Year 6 Goldfields Camp

Eleanor tries on some clothing from another era on the Year 6 camp

MECS AGM at Ranges TEC Tonight 7pm
Gods ‘big’ story of faith and obedience

I have always been fascinated by Jewish culture and learning about Jewish people across the ages. One of my formative schooling experiences was studying the book, The Chosen, a story about Hasidic Jews living in 20th Century America. When I travelled to Israel, I can recall vividly the moving experience of praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, side-by-side with Jews of various degrees of orthodoxy. I am fascinated by their rituals and observances; one of them being the wearing of a prayer shawl, or in Hebrew, the ‘tzitzee’. Many of you would be familiar with the image of orthodox Jews with the fringe of their prayer shawls appearing just under their jackets.

This requirement is first recorded in Numbers 15. Apart from outlining a whole host of other requirements, God says to Moses, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments… you will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them…” (v. 37 – 39)

I like this idea – and it makes good sense to me – to have visual reminders of what we must remember to do. Way back centuries before the chaotic and over-stimulated culture that we live in now, God realised that as humans we get easily distracted and we would need simple reminders to obey and honour Him! And many of us still might use various tools to do this: our devotional guides, a cross hanging somewhere in our house or around our neck, a WWJD rubber bracelet. Our own ‘tzitzee’ if you like. I think these things have their place.

What I find fascinating – and this is what I love as I read and learn more about the Bible and the truth of how Jesus comes to fulfil and continue the story of salvation – is that the Hebrew word for the corner of the prayer shawl on which the tassels are attached is ‘kanaf’. The same word is used later in Malachi when he is prophesying about the coming of the Messiah. He says, “The son of righteousness will come with healing in his wings” or healing in his ‘kanaf’. And so legend grew up that the coming Messiah would have healing powers in the tassels of his prayer shawl or ‘kanaf’.


“As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. She came up behind him and touched the edge of his garment, and immediately her bleeding stopped.” (v.42b – 44)

One can presume that, as an obedient Jewish woman, she probably knew about the promise of the coming Messiah who would have healing powers in the tassels of his prayer shawl and one also assumes, as a good Orthodox Jew, Jesus was probably wearing his prayer shawl. And so in great confidence she reached out and touched the ‘kanaf’, the corners of his prayer shawl and indeed she was healed.

How much richer is our understanding of the Word of God when we can see this story not only as a story of Christ’s healing power but confirmation once again of the promised Messiah that we read about in the books of the Prophets. And what a great privilege it is to be living in this part of the Biblical story where we actually know and worship the One that came to bring ‘healing in his wings’.

Our faith is NOT dependent on carrying out a quaint ritual or wearing a particular garment but is dependent on our relationship with the living God who comes to us in the person of Christ and in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Indeed it is the Spirit of God within us that is the ultimate ‘tzitzee’ – the one who reminds and prompts us in faith and obedience.

Narelle
MECS Principal

God realised that as humans we get easily distracted and we would need simple reminders to obey and honour Him!

Year 12 Jumpers

Our jumpers are awesome, if I do say so myself. Not only because the idea for their stylish design was developed from the combined input of our year level (as well as a dedicated jumper committee), but also because the purchase of each jumper contributes to funding a child’s education.

The makers of the hoodies—a company titled PBVS (shorthand for ‘Proverbs’)—launched a campaign last year titled ‘When You Finish, They Start’. The money from each Year 12 jumper sold provides essentials for children starting school including uniforms, backpacks and stationery. Collaboratively, every jumper purchased from PVBS has so far managed to raise $25,000, allowing 1,600 children in Cambodia to start school.

An enormous thank you to everyone in the jumper committee for playing a significant role in the organising process, and to PVBS for allowing us to receive warmth in style.

Persis
Year 12 Student
Tonight’s AGM & Annual Report
It will be great to gather together with other Association members tonight for our AGM. This is an important opportunity to hear about how our school is going – highlights will be celebrated, challenges presented, finances discussed, new members welcomed and departing Board members thanked! This year our meeting will be held at Ranges TEC and Phil Jones, the Director of Ranges will be sharing something of the journey of establishing and consolidating this unique learning environment for applied learners. It will be worth coming along just to hear about this aspect of our MECS community. The Annual Report will also be presented which reflects on the 2013 school year. This report gives a great insight into the varied activities that are undertaken every year. I look forward to seeing you there! If you are not an Association member, perhaps it is time to think about whether you would like to partner with the school in this way. Nicole, one of our Community Relations officers would welcome the opportunity to chat to you about this over the coming weeks.

Cycle A production
Hopefully you have started to see advertising around the school for Cycle A’s upcoming production. Our Middle School production provides a great opportunity for Cycle A students to be involved in all aspects of putting a show on! From the set and costume design, to making the lights work, to acting and directing - everyone finds something that is just right for them. The performance dates are from Thursday June 19 through to the June 21, so don’t miss out!

Year 5 & 6 Camp
It’s been a busy time in Senior Primary. Last week the Year 6s were out on camp and this week the Year 5s head off. The highlight is their time spent at Sovereign Hill panning for gold, exploring this great historic facility and attending the Sound and Light Show on the Thursday night. Thanks to all the teachers and parents who have made these camps possible.

Quiet Play Room (QPR)
By Dylan MPA
QPR is a fun place to build things, play games and make new friends.
It is on every day from 1-1.25pm in the PUMP room.
Here are some of the great things that we do:

Year 12 Mentor Supper
On Thursday May 15, we had our Year 12 mentor supper night. This was a fantastic night where we had the privilege of hearing from guest speakers Steph and Chad, who were both past MECS students. They shared with us their own experience of being in Year 12 and study techniques that worked for them. They also highlighted the importance of having a mentor in Year 12 and how valuable their mentor was to them. Then with our mentors, we looked through our goal sheet we made on study camp at the start of the year. We were able to discuss with them how we are going and if we are on track to meeting our goals. This was a great night to help us get motivated and determined to continue reaching for our goals. And lastly, of course, there was some great supper provided for us!

Association
Association for Christian Education

AGM
Tonight
Thursday 22 May
7.00pm - Coffee & Supper
7.30pm - Meeting Start
We will be meeting at
Ranges TEC,
1/9 Hightech Place, Lilydale
with a delicious supper provided by the
Ranges TEC Hospitality Students

All Welcome
MECS Notes

How to get there

Go to the end of the path until you get to the gate.
Go through the gate and head straight out towards the horizon.
Keep going towards the horizon. Sit down and have a rest every now and again.
But keep on going, just keep on with it.
Keep on going as far as you can.
That’s how you get there. - Leunig

How to get there? At this stage of our schooling and our lives we have started to question more how to get where? It seems all too soon that Year 12 has come upon us and the big wide world is not far off. At this point we are not all sure of the direction that we are going, the careers we want to pursue and the dreams we want to chase but we are all confident and excited to find out and to keep going until we do. Coming back into Year 12 life after having three glorious weeks of freedom, (study in a new environment) has challenged some of us, as we have had to find our routine again and the motivation to pull those long study nights, but in the times of doubt or when we find ourselves without motivation, we are encouraging each other to keep going and whether it be graduation, exams or even next week, we will get there together.

Laura & Isaac
Yr 12 Student Leaders

Friends of MECS

Entertainment Books

Just a reminder if you are using your Entertainment Book from last year, it will expire on June 1, 2014. That’s less than two weeks away. Order your new book now, either at the main office or online at www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/193f695.

Dollarmite Banking

Banking day is every Wednesday. There is a new competition during Term 2. Simply make three or more deposits at school and you’ll be automatically entered into the competition. To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers.

Evelyn

Mini Beasts Incursion
3 Year Old Kindergarten

Andrew from Wild Life Lectures brought in some of God’s wonderful creatures for us to explore. We were brave enough to touch the snakes and amazed to watch the turtles use their long necks to roll themselves over onto their stomachs. We watched the green tree frog eat a very tasty cockroach. We learnt where to find these amazing creatures - cockroaches make the soil right in our back yards and stick insects live in gum trees. The spiny leaf insect can camouflage itself and look like a dried up Autumn leaf so the birds won’t attack it. Both groups had a great hands on experience. Even our visitors including Principal Narelle got to enjoy a snake scarf!

Lee
3 Year Old Kindergarten Teacher

Thursday 22 May 2014   Page 4
New Walpiri Art Panels

MECS has had a long and wonderful relationship with the Warlpiri Community in Yuendumu. One of the ways this is expressed is through our sport tribes’ names that are Warlpiri words. When the gym was being built I came up with the idea of using the large wall facing the oval to install some art panels. That’s when the Warlpiri Art Panel installation project came into being. It has been gestating for over three years and is finally complete – thanks to Olivia and her team of teachers and students that worked to reproduce the paintings on the panels.

The Art Panels are mounted on the gym wall facing the oval. Four of the panels represent the tribal groups and three panels express big ideas from the Bible. We have purchased three paintings and the right to reproduce them, and we have purchased the right to reproduce four paintings that we do not have the originals of. The four panels for the sports tribes are 1200mm x 3600mm, and the three biblical ones are 1800mm x 2400mm.

Why Warlpiri Art?
The Warlpiri art panels have been created to demonstrate the enduring connection between the MECS community and our indigenous Warlpiri friends. Each of our sports tribes’ names is a Warlpiri noun from the natural environment. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Cecilia of the Warlukurlangu Art Centre in facilitating our acquisition of the art works and the permission to reproduce them in the large panel format. We also thank the MECS Parents and Friends and Mount Evelyn and Montrose Community Bank Branches for the grants that helped make this project possible. Finally, we esteem the Warlpiri artists who have shared their stories with us through these works of art.

What are the art works?
First, the art works for the sport tribes: Wirri (blue tribe) primarily means watercourse, though it can refer to water. Wirri’s painting, Ngapa Jukurrpa – Water Dreaming by Shorty Jangala, depicts flood waters with curving lines. Warlu (yellow tribe) mainly means fire. Warlu’s painting is Warlu Jukurrpa – Fire Dreaming is by Paddy Japaljarri (1916 – 2010). The curvy lines depict the fire and flames spreading out across country. Warlpa (white tribe) means wind or turbulent air. Warlpa’s painting is another Ngapa Jukurrpa – Water Dreaming. It is also by Shorty Jangala. It uses short bars to depict cumulus and stratuscumulus clouds. Walya (red tribe) means earth or land. Walya’s painting is Pikilyi Jukurrpa – Vaughan Springs dreaming by Mary Napangardi. The painting evokes an image of the dry cracked earth.

Second, the biblical art works are all by Claris Nampijinpa. Wapirra Jukurrpa – Creation: She has depicted the creation of the world by Wapirra (Father God) in this painting. The title is ‘God Made People from Ground.’ Wapirra Jukurrpa – Redemption: She has depicted the redemption of people by God. Wapirra Jukurrpa – Fall: The artist has depicted the creation of the world by Wapirra (Father God) in this painting. The title is ‘People Rebelled against God’ Wapirra Jukurrpa – Redemption: She has depicted the redemption of people by Wapirra in this painting. The title is ‘God Puts People in His Family.’

Gerry
Administration Manager

Art Work Production
The murals were painted by groups of students from Year 5 to Year 10. The Creation painting was done by Year 5 & 6 students in about three days last year. The Fall painting and the Redemption painting were completed by students in Year 7 - 10 in about 4 or 5 days, finishing this year. Images of the original paintings were provided to the students and the sections of the paintings were marked on the boards with chalk. The students had to use the original paintings as a ‘map’ to fill in the dots. The students showed fantastic enthusiasm for the project. The panels were laid on the ground and we sat around or on the panels to complete them. After a few hours of painting it could get very uncomfortable but the students were always keen and committed and often wanted to work through lunchtime. They worked brilliantly as a team and were constantly consulting with each other for help and advice. They showed excellent responsibility as they mixed colours themselves, fixed up any mistakes or smudges and cleaned up after themselves.

A huge thanks to Steve, Pete and Peter for building the panels, preparing them and painting the background colours. These men and their team deserve a medal for getting them attached the gym! The panels are made from cement sheeting and are very heavy and awkward to lift!

Olivia
MS Art Teacher
Year 6 Goldfields Camp

Our favourite place would have to be Sovereign Hill. At Sovereign Hill there was a tour called Red Hill Mine where they showed you the second biggest gold nugget. The real one is now a lot of little pieces of money so, sadly, the one they showed was a replica.

Isaac and Tom

On camp we enjoyed the gold smelting (melting) because it looked very cool; Flynn got to hold it too. We had fun at the campsite as well. At the campsite there were in-ground trampolines and Zac almost beat the record of backflips in a row. The record was 52 and he got 50.

Flynn and Ben

One of the best things about camp was checking out Sovereign Hill and going in the Secret Chamber where we got to explore underground. It was really exciting riding the underground train in pitch black to get to the Chamber. It was an awesome camp!

Alexander and Josh

On camp we learned about how Ballarat was in the 1850’s. One of my highlights at Sovereign Hill was the gold panning. I also enjoyed bowling and the goldmine tour. The best thing was the Sound and Light show.

Daniel

On year 6 camp we really enjoyed learning about gold, seeing what it was like to live back in the days of the gold rush, jumping on the trampolines, going to the Sound and Light Show (it was very interesting to watch), seeing the original Eureka flag and making new friends/meeting new people.

Brielle & Abbey

Our abode was pleasurableness to the extreme. It contained things like goats, ducks, sheep and other animals. It also had things like trampolines, a 44 gallon drum rideable cow, swings and the best cabins ever. Not to mention the best cooks, food and games ever. All in all it was the best camp to date.

Jacob & Jackson

We really enjoyed this camp. Our favourite thing was the Labyrinth Mine, the lollies, the wonderful food and the magnificent trampolines.

Harry & TJ
Secondary Soccer

Over the last few weeks, all of the Secondary school - both MS and SS have been involved in interschool soccer competitions. Here are the various reports of the days.

Year 7 & 8

We survived another windy and cold sports day at Mornington for the Year 7 and 8 boys and girls Soccer on Friday May 2. It was a Year 8 competition so the Year 7s did well to be competitive. The boys teams worked hard all day as they did not have many substitutes. On the other hand, our girls teams had to share time on the field as they all wanted to come. In the end, our most successful team was our Year 8 girls who played off for 3rd position in the finals and came 4th overall. The students were excellent representatives for MECS. Well done. Thanks to Brad for coming and looking after the boys’ teams.

Anne-Maree
Secondary Sports Coordinator

Year 9 & 10

On Tuesday May 20, selected girls and boys from Years 9 and 10 travelled to Mornington to participate in the interschool soccer competition. They played against teams from Bayside Christian College, Balcombe Grammar School, Mountain District Christian School, Ranges TEC and Heritage Christian College. After the long drive down, we were treated to a lovely, mild day on the Peninsula. Congratulations to both teams for their efforts on the day and a particular mention to the girls who drew for third place against a team that had beaten them earlier in the day.

Tim
MS Teacher

Year 11 & 12

On Thursday May 1, the VCE Soccer day arrived and there was a boys and a girls team ready to do battle. Under a beautiful sunny sky the girls started well and had a goal on the board within the first twenty seconds of the first match. This looked good for the team but alas that was the only goal scored for the day. In terms of endeavour no one could fault the girls as they battled each game out and never gave up for the whole day. The boys fared slightly better and did manage to win a match against their arch rival Mountain District Christian School. All games were played in a great spirit and both teams acquitted themselves well as they represented the school for the day. Well done everyone.

Cliff
VCE Coordinator

MECS Notes

Congratulations to three of our current/ex-MECS students.

Lanita (class of ’13) and Asha (current Year 11 student) who both performed extremely well at the National Orienteering League races in Rhylstone NSW and consequently have both been selected to run for Australia at the Junior World Orienteering Championships in Borovits, Bulgaria in July this year. Given that orienteering is not particularly well funded, if anybody in the MECS community would like to financially support the Steer girls, please contact me and I would be delighted to channel your money in their direction.

Congratulations also go to Naomi (class of ’12) and her horse Mighty Tosca who have been selected to represent Australia at the Oceania Young Rider Championships at the Melbourne International Horse Trials from 5-9 June at the Werribee Equestrian Centre.

Well done girls and go Australia! Aussie Aussie Oi, Oi Oi!

Dr Roger F
VCE Coordinator
Calendar

2014 Term 2 Week 4: 19 MAY - 25 MAY

Wed 21 - Fri 23 May
Year 5 Camp

Thur 22 May
Association AGM at Ranges TEC
7pm Supper, 7.30pm Meeting

Fri 23 May
Interschool Cross Country

2014 Term 2 Week 5: 26 MAY - 1 June

Mon 26 - Fri 30 May
MS Special Week

Thur 29 May
Year 5 Camp
Wed 21 - Fri 23 May

Fri 30 May
K4 Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom

2014 Term 2 Week 6: 2 June - 8 June

Wed 4 June
Prep Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom

Thur 5 June
Prep Hospitals in Schools Incursion
VCE Music Recital SS Theatrette

Fri 6 June
SS VCE Units 1 & 3 End

2014 Term 2 Week 7: 9 June - 15 June

Mon 9 June
Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday - School closed

Tues 10 June
SS VCE Unit 4 Begins

Tues 10 - Fri 13 June
Year 11 Exams

Tues 10 - Fri 13 June
Year 10 Trans Ed Week (Wed till 11am only)

Wed 11 June
Montrose Fire Truck visit with Preps
VCE GAT Exam
Instrumental Recital 7pm

2014 Term 2 Week 8: 16 June - 22 June

Mon 16 June
SS VCE Unit 2 Begins

Wed 18 June
Prep Mount Evelyn Shop Excursion
JP Connect Morning Tea 9am Staffroom
Parent Seminar 7pm Staffroom

Thur 19 - Sat 21 June
Cycle A Production - Beowulf: User Friendly

Gabby’s Art & Art classes
Learn a range of techniques from painting with acrylics to drawing with pastels.
Beginners welcome! Call Gabby on
for bookings and enquiries.

Fridays Weekly: 11am -12:30pm at the
‘Faraway Tree Cafe’ (7 Currawong Rd,
Montrose)

Mondays fortnightly: 7:30pm - 8:30pm
in Mt Evelyn. Please contact Gabby for
details.

To see her work visit: www.gabbywillmott.com
or find her on facebook: ‘Artist-
Gabby Willmott’ for regular updates.

Massive Wooden Toy Sale
Sassypopkids is closing down their
online store. All wooden toys will be sold
at 50% off RRP.

This Saturday May
24 from 9.30am
to 5.00pm at
Cheeky Monkey Speech Pathology, 523
Mitcham Road, Vermont.

Cash sales only due to no eftpos facility.
Brands include: Janod, Goki, Melissa &
Doug, Tiger Tribe and more.

Apple Man
The Apple man will be doing a fruit
delivery on Fri May 23, so orders will need
to be handed in to the Main Office by then.

The following varieties are available:
Royal Gala, Pink Lady, Granny Smith,
Fuji and Golden Delicious apples - $10.

Green pears $8. 5-6 kg each.

Spinning Wheel for Sale
Traditional, Saxony style, spinning
wheel, Double drive. Comes with
4 standard bobbins
and 1 threading hook.

Vintage. Excellent condition. Size:
1029mm height x 1210mm width. $130

Contact Yvonne.

Family Fun Run
Focus on the Family in conjunction with the ‘Howgoodisthis!’ running club,
invites you to a fun run charity event.

May 24, 2014. 8am to 4pm. 5km, 15km,
30km, 45km, Silvan Reservoir Park,
Stonyford Rd, Silvan

Registration fees: family 5k: $50,
individual 15k: $30, individual 30k: $40,
team 30k: $70. Individual 45k: $50,
Team 45k: $90

Register at www.families.org.au.

Window for Sale
Dowel sliding window with
Brand new, never been used. Excellent condition. Size:
1029mm height x 1210mm width. $130

Contact Yvonne.

Cycle A Production - Beowulf: User Friendly

Production Update
What is the traditional story of Beowulf about?
The King of the Danes builds a massive
mead hall (our modern day pub) to
celebrate his great country. When an
evil swamp monster Grendel attacks the
hall, the king calls upon his strongest and
mightiest warriors to find and destroy the
monster, but unfortunately none of them
are up for the fight. When all seems lost,
the great and mighty warrior Beowulf
comes to their rescue. He goes out to
destroy Grendel and his evil mother, and
tries to restore peace and order to the
land of the Danes.

But what is ‘Beowulf: User Friendly’ about?
A bunch of students are told to retell the
story of Beowulf as well and accurately
as possible. If they succeed they can
move up to the next year level but if they
fail they spend another long year with the
horrid teacher Mrs Gulch. Filled with fun,
action, adventure and small miniature ponies, Cycle A presents one of their best
comedy productions yet.

How are things going so far? Things are
going well in the Cycle A Production. We
are doing a lot of practice and working on
our backstage roles.

When is it on?
Thursday June 19, 2014 at 7:30,
Friday June 20 and Saturday June 21

How can I get tickets?
The tickets are available from Monday
May 26 from the front office (NEXT
WEEK!!)

Family: $35 (strictly 2 adults and
2 children/concession or 1 adult 3
children/ concession, a total of 4 people
on 1 family.

Adult: $15
Child/concession: $10

Notices sent home this week and on Website

• New Parent Dinner Invitations

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Christian School for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.