reflections on the year almost over. The students have done a terrific job this year – coping with the building works and the wet weather. Their smiles, their energy and their enthusiasm keep us all young at heart and focused.

Whilst we’re all looking forward to Christmas and the associated holidays, I’m certainly not wishing the remaining school days away. There are too many things to be done, and too much fun to be had.

**Steven Belcher**  
Head of Junior School
In Literacy, the four-year-old groups have been revising all the sounds we have learnt throughout this year. They have used this knowledge, along with their blending and segmenting skills to play many games. One game has been ‘Full Circle’ where the children begin with a three letter word and then change one letter to make a new word. This continues so that the children keep making new words and then eventually arrive back at the word they commenced with. The children are enjoying reading their take-home books and have shown independence in changing these books during our sessions. They are able to identify many punctuation marks within text and can explain the purpose of the punctuation. The children have also been writing their own sentences using all the knowledge and skills they have gained throughout the year.

In Maths, the four-year-old children have continued extending their understanding of numbers. They have been refining their number writing skills and playing games using ten frames. The children have enjoyed using a variety of equipment and have continued their skills in identifying numbers that are two more than and two less than. They have also been exposed to different measurement concepts at various activity stations in their rooms.

The children have been enthusiastically practising all their Christmas songs in preparation for their concert on Thursday 1 December. Everyone is very excited and can’t wait for the big day!

Click here for photos
Click here for photos
Click here for photos
Click here for photos

**Room 1**
The children in Room 1 have been learning about the super moon. In a recent group discussion, Jo mentioned the super moon would be visible in the night sky on Monday 14 November. Kate explained a super moon is when the moon is at its closest point to the Earth. In preparation for the event, the children learnt that the moon is not a light source. They discovered how the moon acts as a mirror reflecting the sunlight, so the moon can be seen from Earth. Using a torch and mirror, this was demonstrated to the children. This sparked the children’s interest and we continued the topic by discussing why we have night and day as well as different seasons.

The night of Monday 14 November was quite a cloudy night so it was difficult to view the moon. However, when there was a break in the cloud, Kate videoed the super moon so all the children could view it on the following day.

**Room 2**
The children in Room 2 have been extremely inquisitive over the last two weeks, asking Shawnee, Julie and Narelle many questions about the world around them. We revised with the children different ways that we could find out answers to the questions they were asking, using the internet as a starting point. While in the library, the children spotted the Guinness Book of Records. They have all enjoyed looking through various Guinness Book of Records and finding the answers to some of their questions.

The children have welcomed the warmer days we have had in the last two weeks. They have relished in the opportunity of exploring water and ice play in the outside environment, taking the chance to explore and use the mathematical skills they have been developing inside. The children have been using different materials to measure water, using words such as more, less, the same, bigger and smaller while discussing the various resources. The children are looking forward to the warmer weather the final two weeks will hopefully bring and spending their time learning outside.

**Sessional**
The children have been investigating the features of Australian animals and have applied this knowledge to create clay models during their Art lessons. They have also delighted in listening to some Australian themed literature such as ‘Possum Magic’ and ‘Wombat Stew’.

With Christmas almost upon us, the children have been using their well-developed fine motor skills to make some intricate Christmas decorations. Room 3 is beginning to look festive with Rudolph flowerpots, decorations, folded paper Christmas trees and woven stick trees.

The children have also been enjoying some of their favourite activities including play-dough, the Duplo dinosaurs, small world farm play and the ‘Little Ponies’. The garden area has continued to be popular with Australian animals featuring amongst the logs and bushes.
3YO
The three-year-old groups have been reading stories based on Australian animals. Their favourites have been *Edward the Emu* and *Edwina the Emu* written by Sheena Knowles. The children are beginning to make informed predictions when sharing texts. We have also spent time rehearsing our Christmas Play which will be performed later this week.

In Numeracy, the children have enjoyed playing bingo to further develop their number recognition. They have also been working on creating groups of objects that are more than and less than a given number.

3YO Extended
On Friday 18 November, the three-year-old extended group were excited to welcome Josh Hose, Harry’s cousin, into our class. Josh is a double gold medal winning Paralympian, who has represented Australia in wheelchair rugby in the last two Paralympic Games. Josh spoke to the children about competing in the Paralympics and bought in his rugby wheelchair for them to sit in. The children also got to hold the gold medal.

3YO Sessional
With the improved weather, the sessional group have been able to enjoy extended periods of outdoor learning. They have especially enjoyed their time in the sandpit where that have continued to develop their teamwork skills as they have worked on shared projects. There have been many culinary delights created by the children for the educators.

Emma Collenette
Head of ELC
During the school netball season, we had three very successful teams comprising of a mix of Year 3 and 4 students. All players competed exceptionally well. Many players were new to the game and were supported and mentored by the more experienced players demonstrating a real sense of sportsmanship.

Black Team: College Black have thoroughly enjoyed their netball season together. Results have been mixed but the improvement and dedication the girls have shown from week one has been amazing. Over the course of the season, we have witnessed some accurate goal shooting, players moving swiftly through the centre of the court, dominant defence and girls wanting to turn their hand and learn the skills of all positions. I would like to thank all the parents and supporters, who have come along each week to watch the girls play, and wish the girls well in any further netball pursuits they may have.

Yellow Team: I thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the Yellow team. We approached the season as a great learning experience, as many team members were new to the game. Students were all very supportive of one another and I enjoyed watching them improve immensely from the first game to the last. I would like to thank the parents who came along and supported us each week and the students for their co-operation, encouragement, and 'give it a go' attitude.

Red Team: I would really like to thank the parents that came along and supported the players each week. A special thanks to Nicole Candy for regularly supplying oranges and Michelle Jackson for her coaching skills. I was really proud of every member of the Red team and feel as though we had a very successful season. Those medals were well deserved.

Amanda Moloney (Team Black), Jane Barnes (Team Yellow) and Joanne Hill (Team Red)
Netball Coaches
The infamous Picasso is often quoted as saying, ‘Every child is an artist.’

Every child can indeed pick up a crayon or pencil and put a mark on a piece of paper and, if this is the only criteria for being an artist, well, I suppose every child is an artist. But is every child a good artist? Not necessarily – and that’s when good guidance and education plays an important role.

Assessment at a junior level is an interesting visual process, based on and guided by a predetermined set of criteria for that chosen task. Each task has a particular focus of learning and challenges our children on different levels of visual problem solving in different mediums.

The Year 3 and 4 exhibition, which was recently displayed in the Morrow Gallery, revealed the imaginative ideas of our children (their way of interpreting a subject or theme) and the different skill levels in bringing their visual ideas to fruition in 4 different tasks. The Year 3s were able to share their fantasies through the ‘secret world’ task and explore pattern after learning about the style of Howard Arkely. The Year 4s took great joy making their three layered ‘ant’s view garden’ artwork and then were skilfully challenged to create a ‘tonal landscape’ using paint.

I can see quite clearly the low, medium and high standard of artwork hanging in this show and know why a certain student achieved the level they did. Other visitors may also see the difference between some of the work and make their own judgements. I watched a mother come into the gallery last week with her children, look around and find her daughter’s work and then take photos of the artwork, including shots of her daughter, thumbs up and smiling in front. As she was leaving the gallery, eyes filled with proud tears, she thanked me for the opportunity to view the work.

I know the artwork that this family came to view and I am aware of the assessment and skill level of the work. Regardless of the final judgement that the Art team may have given this particular piece of work, ‘that beauty is in the eye of the beholder’. As every parent sees and feels that their new born child is the most beautiful baby in the world, every parent also sees and feels that the artistic achievements of their children are also the best. So, to every parent ‘every child is an artist’.

In the next week or two, all artwork will be heading home from the Junior School. Please take the time to discuss and possibly display the work with your child. Kids love sharing their ideas. My daughter’s artwork is archived (or framed and hung) and sent away with them as they leave the nest. One of my favourite abstract artworks ever is the fluorescent painting that my daughter, Demi, painted in 4-year-old kinder; she is now 25. Beauty most certainly is in the eye of the beholder. Have a very happy new year.

Vicki Gerardi
Co-ordinator of Junior School Art

Return to menu
A special mention and congratulations to the winners of the JS Showcase Cover Art Competition, Chloe and Nathan Yeluri.

Kyle Hackwill
Head of JS Music
Ballarat Clarendon College has an onsite uniform shop run by Dobsons. A percentage of every purchase is returned to the school.

**Location and contact details**
The Uniform Shop is located at 16 Ajax Street, Ballarat. The Uniform Shop is located next to the Health Centre.

Telephone: (03) 5330 8305  
Email: bac@dobsons.com.au

**Opening Hours December 2016**
Friday 2 December – 1pm to 4.30pm  
Tuesday 6 December – 1pm to 4.30pm  
Wednesday 7 December – 8.30am to 11.30am  
Thursday 8 December – 1pm to 4.30pm (Last day of Trade)

Opening for 2017 on Monday 23 January at 9am

**Opening Hours November 2016 – February 2017**
Details of our additional Opening Hours for return to School can be located on connect@clarendon. Our last day of trade for 2016 is Thursday 8 December. We open for 2017 on Monday 23 January. We would be happy to email you a copy of our November 2016 – February 2017 Opening Hours.

**Do you need an appointment outside of our Trading Hours?** We also offer individual fitting appointments. Please contact Leanne on (03) 5330 8305 during Trading Hours or via email bac@dobsons.com.au to arrange a suitable time.

**Payment Facilities**
EFT and Credit Card facilities are available. You can also apply, in store or online, for a Dobsons account. Credit Card Authority forms are available at the Uniform Shop. Cheques are not accepted.

**The Alannah and Madeline Foundation**
Dobsons are proud to support The Alannah and Madeline Foundation via a variety of support platforms through donation and fundraising activities.

**The Stationery Kit is available in-store and all proceeds go directly to The Alannah & Madeline Foundation.**

**JSPG, Parents & Friends and 1920s Club Merchandise**
We have various items for cash sale on behalf of the Junior School Parents Group, Parents & Friends and 1920s Club. The items available include organisational bags, knitted beanies, Parents & Friends caps, rowing caps, rowing badges and rowing polar fleece vests.

**Buying or Selling Second-hand Items**
Dobsons also sell, in store, a range of second-hand uniforms on behalf of parents. A donation will be given to the Parents & Friends for each sale of second-hand uniforms. Please contact us to discuss. For online buying or selling, please visit www.uniformswapshop.com.au

[Return to menu]
JSPG, Parents & Friends and 1920s Club Merchandise
We have various items for cash sale on behalf of the Junior School Parents Group, Parents & Friends and 1920s Club. The items available include organisational bags, knitted beanies, Parents & Friends caps, rowing caps, rowing badges and rowing polar fleece vests.

Buying or Selling Second-hand Items
Dobsons also sell, in store, a range of second-hand uniforms on behalf of parents. A donation will be given to the Parents & Friends for each sale of second-hand uniforms. Please contact us to discuss. For online buying or selling, please visit www.uniformswapshop.com.au

Ballarat Clarendon College
Uniform Shop
16 Ajax Street, Ballarat
t: 5330 8305  e: bac@dobsons.com.au

Opening Times
November 2016 – February 2017

Personal fitting appointments available.
A percentage of every purchase is returned to the School for the benefit of the students.

Return to menu