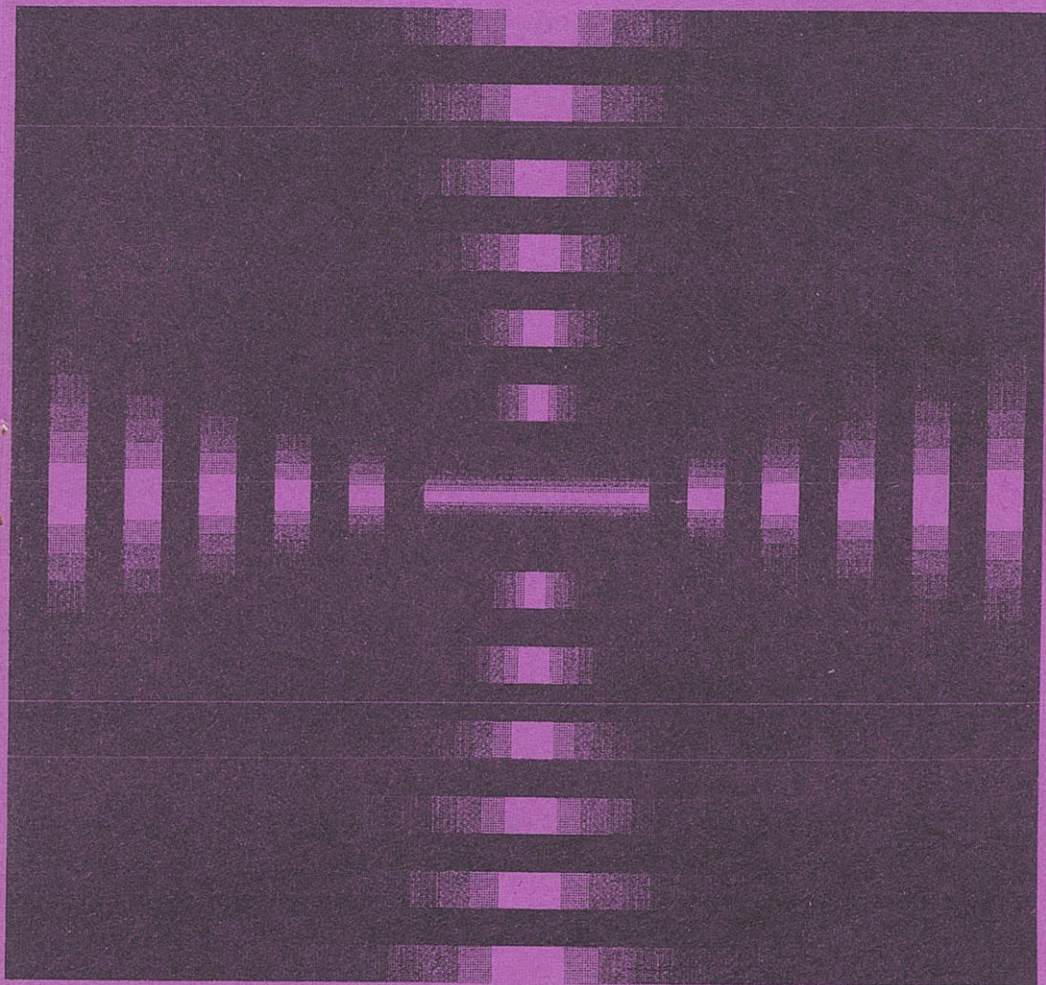


Cabra Matters



A SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 10, DECEMBER, 1993

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I write to you on several matters concerning the welfare of students – your sons and daughters. In any community, what is good for one group is not necessarily good for the whole community. This is also true of our school: what is good for students is not necessarily good for teachers or for the government which provides taxpayers funds for education. This is why we must compromise; courses can only be provided if there are sufficient teachers; schools can only provide the services provided for within the working conditions of teachers.

In recent years we have endeavoured to move this necessary compromise much more in the direction of favouring students:

- * I believe that greater control of our resources and better management of them has enabled us to provide more courses, new courses, more facilities in classrooms and better sporting and recreational facilities.

- * The school has endeavoured to establish ways in which parents and students can have a more powerful and active voice in the running of the school – through the School Council and Student Representative Council in particular.

FOR SENIORS

- * In order to provide for a more flexible study program, the school day will be lengthened in 1994, and greater

Ballot nominations were sent to parents via students.

- ° Mr Loader explained the Disadvantaged Schools Program (DSP), the conditions and extent to which funding might be provided. The School Council has been called upon to decide the priorities of programs.

- ° Mr Loader informed on the progress of the construction of the Tiered Learning Centre, which is unique to our region, and might provide income for the school. It will be ready in 1st Term in 1994.

- ° Mr Young of Cabramatta West Primary School, thanked the Council for the invitation to sit in on the meeting.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs S.Coombes has been appointed as the Deputy Principal replacing Mrs Necyporuk. Mrs Coombes has been Relieving Deputy Principal since Mrs Necyporuk took up her position as Principal of East Hills Girls High School. Mrs Coombes has been the Head Teacher of English at Cabramatta High School for seven years. We wish her every success and we are confident in her abilities.

Mrs L.Nguyen of the Languages and ESL staff has given birth to a baby boy, named Tan Viet (Anthony).

Mrs G.DiRamio has also given birth to a baby boy, and latest information is that he has been named Kieran.

We look forward to seeing both mothers on their return to duty.

S.R.C Elections for 1994 Representation

Congratulations to the following students for their election to the 1994 S.R.C:

Year 12

Shuang Cai (School Captain)

Evan Nguyen (School Captain)

Davis Alvarez (School Vice-Captain)

Joanne Sarson (School Vice-Captain)

Year 11

Xia Cai

Vu-Phi Luu

Phet Photirath

Year 9

Ghek Lim

Katarina Novakovic

John Palmer

Year 10

Van Tha Le

Michael Ly

Suzanne Manderson

Year 8

Alice Huynh

Ngv Tran

Lautaro Veloso

Year 7 and the Sport Representatives are to be elected in
Term I, 1994.

Year 11 Spanish Excursion

Students of Spanish in Year 11 recently attended an excursion to the Art Gallery to view a documentary film on Surrealism and some important works of art by Spanish Surrealist painter, Salvador Dali, brought to the gallery from different collections from all over the world.

One of the option components of the HSC Spanish Course is a song by Mecano on the famous and extravagant Dali. The excursion gave the students a unique opportunity to taste first-hand important facts relevant to their studies, practice the language in an informal setting, and have an enjoyable time during the lunch break!

¡Gracias Cabramatta High School por la oportunidad!



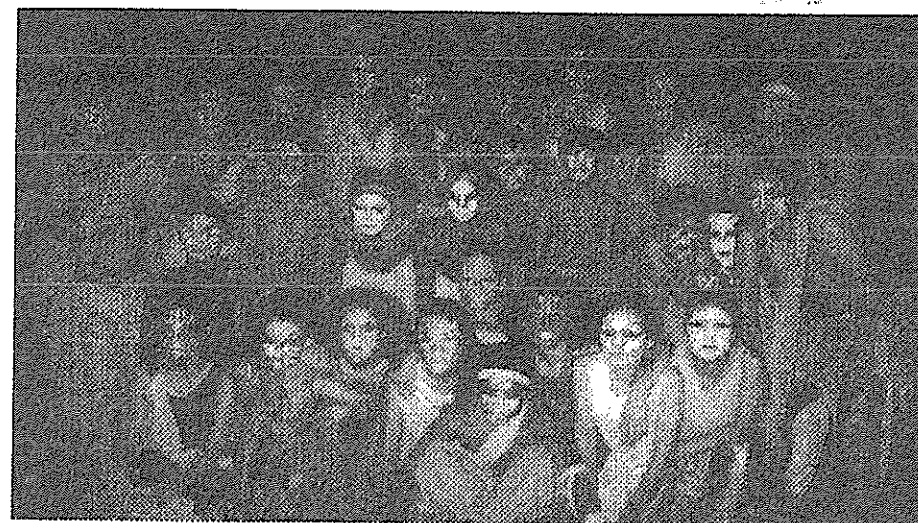
Performing Arts Festival

"Kaos"

On the 20th of October, students from Cabramatta High School and Cabramatta Public School combined for yet another year to give an innovative and exciting performance at the Wakeley Cluster Performing Arts Festival.

The performance – named "Kaos" – was a movement-dance interpretation that depicted the formation of the elements, and involved a variety of drama and dance disciplines.

The overall visual was enhanced with flashes of bright vibrant colours, and swirls of flaring pastels to represent the various beginnings of Water, Fire, Earth, and Air.



Rehearsals started from the beginning of Term III Ms Turvey (Cabramatta P.S.), and Ms Cotsis, with assistance from Ms Elder were involved in choreographing the performance. Both teachers and students worked very hard, but also managed to make it a most enjoyable experience.

When it came time for all the make-up to be applied, it was all hands on deck for a spectacular result – even their own mothers couldn't recognise them.

The performance was a great success, and everybody enjoyed participating, performing, and watching the production number.

Year 8 Swimming School

Due to the efforts of Mr Daly (Deputy Principal), and the PE Staff, the Year 8 Swimming School proved to be a huge success.

Students were given 10 lessons of forty minutes duration during their Term III sport lessons, at the Fairfield Leisure Centre.

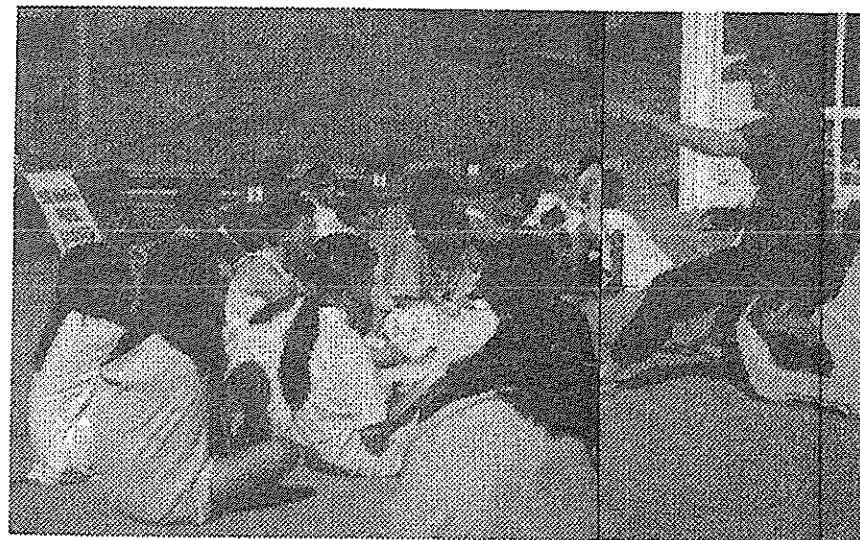
They were initially graded and then taught various aspects of swimming according to their ability. These included floating, entry into the water, rescues, kicking and all the swimming strokes: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and side stroke.

It was pleasing to see the effort students made, and the behaviour they displayed.

At the completion of the course, students were presented with a certificate to indicate their participation and skills achieved over the ten week program.

The highlight? Some students began the course scared, some even terrified of the water. To see them swimming was the highlight!

*Swimming School
includes
experiences of
both the "wet"
and the "dry"
variety.*



LIBRARY REPORT

There have been many changes in the Library; most of these changes have been occurring behind the scenes. The main emphasis has been on setting up computer systems for automated Library circulation. This has now been completed and as from the start of first term next year the Library will be running a fully automated circulation system. This means that a barcode reader will be used to loan books out and to return books, and students will need their Student Services card in order to borrow.

At the present time all new books are being entered onto the OASIS Library database in order to make these books and the information they contain easier to locate. In future, as other books in the Library collection are borrowed, they will be entered onto the database ensuring that the books most in use will be entered first.

A Learning Centre has also been established in the Library for the use of students who may use the available computer equipment for study purposes or to complete assignments. A typewriter is also available and it is hoped to have at least one cubicle set up to enable students to listen to tapes or to view videos as a further aid to learning.

A CD-ROM (Compact Disc - Read Only Memory) computer system was installed in the Library at the end of last term for the use of students and teachers. This will eventually be networked with OASIS Library enabling students and teachers to access CD-ROM's from any enquiry station or terminal in the Library. We have the RTA Road

Test and JACS (Job and Course Explorer) programs ready to be installed and are currently awaiting delivery of several CD-ROM titles to install on the computer to provide opportunities for students to use this new technology and to learn the necessary skills to access this information.

Translation Studies Results

All five Cabramatta High School students who sat for the school language tests for translation studies at the Ethnic Affairs Commission in October, have passed the exam, and have been awarded certificates to be presented at an Award Ceremony on the 3rd of December, at the Ethnic Affairs Commission at Ashfield.

The successful students are:

Chau Lay	(Cantonese)
Guijie Li	(Mandarin)
Leida Liu	(Mandarin)
Alejandra Posadas	(Spanish)
Thi Ngoc Anh (Jenny) Truong	(Vietnamese)

Congratulations for your triumphs!

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL REPORT

What a busy year! This term we held a hot dog day that raised \$120 which went to the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital (one of the charities our school supports.) We also ran a collection on assembly for our sponsored child, Elfenesh in Ethiopia from which we gave \$200 to World Vision for Elfenesh's welfare. Last term, our sausage sizzle raised \$150 for Stewart House.

The Charities assembly held last term for years 7,8,9 gave the students an opportunity to hear about the charities we support. I'm sure that everyone will remember the interesting talk given by Mr Gleeson from the Royal Blind Society. It's amazing what blind people can do!

We receive so many requests for money from many worthwhile charities it is hard to say no! We hope that you are pleased with our choice of charities to support. If you feel that there are any charities you feel worthwhile and would like our school to support please let us know. We support three charities a year (World Vision is an ongoing charity as we are supporting a child.)

Two students, Craig Stevens and Suzanne Manderson attended the Regional Student Council Leadership camp last term. At this camp these students learnt more about leadership and student participation in school, and additionally, met lots of other students from schools around

the region. They assured the S.R.C. that camp was not only work but fun as well!

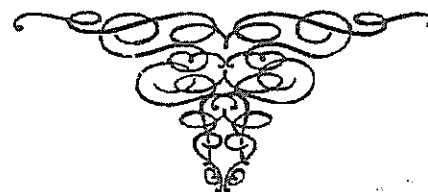
The final disco for 1993 was held on the 24th November. This was a success, many students said they preferred a video screen. We hope to hold one disco a term next year, and we will have a video screen. The last two discos raised \$1,650 which we want to spend! If you have any suggestions as to how we should spend this money please let one of your S.R.C. Representatives know.

Elections for S.R.C. for 1994 were held this term. There were many nominations from each year, and voting would have been a hard choice for students but we are confident that next year's S.R.C. will be a success.

The S.R.C. would like to wish all students and staff the Seasons Greetings and a safe, happy holiday.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 1994.

S.R.C 1993



CHS Indoor Soccer Team makes it a double!

The Cabramatta High School Indoor Soccer Team is the 1993 State and National Schoolboys Champion. This is an outstanding achievement which demonstrates the sporting ability of our students in this game. The boys behaviour at the tournament was impeccable, and their games were a delight to watch. Results at each tournament were as follows:

STATE

vs Marrickville H.S.	6 - 2	win
vs James Ruse H.S.	3 - 2	win
vs Blakehurst H.S.	7 - 1	win
vs Narwee H.S.	8 - 1	win
vs Eagle Vale H.S.	7 - 2	win
vs Kingsgrove H.S. (Semi-final)	7 - 1	win
vs De La Salle (Final)	8 - 1	win

Top goal scorer - **J.Celik** - 16

NATIONAL

vs Keira H.S.	7 - 1	win
vs Condell Park H.S.	9 - 1	win
vs Erindale H.S. (ACT)	2 - 0	win
vs Narwee H.S.	13 - 2	win
vs Kenmore H.S. (QLD) (Semi-final)	6 - 1	win
vs South Oakley H.S. (VIC) (Final)	9 - 3	win

Top goal scorer - **J.Ghisso** - 17

freedom given to students in attendance and in the use of school facilities; provided, as always, that such freedoms are not abused.

* The School has developed links with outside organisations, businesses and our feeder primary schools. More will be done in 1994 when we have our new auditorium which will enable us to make greater use of visiting speakers.

* A start has been made on the more comprehensive reporting on students in writing, and by having parents visit the school. Much more needs to be done by reporting in a more comprehensive fashion, interviewing students and parents where there appears to be limited progress, and by conducting courses for parents within the school.

"STUDENTS AT RISK"

The term, above, is the name of one Commonwealth Government program. I use it to identify a host of programs aimed at assisting students: programs provided by various governments, and the Department of School Education. All, I am sure, are well intended; but I have reluctantly concluded that many are misguided and misdirected. Without naming the programs let me make some observations:

* Some programs seem to "throw money" at a problem, for example do we want more teachers *or* more caring teachers; do we want more students to merely remain at school *or* students to remain to study more relevant courses and courses in which they can achieve a measure of success.

* Some programs seem to believe that changes can be made in the kinds of courses on offer, that courses can be

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offered outside the school, that part-time and other students can be catered for and that repetition of courses and the study of more advanced courses are possible *without* considerable change in how schools run: hours of operation, our expectations of students, and of their teachers.

* There is often a naivety that seems to expect schools to solve social problems: we only need to train more students, tell students their rights, and counsellors give students and staff "the facts." When these don't work, we become depressed instead of looking at the complexity of the problem, and involving all – including students and parents – in looking for answers.

INVOLVING STUDENTS & PARENTS

All schools have students "whose level of achievement or behaviour is adversely affected by circumstances such as family dislocation, itinerance, violence or abuse" (Students at Risk program.) I cannot offer solutions but I will make some observations that may hint at some directions.

* Schools and families, which provide for communication between members, do not generally allow problems to become too large. Parents: give your sons and daughters the time needed to discuss and tell; don't forget to show interest; praise, (and when needed,) correct, but in a setting of caring; trust, give freedom to more decisions, but monitor that freedom.

* "Drugs," "violence," and "racism," are terms given to symptoms of "Students at Risk." The problem is the student at risk. What makes students at risk? Answers are not easy, and each student carries a different group of risk factors: lack

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of a feeling of self-worth makes some aggressive, others join support groups that we may call "gangs;" students who have parent "support" that seems to lack understanding, and who belong to a culture that seems irrelevant, leave home and become "at risk."

* Students who have goals and who have a measure of success tend to continue to be part of the family and school community.

* Difficulties at home often lead to the problems that surface at school – truancy, and misbehaviour in class.

PLANNING FOR FUTURE CO-OPERATION

Some of our students are "at risk," the great majority are, I believe, being well catered for. For those at risk we will need to work more closely with you; for the remainder please be aware of the risks and rest assured that we are attempting to meet the needs of our students, as outlined above. If you have any comments or advice, please ring me or a Year Adviser.

B. J. Loader

Principal

THANKS

The Editor of "Cabra Matters," Mr. S. Gailley, would like to thank the following staff for their contributions to this edition: Mr. G. Alfonsi, Mrs L. Bradley, Ms S. Cotsis, Ms N. Hand, Ms D. O'Sullivan, Mrs C. Prados-Valerio, Mr C. Solomon, & Mrs V. Wighton.

校长的话

我写此信给您是想谈谈有关您儿子、女儿——我的学生们的几个福利问题。在任何一个社区里，对一部分人好的事不一定对其他人都好。我们学校的情况也是如此。对学生们好的事，不一定对老师们好，不一定对雇佣税人缴纳提供教育经费的政府好。这固然是为什么要协调的原因。课程只有在有了足够的师资后才能开课。学校只有在确保教师的工作条件下才能为学生提供服务。

最近几年，我们越来越朝着有利学生的方向协调。比如：

* 我确信由于对资金筹有了更大的控制权，加上对资金的更好管理，使我们能为学生开更多的、新的科目，为学生提供更多的教室设备和更好的体育运动设备。

* 学校建立了一些组织，如校议会和学生代表议会，使家长和学生在校管理事务上更有发言权。

高年级同学

* 为了提供更弹性的学习科目，1994年开始学校的上课时间将要延长，在出勤和使用学校设备方面给学生更大

的自由。前提是这样的自由不被滥用。

* 学校同校外的组织、商业界和生源小学已发展了密切联系。1994年里，我校新大厅建成后能使我们邀请更多的演讲人来校。这些联系将会有进一步地发展。

* 我校已开始在这两件事上努力——设计更详细的学生书面报告及让家长来校。这两件事及在校内为家长们办班开课的事还有很多事要做。让家长来校面谈的事进展缓慢。

“处于危机的学生们”

以上术语是联邦政府一个计划的名称。我用这术语是为了认定由不同政府和教育局提供的帮助学生计划。所有这些计划的用意是好的，但我不得不指出许多计划是被错误的导向了，让我不点名地谈些看法：

* 有些计划似乎是在问问题“扔钱”。比如，我们是需要更多的老师呢，还是要更多的照看老师，我们仅仅是要更多的学生留在学校呢，还是为了让学生留在学校以学习更多的有关课程，取得一定的成功呢？

* 有些计划似乎相信提供一些课程就能带来一些成果。这些课程的上课时间是在校外，以便业余学

生和其他学生能去上课。计划不考虑改变学校的管理,如上课数,对学生的期望和对老师的期望,而只是让学生重复已学的某些课程,其他更多的课程。

* 社会上存在着一种天真,指望学校解决社会问题。比如,学校只要培养更多的学生,告诉学生他们的权力,赞助教师向学生和教师提供“事实”等等,问题就可以解决了。当这些措施不起作用时,我们就变得消沉,而不去看问题的复杂性、全面性——学生和家——从找到解决问题的答案。

邀请学生和家参加

所有学校都有这样的学生,“他们的学生水平或表现大大地受环境因素影响,如家庭混乱,转校,暴力或虐待。”(处于危机的学生们的计划)我无法提供解决办法,但愿谈谈看法,也许能起导向作用。

* 学校和家庭(它们提供了成员间对话的机会)一般不讨论问题扩大。家长们应该给孩子们所需的时间去讨论,不要忘了表示出感兴趣,表扬(当需要时)改正孩子是需要的,但要有爱、信任、自由的气氛,当然自由度由您控制。

* “毒品”、“暴力”和“种族歧视”这些词语是与“处于危机的学生们”连在一起的。问题的焦点是处于危机的学生们,什么原因促使学生处于危机?答案不是简单的。每个学生有各不相同危机因素,缺乏自尊心的学生寻求其他

一些学生会加入我们称之为“帮伙”的人群里,有家长“支持”的学生似乎缺乏家长的理解;同属于某一文化的学生们似乎成了圈外人,离家出走,成了“处于危机”的人。

* 有目标,并取得一定成功的学生往往能继续成为家庭和学校的成员。

* 在家的麻烦经常导致学校内的问题——逃学,在课堂里捣乱。

计划将来——合作

一些学生处于危机,但大多数学生,我相信是得到很好照顾的,我们要更密切地同那些处于危机的学生合作。其他学生请意识到这危机,并相信我的努力满足学生们的要求。如果您有什么要说,请打电话给我或年级指导。

B. G. Leader
校长

致 谢

我们对提供经费,照像书法的老师们,老师助理们和学生们的感谢,他们的帮助使这一切得以实现。

sport

They'll be kicking off in Canada

CABRAMATTA High School students David Petrovic and David Alvarez have won new honors in the highly competitive world of indoor soccer.

The two boys, both 17, have been selected in the Australian high schools indoor team to play in Canada in January.

David is a striker-defender and Davis is a goalkeeper. They both live in Cabramatta and were members of their school's team which won national and State indoor soccer titles.

David, whose parents were born in Serbia, started playing soccer at eight with Fairfield Police Boys Club.

He later played with Avala and more recently played with the metropolitan south-west regional high schools team which won the State championship.

David, whose parents migrated from Chile, started playing with Colo Colo club at age eight and has since played with Mt Pritchard. He later played in his school's title-winning indoor soccer teams.



Davis Alvarez and David Petrovic have been selected to play in the Australian schoolboy indoor soccer team

S.M.I.S

African experience at Cabramatta High



RIBBON Dancers at Cabramatta High on Co-Operation Day

THE ultimate African experience came to Cabramatta High School last Friday, in celebration of Co-Operation Day.

Students and visitors were given the chance to be part of Doudoumba — a special musical presentation based on traditional African instruments, including the Doudoumba (drums from Senegal), the Don Do (talking drum), the Shekere (large gourd covered in beads) and the Abienben (bamboo flute from Ghana).

Rhythmic chanting and animated dance also featured in the program, and the emphasis of the entire performance was audience participation.

The musical extravaganza was presented by Yaw and Philippe who are members of the highly acclaimed African-Caribbean band, Kalabash.

Doudoumba headed an impressive entertainment line-up which started in the morning and continued all day long.

Another impressive cultural concert featured Ribbon Dancers from China, and a number of students from the school amazed spectators with the graceful, beautifully co-ordinated ribbon movements. More dancing from Greece, Laos and New Zealand followed.

Co-operation Day finished off with a joint performance of students from Cabramatta Primary and Cabramatta High.

The entire day had the atmosphere of a carnival, with lots of food provided to tempt hungry appetites, and a great variety of stalls displaying international products and information.

The Fairfield City Champion, Wednesday, September 22, 1993



In Memoriam

Mom Taing

The funeral for Mom Taing, one of our Year 12 students, was held at Rookwood Crematorium. Mom was farewelled by about forty Year 12 students and several members of the teaching staff.

Saying goodbye to a friend is always a very hard thing to do; saying goodbye to someone so young is even harder. I think it is important in times like this to remember the positive things. We remember Mom for her kindness, her caring, and the ready smile she always had for everyone.

We remember her because she always tried so hard. These are important qualities to hold onto. We feel lucky, as Year 12 students, to have shared our school lives with her.

I know she will be sadly missed by her family and friends. We send our condolences to them at this time. Mom's mother was overwhelmed by the number of students who attended the funeral. She sent her thanks to all students of Cabramatta High School for their support.

I would like to leave you with some words which may be of comfort, and which I think are appropriate at this time:

*That which we lose, we mourn;
But we rejoice that we have ever had.*

Mladenka & Angela
(Year 12)

SCHOOL COUNCIL

SPECIAL PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

The School Council Meeting was devoted to an information night for parents concerning the organization and running of the School, and the Department of School Education, as well as general information of concern to parents.

Groups were accommodated in the language groups of Vietnamese (with Mr Gailey,) Chinese (with Mr Robertson,) and English (with Mr Kirk.)

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 4th NOVEMBER, 1993

In accordance with the constitution, three Parent Representatives, one Student Representative, and two Staff Representatives, were required to vacate their positions on the School Council. Most of the positions to be vacated were decided by the drawing of lots, the remainder by default. In consequence:

In

Mr Tran
Mrs Fernandez
Mrs Centellas
Miss Xia Cai
Mrs Maher
Mr Gailey
Mr Kirk

Out

Mr Trinh
Mr Chau
Mr Medic (by default)
Miss Julieanne Haidar (leaving)
Mr Robertson
Mrs Coombes

The talents and skills of our students were recognised by tournament officials. J.Ghisso, J.Celik, and U.Talay were invited to trial with the Australian Senior Mens Indoor Team. As a result of this, J.Ghisso went to compete in Brazil in November, and J.Celik is negotiating a scholarship with the Indoor Soccer Federation. To top this effort, five team players were invited to trial with the Combined High Schools Australian Indoor Soccer Team to tour Canada in January 1994. These players were: J.Ghisso, U.Talay, J.Celik, D.Alvarez, and D.Petrovic.

This is a remarkable achievement by these students, demonstrating their superiority in this sport. They are a credit to their families and Cabramatta High School.

Well done boys!



Pictured above are the team members: Top row - J.Celik, P.Katar, D.Petrovic, D.Alvarez, S.Eris, F.Morales, G.Alfonsi (Coach); Bottom Row - M.Cil, M.Dogan, U.Talay, J.Ghisso, A.K.Duong, C.Rivas

The team acknowledges the financial support of Stan's Real Estate, Club Marconi, the Student Representative Council, and the School Finance Committee.

TERM DATES - 1994

TERM I

Commences: Years 7, 11 & 12 - Tuesday, 1st February

Commences: Years 8, 9, & 10 - Wednesday, 2nd February

Finishes: - Thursday, 31st March

TERM II

Commences: Monday, 11th April

Finishes: Friday, 24th June

TERM III

Commences: Monday, 11th July

Finishes: Friday, 23rd September

TERM IV

Commences: Monday, 10th October

Finishes: Friday, 16th December

The Editor of "Labra Matters"
extends to all of our readers the
Seasons Greetings