Term 3, 2013

Emotions in Art – Art Exhibition @ Seaview Gallery

Term 3 Art Exhibition
Students from Centennial Park School and various other special educational settings produced artwork which was displayed @ Seaview Gallery.

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Wheelchair Basketball!
Students had the opportunity to participate in wheelchair basketball for two weeks.

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Principal’s Chat
By Jennifer Shumack – Principal

Term 3 has been a term of great school achievement here at Centennial Park School. Our annual ED/BD art exhibition, held at the Seaview Gallery, Dulwich Hill HS, was opened by Ms Judy Kelly, Director Public Schools on Wednesday September 4. It was great to see so many families there to view the artworks from the 6 participating schools. Thank you to Annie Bierzynski for her work with the art program this year and for organising and curating the exhibition, which resulted in such a variety of work on display. Our students truly are artists!

Laura has been working with students on the Robotic Project this term. Students have built their soccer robot from Lego, and they have programmed their robot to play soccer. Next term we will be playing against Woniora Rd School and hope to come out winners. Thanks to Souths Juniors for their sponsorship of this program. As part of the Every Student Every School (ESES) government initiative, all SSPs across Australia were given funding to develop a product which could be used by mainstream schools to support students with disabilities. Our ESES project was launched successfully on Monday September 9 at Arncliffe District Office. Lara Hatton used the grant to produce a comprehensive website for staff and students. Please go online and have a look at it: moodgetactive.det.nsw.edu.au. It is a website full of information and links to support our students with their mood and their wellbeing. It is hoped to support research which proves the link between regular exercise and increased positive mood. All our students are currently charting their exercise and we have asked our mainstream schools to support us in implementing a trial with their students. Data will be available at the end of term 4.

We have to say a big thank you to Souths Juniors for their support through the CDSE scheme at Randwick Council. Not only have they funded the Robotics program which the students have been working on this term, but they have funded the refurbishment of our undercroft area so that we will eventually have an accessible, appropriate outdoor wet weather area where the students can be active and engaged on wet days.

Thank you again, Souths Juniors, this is the fifth year you have been so generous to us and we see great results from your generosity.

We look forward to seeing our students return to school for term 4 on Tuesday October 8. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Student Achievement in Term 3

This term has seen some remarkable personal achievements across many areas of the curriculum, from sport, art, and vocational education, through to vast academic improvement and the impressive use of technology.

Most notably, Jessica Vlaski Year 11 was nominated and then awarded, a Deadly Kids Doing Well Award for 2013. Indigenous students across all the schools in Sydney Region who have shown incredible improvement in their academic work, were selected by their principals and their individual efforts judged to determine who should receive these prestigious awards this year. Jessica attended the ceremony at Carriageworks in Redfern, along with Aboriginal Elders, celebrities and dignitaries, and represented Centennial Park School proudly.

Troy North Year 8 was also a winner this term, with the computer game he designed using Microsoft Kodu, being highly commended by a specially selected panel of technology experts, at a Sydney Region showcase event held at the Technology Centre of Georges River Campus. Competing against other schools in the region, Troy’s game was selected for its incredibly intricate design features, earning him prizes from the judges (see page 5).

Danniele Cardiff Year 10 has been attending TAFE and performing extremely well in her course. Her teacher called the school to make sure she knew of her fantastic progress. Ashley Hunt Year 10 also participated in some vocational training this term, attending barista training at Sydney Distance Education High School and serving the teaching staff during their recess break. Well done Ashley!

Finally, we would all like to congratulate Max Gallois on completing his trial HSC exam. Not long to go now Max – keep up the great work!

David Lomas – Assistant Principal
10 Things I Hate About you

For my fellow year 11 students, today I’m going to talk about the movie 10 Things I Hate About You and discuss one of the main themes, that of, being true to yourself. The film was released in 1999 and is directed by Gil Junger. This movie stars Julia Stiles and Heath Ledger and is a modern adaptation of Shakespeare’s ‘The Taming of the Shrew.’

I think realizing what people are like for yourself is a better learning opportunity, because you grow up a little and this changed Bianca into being less of a shallow person. Katarina’s nickname in this movie, which is said by the character Michael Eckman, is ‘the shrew’ which is where the modernization of Shakespeare’s play comes to light. There were various amounts of deception that take place within this movie, as in the traditional Shakespearean play.

Patrick was also not being true to himself, as he was lying to Kat the whole time, for example, about the fact that he was being paid to take her out, even when he developed real feelings for her. At the end of the film when he realised that what he was doing was wrong, he used all the money from Joey to buy her a guitar.

I previously was not true to myself in my junior years of high school. I recently moved from Campbelltown which is where I grew up, and where I did things that were against the school rules and the law, because it was the norm or normal thing that everyone else did. I can therefore relate strongly to this theme. I have found who I am and have stayed true to myself ever since, which is what Katarina and Patrick achieve at the end of this movie.

By Jess (excerpt)

Treasure hunt!

One day I woke up on an overcast day, making me feel very down. I was going around the house looking for stuff to pass the time. I couldn’t find anything, so I decided to go to the shopping mall by bus; but at the last minute, the bus broke down next to a beach of some sort. So I thought to myself, “I am not going to wait millions of hours to get to the mall, I will just go to the beach.” So I did. I went to lie down on the sand and I felt something hard on my back. I started to dig to see what it was, but it was just a rock. To my surprise, underneath the rock however, was a perfectly preserved map on brown paper. It said, ‘3 up, 2 left.’ I followed the directions in meters, but then I felt something hard again! So I dug, and kept digging until I found something...

I opened the chest, and...... what? - rotten fruit! I dug out the disgusting mess and was about to toss the chest in the recycle, when looked again and saw on the bottom, an ancient sword with gold with studded sapphires as the handle, and silver with studded ruby and obsidian as the sword! I took it to a jeweller to see its value and it was worth $20,000! But I decided instead to hang it up in my house; but 2 weeks later... the paranormal began...

By Luke (excerpt)

The Great Depression

The Great Depression was a worldwide economic depression that lasted from 1929 to 1946. The Depression was a general shock to most Australians and losing a job led to many other difficult experiences.

As a result, many families were evicted from their own homes and had to live in temporary camps set up by authorities to accommodate the homeless, although some families were allowed to live rent free to deter squatters. Living conditions in these camps were poor and crowded and most of the time unfriendly. The shacks in these camps were made out of any materials they can find and many of the shacks can only accommodate one person and were exposed to the weather.

By Brendon (excerpt)

C1 would like to welcome Terry back to C1. He has been attending another program, we are happy to have him back in class

What is soil erosion?

Soil erosion is when the soil is blown away by the wind or washed away by the rain.

Soil erosion is common in areas with steep slopes, where trees have been cut down, in droughts when crops and other vegetation grows poorly and in rural areas which are overpopulated.
Hello Blackwattle, Hello future.

Before I start to talk about Blackwattle I just wanted to say a massive thank-you to everyone at Centennial Park, the staff, the students absolutely everyone who has helped me on this journey. It hasn’t always been easy, but we’ve gotten through it. There were some days I would dread coming to school but the support from everyone made it bearable. I’m obviously going to miss everyone and it’s going to be hard to say good-bye, but I know I won’t lose contact with the connections I’ve made here.

I’m off to Blackwattle Secondary College next year, headed into year 11 and I’m really excited. My future is coming together now and the next 3 years are going to be the most challenging yet most important years of my schooling. I’ve decided to do pathways so I can manage all my studies, in year 11 the subjects I’ve chosen are Biology, Mathematics and English. I can’t wait to start as a senior student, and I’m ready for whatever life is going to throw at me. Thanks Centennial Park.

By Charlie

Term 3

This term I enjoyed music therapy with Reanna. We have played many songs and have had many conversations. I am also going to TAFE next year to study animal care. I have recently been volunteering with animals at The Sydney Dog and Cats Home. I am working well with Annie in Art and Art therapy and, hope to learn more artistic skills.

By Jane

Student academic work

By C2

Dress up attack festival

Last weekend Kristo and I went to see a famous Australian independent band called Regurgitator. They were playing at a kid’s festival in Marrickville called, ‘Dress up attack!’ The festival was really small so we could stand at the front of the stage. I got to shake the bass player Bens’ hand. It was the first time I have seen a live gig.

By Xavier

Personal Interests Project

This Personal Interests Project investigates the relationship between an individual’s family and their future choice of employment. The main focus of this project is to look at whether families provide a heavy influence and to acquire this information on a micro and macro basis. This project was created primarily because I was interested in completing the investigation and reviewing the findings but also hopefully to find out about how family life influences career paths. I chose this area of inquiry because I have a medium sized family who have influenced my life. I am personally interested in the concept of nature vs. nurture, and how family values shape who we are and who we become. The PIP will explore aspects of the relationship between one’s family and their career choices, such as values, cultural pressure, traditions, passed down patterns and gender. I was interested in how the subject’s answers related to one another. Most importantly, this PIP aims to find out the particular conditions which have resulted in similar choices of employment.

By Max (excerpt)

Music

This term I have enjoyed music and art therapy but mostly music therapy because I love music. When I am older, I want to do something with music because it helps me when I feel upset. It helps me when things go wrong, and makes me feel happy no matter what. Next year, I really want to try out for the X Factor Australia, so music therapy has helped me to do that. Music therapy is really good for anyone who wants to learn about music one on one.

By Chanelle

Artwork (above) by Jorja and returned work from Sydney Distance Education for Kiara (below).
This term has gone well for me. I have participated in lots of sports, and have made new friends like Troy, Max, Alec and Jazmin also. I have bought a Gameboy pocket and an Atari 2600, $200, $700 this term. I now have all these consoles: Xbox, Xbox360, PS3, PS2, PS4, Atari Lynx and ColecoVision.

By Nick

Festivals!

Hello my name is Kristo and I like music. My favourite genres are:

Grunge, NU Metal, Rap Metal, Trip hop, Punk, Anti-folk, Psychedelic, Cabaret Metal and Alternative Rock plus more.

My favourite bands are Pearl Jam, Stone Temple Pilots, Alice in Chains, Nirvana, Foo Fighters, Soundgarden, Cicada, System of a down, KoRn, Avenged Sevenfold, Five finger Death Punch, Slipknot, Rage Against the Machine, Regurgitator, Massive Attack, Beck, Dead Kennedys, Black flag, Scream, Green Day, Grizzly bear, Tame Impala, Dinosaur Jr., Pixies, Ghost and more...

I have busked soo much so I can afford tickets to the Big Day Out and Soundwave which features a heap of these bands!! Here is the photo of the soundwave line up for 2014.

By Kristo

Term 2 @ CPS

This term, I have enjoyed activities at school, such as the gym, basketball, robotics, art, and playing the drums in music. In week 9, we played basketball with a bunch of basketball coaches that taught us skills such as dribbling and how to shoot with ski feet. I enjoyed it because I can use the skills that I’ve learnt in future basketball games.

Also this term, I was part of the Robotics program that involved building robot out of Lego pieces, and then we programmed them to go to different areas of the room. Brendon and I, accidently programmed the robot to go around in circles. It was pretty funny. I’m looking forward to next terms’ activities.

By Dylan

Dannielle’s TAFE experience

This term I have been attending Petersham TAFE for 2 days a week on a Tuesday and Thursday. The hairdressing course on a Tuesday has taught me how to straighten, colour and how to curl hair.

The beauty course on Thursday focuses on makeup such as mascara, eyeliner and eye shadow. I have learnt about different skin types and the best ways of applying makeup on different faces.

I like both of the courses equally and hope to go to TAFE fulltime. Next year I would like to become a first year apprentice in a hairdressing salon so that I can one day find a job in the hair and beauty industry, or do makeup for weddings and movies.

By Dannielle

Kodu

This term I worked on creating a game using a game creation application called Kodu. I made an action/ adventure game with the help of my teacher Frank. The storyline to my game is to defend the human race from an alien invasion. You are R.O.BOT, a robot sent from a factory with the prime objective is to destroy all the invading aliens and traverse through challenging obstacles along the way. The gamer has to avoid traps and kill enemies.

We started by making the terrain using grass and coloured blocks. Throughout the game, I used many types of terrain and I programmed many different types of enemies.

I really enjoyed making this game and wish to continue making games in the future.

By Troy

Farewell

I have been attending Centennial Park School for the past nine months. During this time, I have participated in school programs such as; art therapy, gym, cooking, sport and fitness. Out of these activities, I have liked the gym, sport and fitness most of all. In my time here, my favourite experience was when the school went to the Urban Jungle for an excursion. We went through obstacle courses and got to go on flying foxes. It was heaps of fun.

I will be leaving CPS next term and going back to my mainstream school full-time. My integration started off well and I went up on my days very quickly. At the moment I am doing well with my integration and only have four days left at CPS. I am excited but sad at the same time, when I think about leaving this school and how I will miss the friendly staff and students that I have met along the way. I have made connections with people that I didn't think I would have when first coming to the school.

CPS has helped me become more aware of aspects I needed to change and improve in my life, both in, and outside of school. I think the program is effective if you are willing to engage in it, and are motivated to change for the better.

Thank you to all staff and students for helping me get through my troubles and restoring me to my usual self, and getting me through my journey at CPS. I will be sad to leave this place but it is what is best for me.

By Blake

C3 hopes to see more of Jazmin next term.

Hope to see you soon
Student Profile

Hi, my name is Alex and I’m new to the school, it’s only been a week but I’m already enjoying my time here. I never thought I would like going to another high school but it’s a lot less stressful here, everyone is a lot friendlier and the classes are a lot more fun. In my spare time I usually like playing a lot of video games and watching TV shows like Dexter, Breaking Bad and The Walking Dead just to name a few. I’m looking forward to spending a lot more time at this school and making new friends.

By Alex

Wheelchair Basketball

This term for sport we did wheelchair basketball, I really enjoyed it. Before we started playing the man that was teaching us told us about how he ended up in a wheelchair, it was a very inspiring story because he has shown us how far he has come since his accident, and what he has achieved since then. I had played wheelchair basketball before this but not as good as this time. While we were playing I thought I was going really well scoring a few goals, which I was really happy about. So overall I really enjoyed it and really hope we can do something as good as this in the near future.

By Alec

Teacher’s Addition

C4 has had a great term. They have been master chefs in the cooking program, working as a team to get all ingredients prepared, each person being involved in the cooking process and all hands on deck when it comes down to cleaning and making the kitchen useable for the next class.

All students are working hard in their academic subjects, it’s great to see that Ashley and Kayleigh’s hard work is paying off and they are well on their way to receiving their ROSA.

Alec has the C4 world record for completing most Title Pages in one week. He completed 133, WELL DONE ALEC.

Huston is now attending his mainstream school 2 days a week and doing very well. Daniel has shown interest in integrating back to his mainstream school, he is setting goals and working hard to attain them which is great.

C4 would also like to welcome our new members Alex and Wyatt. We are looking forward to getting to know you and having some Centennial Park fun!

By Chris

Video games

I’d like to talk about video games. For quite some time I’ve been following Call of Duty Zombies evolution and journey through the passage of time. Back when it started in the game Call of Duty: World at war. It first started as a multiplayer survival mode but as it became increasingly popular it was developed and looked into further new map packs came out for zombies including Nacht der Untoten (night of the undead), Verrückt (German: “Crazy/Insane”), Shi no Numa (swamp of Death), and Der riese (the Giant) these maps where the start of the Zombies or Nazi zombies craze which swept the world.

After Verrückt Treyarch the company that develops the game Call of Duty added an “Easter egg” storyline which means if you find little added things like audio logs of characters involved in the back story of zombies. However certain developments recently has left zombies fans waiting and wanting as the final map pack which adds a new zombie map has been added. Final as in no more zombie maps which means we have to wait until the next game that hosts a zombie mode to see where the story takes us. I’d like to talk about video games. For quite some time I’ve been following Call of Duty Zombies evolution and journey through the passage of time. Back when it started in the game Call of Duty: World at war. It first started as a multiplayer survival mode but as it became increasingly popular it was developed and looked into further new map packs came out for zombies including Nacht der Untoten (night of the undead), Verrückt (German: “Crazy/Insane”), Shi no Numa (swamp of Death), and Der riese (the Giant) these maps where the start of the Zombies or Nazi zombies craze which swept the world.

By Huston

Integration

I’ve been at Centennial Park School for almost a year, and I finally am excited and extremely nervous to integrate back to my mainstream school at James Cook Boys, once a week. CPS will support me whilst I do my integration. I’m looking forward for a challenge and reconnecting with my friends and way closer to home.

By Huston
The students this term have taken part in Oz Tag, Wheelchair basketball and Cycling at Centennial Park.

NSW wheelchair basketball association do a road show where they talk about risk taking behaviours and the impact it has on young people. Each presenter tells their story on why they are in a wheelchair. Both our presenters were excellent and all our students were engaged and listened to their harrowing stories of how a silly decision could change a life. To finish each session all students got to play wheelchair basketball which they thoroughly enjoyed!

Sports Trip

Centennial Park School went to see the Australian Wheelchair Rugby tournament at Sydney Olympic park. We watched the Australian Olympic Gold medal team play a team from Queensland. All students where well behaved and really got into the spirit of the game.

All students also brought in their permission slips and paid... WELL DONE EVERYONE... I believe that was a first!!

Students are still accessing the gym often. I would like to say a big shout to Ashley, Jorja, Luke and Huston who are attending regularly!! Keep up the good work!!

Sports Awards:

Oz Tag:
  Trophy - Dylan
  Ribbon – Brendan

Wheelchair Basketball:
  Trophy – Huston
  Ribbon – Luke, Brendan & Jorja

Bike Riding:
  Trophy – Jane
  Ribbon – Kristo, Nick & Jorja

Oz Tag
Dylan, winner of the trophy, in action during Oz Tag.

Students receiving a talk on risk taking behaviours and the impact of it.

Basketball coaching
Coaches from Easts Basketball spent a couple of hours running students through various drills in preparation for the quarterly basketball match against Woniora School.

Students working on ball handling (above) and students @ Wheelchair rugby(below).