Connecting the Community

Issue 5  25 October 2012

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40th Anniversary Ball - a Big Party!
Debra & David, Eisha & Nathanael
Welcome to the 5th edition of ReConnect.

There is so much going on at MECS at the moment, I almost don’t know where to start! Last Saturday we kicked off 12 months of celebrating the 40th anniversary of MECS by holding a Celebratory Ball in our fabulous gymnasium. The gym was transformed into a beautifully decorated ballroom and renamed by Martin the ‘Hawkins Heights Emporium’. Many of our staff and parents have done dance lessons together over the past months and got to use new and elegant steps on the dance floor. The food was delicious, the company was wonderful; what a special way to celebrate together with parents, staff and even some of our founders and long term Association Members.

A big thank you goes out to the committee who worked hard to make the evening a big success; to Pippi who was responsible for making the gym look so good, for Craig and Karen who were responsible for the entrees and helping the evening run smoothly, to our Year 8 waitress team and Simon who served the coffee, to Pete and Steve for many hours of setup and packing up and to Amanda and Heather who took all the photos - make sure you check out the photo spread on the middle pages.

Next March we will be celebrating with the pioneers, founders and early staff and students of MECS. Then next September we will be having a Reunion-Festival day for all past staff and students. For more information see page 13. More details will be sent out for your event soon. (Please make sure we have your current postal details)

Inside this edition you will find some updates from past students and staff; an update on the progress of the MECS Kindergarten, a reflection on 40 years of MECS from a past board member and lots more.

A big thanks to Heather who puts in many hours making ReConnect look so good.

I hope you enjoy this special 40th Anniversary Ball edition of ReConnect, it is always enjoyable for us to gather the material together. I especially love reading the updates from past students – I hope you do too!

Until next year,

Nicolette

(Class of ‘90)
Community Relations Officer

We are on Face Book!
Mount Evelyn Christian School
MECS - Kindergarten
MECS - Music For Young Children

What’s Happening at MECS?

Martin

Principal

As ReConnect goes to an audience wider than our regular parent community, this section of ReConnect takes a broader look at some of the big things happening in the life of the school over the last 6 months.

Ranges TEC
Our new TEC has nearly finished its first year of successful operation. 40 full time students and another 25 on Wednesdays completing vocational and trades education – what an answer to prayer, responding to the call for justice and ‘breath in opportunity’ in education. Another 20 students are joining next year as programs expand. Please continue to pray for this exciting pioneering venture.

Kindergarten
If you’ve driven past on York Road you may have noticed the emerging 3 storey complex that sits alongside where the old bus shed was. The bottom storey is the long awaited Kinder, opening its doors next February. We already have full classes enrolled for 3 and 4 year old programs. It’s so exciting to be providing Christian education from the outset.

A season changer for me
The end of this year is one of those season changing moments for me. Our youngest daughter Taminka finishes Year 12 and we no longer have school-aged children. We all are getting older, although (probably like you) I’m not used to it. I’ve loved the opportunity this year to teach this daughter in Legal Studies this year, and I have also loved the honour and privilege of being a part of this great educational community. Next year I’m taking a break and Deputy Principal Paul will take the reins.

Three Generations at MECS
I don’t know if you caught one of our newsletters a month or so back, but it profiled a great story of our very first 3rd generation enrolment. Josiah, the grandson of Roger (Year 5 student when the school opened in 1973) and son of Graham and Jaclyn (Class of ’05), is enrolled in 3 year old Kinder for 2014. It’s great to see the long term commitment of local families.

Farewell Jo
After six years of faithful and diligent service Jo has informed us that she’ll be finishing up this year. Jo has headed up our Education Support area providing leadership and support across the school for students where there are extra needs. Jo oversees 15 Learning Assistants, has been a passionate advocate for Ed Support and has ensured all teachers are working with the program. She’ll leave a legacy of a solid, well resourced and organised Ed Support culture. We will miss her hugely, though we well understand her commitment to her family and local community up at Yea. Earlier this year Jo and her husband Russell purchased a Yea cafe/ gallery that increasingly requires more of their energies. We’ll hear more farewells and thanks before the end of the year.

Infrastructure Master Plan (IMP)
The completion of the 2003 Infrastructure Master Plan with its 23 projects (only the oval drainage project is incomplete) has led to the need for a new IMP. Lots of discussion and planning has gone into the draft 2013-20 plan which will see extra spaces in the SS; completion of the MS revamp; relocation of the canteen; and the biggest component - a very different administration centre.

Celebrating 40 years
Our big anniversary party has begun with our very own MECS Ball in our very own gym. This issue of ReConnect shares some of that story.
The Big 40

I can’t believe that it’s 40 years since MECS opened its doors, with 75 students, 2 teachers and Jack Mechielsen as Principal/teacher, 3 classrooms, staff facilities and toilets! Excitement is still in the air (and my feet) as we look back to the successful 40th Anniversary Ball – the start of the festivities. Initially I honestly found it hard to get enthusiastic. But once my wife (of almost 50 years), Elsha, finally got me to reconsider, we started attending dancing classes. The thought of putting on the ‘gladrags’ and floating across the floor trying to look the part was almost attractive. Although I can occasionally hit a golf ball reasonably well, my brain and my feet lack coordination when it comes to dancing. Some good friends took pity on my predicament and provided extra coaching on the quiet.

Together with many Foundation Members we feel an overwhelming thankfulness for God’s faithfulness and allowing us to be part of the community which established MECS. We continue to be privileged to watch it developing from strength to strength, having given so many students the choice to walk life’s path hand in hand with the Father being guided by His Word and Spirit. It is difficult to accurately gauge what impact Mecsicans are having. Being of advanced vintage enables one to keep track of quite a few past students and conclude by God’s grace that the impact is substantial in many areas. It’s clear from Scripture that we were intended to live in community to contribute and encourage according to our giftings. It’s also why Elsha and I stay in touch with the MECS community through our children, grandchildren, teachers, Association Meetings, newsletters, Grandparent Days, volunteering at Ranges TEC etc.

We are excited that MECS continues to be a vibrant community, always seeking ways to stay relevant and fresh, whilst aiming to be faithful to the Lord and His Word as expressed in the Educational Creed:

“That true education is possible only where the respect of God is re-established by God’s grace in the heart of a person as the indispensable foundation of all wisdom and knowledge”.

Praise our faithful Lord and Happy 40th Birthday MECS community!

Jerry
Board Member 1970 - 1985

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Sharon

Recently Sharon (nee Talbot, Class of ’87) and current MECS Year 7/8 teacher had her most recent book ‘Parent Talk’ shortlisted for ‘Christian Book of the Year’. While Sharon didn’t win the top spot - to have her book nominated was a huge honour (and one I know she was very humbled by). Sharon is a gifted teacher and author - her Teen Talk series are well worth a read. Well done Sharon!

Nicole
Recent Celebratory Moments

Simone (Class of ’98) & David (past Maranatha student) recently welcomed a son - Jesiah David. A brother for big sister Macy.

Rebecca & Geoff (Class of ’04) with their new daughter Claire.

Maddie (Class of ’03) and Joseph with Norah (2) and Ryan (6 months)

Jody-Ann (Class of ’92) and Steve recently welcomed a second son - Jarvis Rein.

Wedding of Laura (Class of ’04) & Tim, June 2012

Gerry with daughter Laura
John and Margi - A Founding Family

John and Margi family’s involvement in MECS spans the school’s 40 year history, with Margi and I joining the Association of Christian Education, Mount Evelyn Inc. back before the school opened. Now in 2012, all eight of our grandchildren attend the school – the youngest, Patrick, in Prep and the eldest, Taylor, in Year 12. Also two of our daughters work at MECS. Right from the beginning, our family has been passionate advocates for MECS and Christian education.

Margi & I (John)

Our four daughters have all attended MECS. The day that MECS opened its doors, Melissa started in Prep. Two years later, in 1975, Jodi started. Donna began her time at MECS in 1976 and Natasha in 1979. Melissa, Jodi and Natasha went all the way from Prep to Year 12, and Donna from Year 5 to Year 10.

During this time, Margi and I were heavily involved in the school community. Margi was involved in the Mother’s Club and fete committees for many years. She also volunteered in the Library with Heather Blomberg for a number of years. She attended many camps as a helper and/or cook. I served on the Board for many years as a General Board Member, Chairman and President (which were separate positions in those days), served on several fete committees, attended many, many (!) working bees, and helped out on building sites.

I remember a crucial time when the school was in a very challenging financial position and the future of the school was very worrying. Cut backs in staff became necessary and ways had to be found to promote the school and increase enrolments. There was no money for advertising. Board members contributed their own money in order to have an ‘enrolment drive’ which resulted in positive enrolments and financial sustainability.

Another challenge was the (still ongoing) uniform debate. In the late ’80s, this became such an issue that many families opted to leave the school. This was, in fact, a symptom of a divide in larger philosophical view points and actually ended up strengthening the school’s ethos, despite the loss of families.

Also during my time as President, the school took the step of faith to begin the Senior School. This was a huge financial gamble and many doubted that the school would be able to financially support such a venture.

Every time I visit MECS, I'm struck by the realisation that the MECS of today is so much more than the early pioneers ever dared to dream. God has so richly blessed the trust, vision and commitment of those people who stepped out in faith. Now that I’ve retired, I am more involved in the school again - as the regular gardener working with Primary students in the MCG (MECS Creation Garden) and as a member of the Infrastructure Committee. Margi continues her work at ‘Open Doors’ as a counsellor, where she has been for 28 years. She is a regular attendee at school events and especially enjoys Grandparents Day.

Margi and I are delighted and extremely grateful that all of our grandchildren are receiving the blessing of education at MECS. We love that, over the years, the school has stayed firm to its ethos and has had the courage to remain steadfast to its Christian vision.

Melissa

Melissa (Class of ‘85) has gone full circle and is back at MECS as a teacher and assistant Primary Coordinator. Following the completion of her college degree, she taught at Mountain District Christian School for 5 years, then started at MECS once her three girls were school age. Melissa is married to Trevor, and they have Taylor (16), Jordan (15) and Jemma (12). Mel says that it’s an interesting experience to teach the children of the people you went to school with! She is very passionate about the philosophy of MECS and can’t imagine teaching or sending her children anywhere else.

Jodi

Jodi (Class of ‘88) and Matt have been married for 9 years and have Tom (8) and Patrick (6). Jodi is the MS nurse consultant at Box Hill Hospital, has been there for 11 years and loves her job. She has completed her Graduate Diploma of Advanced Nursing Practice, and her Masters in Nursing. Next year she plans to undertake her PhD in Public Health. Jodi has fond memories of MECS - building cubby house villages where the music and science rooms are now, and falling in love on the Wilson Prom camp.

Donna

Donna (Class of ‘83) has had a long standing position at Cadbury's and has kept the family well supplied with chocolate. She has mixed memories of her time at MECS – as well having lots of fun with friends, she remembers getting in trouble far too often! She is happily living in Montrose.

Natasha

Following Year 12, Natasha (Class of ‘91) got a Business degree and worked at Telstra for a number of years before leaving the workforce to raise a family. Together with John, they have Sam (13), Ben (10) and Jasmine (8). She has now also come full circle and ended up back at MECS. A few years after her eldest son Sam started in Prep, Natasha joined the Board and served for 2 years before being employed as the Principal’s Assistant. It wasn’t easy at the start to be working with people who used to teach her. It took a long time to be able to call Allan, ‘Allan’! She is passionate about MECS and loves being involved as a parent and a staff member.
ReConnect, I remembered how much I loved the bush setting and on seeing the photo of the bush hut, I had wonderful memories of how much we loved playing in there and hiding around the bush near the hut. I can’t quite remember if it was ‘out of bounds’, because the ‘out of bounds’ areas were the most fun to visit. Down the side of the oval was fun to play as well and I know that was ‘out of bounds’.

I am now married to Alex (ex Yarra Valley Grammar student) and have two teenagers, a boy and girl. We still live locally and would find it hard to move away from the Yarra Valley region.

After study and a family I eventually followed my passion of working with dogs and began working for Guide Dogs Victoria in 2002. I am currently the Puppy Raising Coordinator, but will soon take on a new role as Puppy Sponsorship Coordinator.

My current role is very diverse and has given me the opportunity to travel to England and the US for training and development. I have developed wonderful skills over this time and have overseen a team of 6 full time staff and 150 volunteers.

The diversity of the role can see me: being interviewed on radio, appearing in local media stories, running dog handling workshops, public speaking, event coordination and much, much more.

But the most rewarding part of my job is to see on graduation day, the 30-40 vision impaired Victorians step out on to the stage to graduate with their guide dogs in harness. This brings my two passions together: dogs and people.

So if you are passing by Guide Dogs Victoria in Kew and you’d like to say hello please do. Or perhaps sponsor a puppy by visiting: guideldogs.victoria.com.au.

Congratulations Michael

Michael (Class of ‘11), has recently accepted a college basketball scholarship and has travelled to Iowa, USA, where he will spend four years studying and playing for St Ambrose University.

He was honoured on Monday 10 September at the Kilsyth Basketball Awards night, where he was presented with the Under 20’s Coaches Award, the Development League Coaches Award and the Swinburne University Community Engagement Award. It was stated at the event that the awards were granted for his commitment and attitude displayed while training and playing basketball and particularly his willingness to serve in the greater community.

Special mention was made of Mount Evelyn Christian School and the Schoolies Revolution trip to Uganda, of which Michael was a part last year, and the work that they achieved there. Congratulations Michael.

A Hero Story

Mount Evelyn Mail Tues 24 July

By Mara and Russell, Picture by Mara

Aleksei (Class of ‘09), a former Mount Evelyn Christian School student, jumped into freezing water to save a drowning mother and child.

Aleksei, a part-time lifeguard at Yarra Centre in Yarra Junction, was at Phillip Island for a holiday with friends when they went for a stroll on the jetty at Cowes. As they arrived they found an Italian family in the Car Park yelling “Police”. While trying to ring emergency services they noticed two people struggling in the water and Aleksei and his friend Christelle jumped in to help.

Five year old Ben had fallen off the jetty at about 1.30pm on Wed 18 July and his stepmother Kim, 44, had jumped in after him, but also got into difficulty in the icy water.

Aleksei rescued the mother who was unconscious and Christelle, Aleksei’s friend, the boy. They dragged them to the shore. Ben was ok but Kim was cold and drifting in and out of consciousness. No one had yet called the emergency services despite watching all this unfold and Aleksei had to ask someone to do that while he helped Kim. They stayed at the scene for another 20 minutes, assisting the paramedics.

Aleksei was able to use his lifeguard skills to make a difference. He said it felt a bit crazy that they just happened to save two lives, but people do this kind of thing every day.

Your News!

Would you like your news on this page? Send us an update and a photo; we would love to hear from you! Email us via the website

School Reunions

Would you like to catch up with your old class mates? We can assist you in organising a reunion. Contact Nicole via the website
40th Anniversary Ball

Nicole & Richard

Colin

Ian - Board Member

The String Ensemble with instrumental teacher Cathy

Alison & Peter
ReConnect

40th Anniversary

Diana & Jason (MDCS Dep Principal)

Anita & Martin

Gerry & Melinda

3 Accountants Tony (past), Craig (present) & Andrew (past)

Natasha, Melissa, Steph, Olivia & Kate

Sandra & Meredith

Oma María & Taminka
Anniversary Ball

Adri & Bart, Karen & David

Derek & Bev

Tony & Carole

Pippa (Decor Queen) & Adam

Our Fabulous Serving Team
40th Anniversary Ball

Some of our Middle School Staff

Dance Teacher - Monica

Mary, Sandy, Andrea & Wilma

Jonny, Brad, Duc & Jono

Dance Lessons Continue - See back page for details

25 October 2012
Where are they now?

Cor

Hello there, yep, it’s us – well we’re a tribe that’s a bit bigger than when we travelled from the MECS community some 26 years ago. We never really left; we’ve remained in the same time warp and heard whispers and rumours along the way of how you have all fared. What a pilgrimage it has been. We have had the wonderful privilege of sharing it in the company of many people in whom God’s love shines through.

We’ve seen some majestic things, from great floods to being in a shared stare with a tranquil but deadly crocodile; heard the joy of those who own nothing; listened to the despair of those who had everything. We’ve been part of organisations that have become institutions but not interested in their own survival, but only in letting God’s message of hope shine through.

We have had the great privilege of sharing with friends from our earlier years at MECS; loved having Lionel and Shirley as Houseparents in Darwin; delighted to see confident and patient trainers and mentors in Glenn & Caz; delighted to ‘bump’ into Nicola at Canberra; and so many more that continue in our thoughts and delight us when we ‘bump’ into them in person – thanks for your trust and love and easy acceptance when we are back in the MECS fold.

Our friends keep coming and sharing the journey, Jack and Andy, Colin and Allan... When building at Gawa so many came to help, prayed and supported our work through our MECS connection.

Next year it will be 25 years since we came to the Territory, 40 years since I started in education, 40 years of marriage. Some things have stayed the same – our roots lie in a migrant community who have dared to believe that every grain of sand to the greatest whale and back down to the Higgs Boson particle, scream out to the glory of their maker. MECS took those basic beliefs and has been a vehicle for a way of being in the world that allows us to do things with purpose and love in a way that looks for Christ’s healing in every part of existence.

What can we say about where we have been? I look back and see places I have been where new schools have started, new buildings raised, indigenous families planning little towns for their kids to have a way of learning and being in this world with hope for the future. Elisha has bloomed into someone who brings hope and light into the world of those unwell in hospital and befriends those who need the closeness of someone secure in God’s hands.

Yet, in retrospect, the amazing things that have happened around us are not because of us, often despite us; the real question is whether we are faithful witnesses to what God is doing in growing Christ’s Kingship. So that is to be true for us all – it is not achievements that count, God only asks for you to be a faithful witness as he works the wonder of redeeming the world around us. That is what MECS has been and continues to us; a faithful witness.

Cor and Elisha; Matthew and Leanne (Matt & Jake); Kate and Doug (Marcus and Aria); Christa and Ken (Lilly)

Class of ‘84 Reunion 6 Oct 2012

It’s been 28 years since we put down our pens and said goodbye to our student days at MECS. For a small group of the Class of ’84 however, the years melted away and we were classmates once more, recounting memories, swapping stories and laughing at photos of much younger, bigger-haired versions of ourselves.

Organised by Jacque, our small group met at Amici Trattoria in Camberwell for a meal together. Joined by teachers Andy and Roger and their wives, our group consisted of Nicole, Daniel and Ann, Debbi, Marilyn, Bronwyn, Sonia, Robert and Lynda, Fiona and Jacque. Such a fun time was had by all, it was generally agreed to meet again next year with hopefully a larger group of students. If you are in the year group that finished HSC in 1984, we would love to hear from you. Please either contact Nicole or Fiona via the school.

Class of ’84 Reunion 6 Oct 2012
MECS Kindergarten 2013

Everything is going smoothly for the exciting opening of our Kindergarten. The building is nearing completion, furniture is being purchased, policy is being written, staff are being hired, and enrolments are exceeding all our expectations - we are looking forward to the kindergarten opening early 2013 with an enthusiastic team of staff and full classes of 3 and 4 year old students.

In all the excitement and busyness it is easy for us to forget that the realisation of a kindergarten at MECS has been a long held dream - even longer than most of us had realised. Recently Jack and Wally came to MECS for a visit. As well as donating an Aboriginal painting to the school (that we are currently having framed), Wally gave us a copy of a document she wrote in 1996, when she was on staff at MECS. It is titled ‘MECS - Early Learning Centre - A proposal. September 1996’. It is a 6 page proposal outlining Wally’s reasoning on why an Early Learning Centre would be beneficial for MECS. The proposal started with a list of reasons for Wally’s recommendation, and the following statement really stood out to us: “The ideal situation would be, in this case, to have our own pre-prep/early learning centre to be able to have a much smoother transition from home to school”.

Wally went on to say; “My proposal is this: that Mount Evelyn Christian School set up an Early Learning Centre. This centre would take the form of 2 classrooms, storerooms, toilets, washroom, office and parent room, that comply with the governments requirements re Children’s Service Centres Regulations 1988. These give good building guidelines and I believe it wise to adhere to these regulations because in the future you may be able to use the facility for younger children and this is when the health department have strict regulations. The reason I have chosen this particular innovation is because I believe the school needs a pre-prep/kindergarten-type feeder facility which has a Christian perspective. I believe that this will benefit the children in their developmental growth as a whole emotionally, socially, spiritually, academically and physically. I believe it would help make the MECS educational program a little more comprehensive.”

Wally’s proposal has many pages of reasons, suggested educational and philosophical directions, ideas on how to “get this show on the road” (a Jack Michielsen quote) and details of who was helping research this idea. We have chosen a few quotes which highlight that our motivations today are much the same as Wally’s were back in 1996; that we see the kindergarten as an exciting new section of MECS, and that the kindergarten will ensure a smooth, age appropriate, transition from home to kindergarten and kindergarten to the Prep year.

We praise God for the ongoing vision that was given to a number of MECS staff, staff that have kept working towards having a kindergarten here. This has taken some time to come to fruition, but by the grace of God and the passion of the staff we will be opening the kindergarten in 2013. Praise His name!

Wendy – Early Years Co-ordinator
Nicole – Community Relations Officer

If you are interested in a copy of the full proposal please e-mail Nicole. nnnyhouse@mecs.vic.edu.au
We will be celebrating and acknowledging our pioneers, founders, early staff and board members with a re-enactment of the MECS Opening Ceremony and a formal dinner in the evening.

16 March 2013

We will be celebrating and acknowledging our pioneers, founders, early staff and board members with a re-enactment of the MECS Opening Ceremony and a formal dinner in the evening. (Invitations will be sent out soon.)

26 October 2013

Reunion / Festival Day
All past students and staff are invited to come back for the day and celebrate together.

Time to Party!

Celebrating 40 Years
1973-2013
Reconnect!

If you would like to be on the mailing list and receive ReConnect please let us know.

You can contact the school by going to the ‘Past Student’ page on the MECS website: www.mecs.vic.edu.au or email us.

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From the MECS Board

As we approach the 40th Anniversary of the opening of MECS, I sit here and think about those that over forty years ago had a dream to build a Christian school. I am a relative new comer to MECS, having only arrived in the early 90’s wanting our children to attend a Christian school. A school that is much more than I knew of Christian schooling at the time. Being part of the community, I enjoy hearing the stories of the beginning being passed down from generation to generation, by founders, parents that were once students and both current and past staff.

We have many ex-students now teachers, staff and or parents, themselves with children at MECS.

2014 will be the first of the 3rd generation of children enrolled at MECS in the new kinder.

Is this perhaps something that those in the 1960s and early 1970s dreamt of for the future generations?

I am thankful that the Lord raised up faithful servants to make that dream of a Christian school a reality.

For over 40 years now there have been those that have shown their commitment to the school by being members of the Association. Some of those founding members are still involved today.

The Association for Christian Education Mount Evelyn Inc. is the official title for the school’s moral and legal owners. This is a group of people who share a deep desire and commitment to the underpinning values of the school’s philosophies. These people are parents, educators, grandparents and school leavers, all of whom wish to see Christian Education protected and developed from a biblical perspective.

This month’s Board report drew the attention of the Board to the health of the Association. It is a joy to report to you that the Association is strong, and yet, there is always room for committed Christian parents who can align with the Educational Creed to take up the opportunity to further partner with the school by becoming members.

Membership does not involve signing away your house. It involves a commitment to support the school in prayer, advocacy, participation in partnership and a couple of meetings per year. It is taking a greater interest in the governance of the school which relies on the Association for direction.

If this sounds like you, the Board encourages you to pursue the possibility of membership. Call Nicole Nyhouse for more information.

Ian (On behalf of the Board)

In Tribute

Natalie

Natalie recently passed away, leaving behind her husband - Joshua (Class of ‘90) and their children Madison, Sam, Jorja and Hadassah. Natalie was a Mountain District Christian School Student and completed her VCE at MECS during 1990 - 1991. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families at this time.

Gus

Gus passed away on 29 May 2012. Gus and his wife Betta (deceased 2009) were founding parents when MECS opened its doors in 1973. Their 3 children all attended MECS from 1973 until they graduated: Sharon – Class of ’79, Julie – Class of ’80 and David – Class of ’85. Sharon and Ken’s children all attended MECS also: Laura – Class of ’06, Jared – Class of ’09 and Rachael – Class of ’12. David and Bronwyn’s three children, Talia, Alec and Kyle all currently attend Mountain District Christian School.

Gus and Betta played an active role in the Mother’s Club as fundraising was one of their passions in the early days of the school. They were expert croquette makers and sold thousands at the fetes. They also cooked dinners for weddings and parties as fundraising for the Mother’s Club. They were very strong supporters of the school and worked tirelessly in support of it.

We are thankful for their faithful legacy.

Natalie’s Year 11 Class

Gus with Stewart
Mount Evelyn Christian School ReConnect - Connecting the Community

80s
Warlpiri taught at MECS
80's80's
Higher School Certificate
Green Dennings Coach
Hawke PM Centre Trip
Blombergs
Yuendumu connections made
Christian Social Perspectives
Institute for Christian Education commences
Mission Brown becomes stale
MDCS moves to Monbulk
RINCS
Six mini terms
Students Portables Parents Teachers Fêtes
Canteen National Bandana Day

Friday 26 October is Canteen National Bandana Day which supports young people in their fight against cancer. There will be bandanas and pens available for students to purchase at school. Bandanas are priced at $4 and pens are $2. These items will be brought to the Primary and Middle School classrooms before recess and then available in the Office for the rest of the day.

Dance Lessons

There has been overwhelming interest in the possibility of continuing dance lessons in the Gym on a weekly basis. It was a blast on Saturday night and we have had so much fun learning during the last 7 weeks. Lots of laughing and getting to know people who you may not normally meet. It was a bit daunting at the start but surprisingly enjoyable and great exercise.

So… we have arranged for our instructor to provide another 5 lessons starting on Thursday 1 November, 7.30 - 9pm running the 5 Thursdays in Nov.

The cost will be $50 per couple for the 5 lessons or $25 per single. Unfortunately payment for single nights will not be an option as we need to maintain consistency of numbers. Payment will be required by the 1 Nov. Contact the office in person or by phone to make a payment in cash, on credit card or eftpos or transfer payment through internet banking. You can pay on the first night (1 Nov) if that suits you. If there is a problem please let us know.

Please send Deb an email to let us know you are coming.

Rental Property Needed

Next year (2013) our oldest daughter will be starting Prep at MECS and we are looking to move closer to school. If anyone knows of a rental property that has 3 or more bedrooms within 15 mins drive of MECS we would love to hear from you - Gabby & Peter.