

# *Cabra Matters!*



A School Community Newsletter

Volume 16, June, 1995



# *Cabra Matters!*

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# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

My first term as Principal of the School has been most enjoyable and I would like to thank all those who have made me feel welcome. In particular I am grateful to Mr Daly, who filled the role of Principal in Term I most effectively, and Mrs Coombes and the School Executive for the excellent start to the School Year making my settling in that much easier. I strongly believe we have an excellent school and I look forward to the future with high expectations.

This term our school experienced a Quality Assurance Review, and I wish to thank the staff, students and parents who made themselves available for interview. The Quality Assurance Team was very impressed with the school's achievements and were able to help the school plan its directions for the next four to five years. Any members of the school community wishing to read the Quality Assurance report should contact the school.

The teachers have made themselves available at Parent/Teacher Nights this term to discuss student progress. Many parents took advantage of these opportunities finding the provided information beneficial. In particular Year 10 students have completed the Trial School Certificate Reference Tests in English, Mathematics and Science.

They should now have a good indication of what they can expect in Term III and I look forward to some excellent results.

Planning for next year has already begun with visits to our local Primaries – Cabramatta and Cabramatta West Public Schools – to speak to parents about what their children can expect in our High School in Year 7 in 1996. An Open Day for 1996 Year 7 students and their parents was held towards the end of the term. The parents and students were most impressed with our school and what it has to offer.

Student meetings and a Beyond Year 10 Night for parents are guiding students with their subject selections for Year 11 in 1996. There are many courses from which students can select and they have been advised to consider their career preferences, abilities and interests when making their choices.

Should parents want any further advice or information about the above or any other matter, you should not hesitate in contacting the School.

*J. C. Kidd*  
Principal

# SCHOOL COUNCIL

## *Summary of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 6th of April, 1995*

- \* Priya Sullivan is the second Student Representative on the School Council.
- \* An outline of the purpose and organization of the Quality Assurance Review in Week 7 of Term II.
- \* The Council voted on the 3 areas for Quality Assurance Review. The general and specific areas are as follows:

### *WELFARE*

Safety and Security  
Student Support  
Discipline

### *CURRICULUM*

Broad & balanced curriculum, appropriate and relevant.  
Student assessment and reporting.  
Teaching English language across the curriculum.

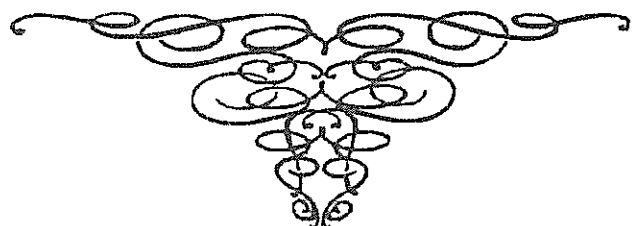
### *COMMUNITY*

School and Community interaction.  
Communication.  
Community Participation.

- \* Community plan was investigated.

## *Summary of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 18th of May, 1995*

- \* Our new Principal, Mr Grahame Kidd introduced to Council. Mr Kidd addressed the Council.
- \* Mr Munro outlined new rules concerning Austudy.
- \* Mr Munro spoke of the proposed Safety Audit for Cabramatta, it's purpose and organization.
- \* Mrs Ballantyne spoke of the DSC Community Participation Initiative. \$2,000 available. Mr Trinh, Mr Buu and Mrs O'Donnell agreed to develop a plan.
- \* Mr Robertson put forward a plan for a school clothing shop. Council agreed in principle.
- \* Council members were invited to a morning tea at which The Honourable Reba Meagher would be present on 16/6/95, at 11.00 a.m.
- \* A request for more support for students attending sports carnivals in school time was put forward.
- \* An enquiry was made as to when parents are billed for fees.



# THƯ NGỎ CỦA HIỆU TRƯỞNG

Với chức vụ Hiệu trưởng của Trường trong kỳ học đầu tiên của tôi, tôi rất thích thú và tôi cũng cảm ơn tất cả mọi người đã làm cho tôi cảm thấy được hân hạnh làm việc tại trường này. Đặc biệt tôi cũng rất cảm ơn ông Daly, ông đã mang lại cho nhà trường rất nhiều hiệu quả trong chức vụ Hiệu trưởng tạm thời trong Học Kỳ I, và Bà Coombes và Ban Điều hành Nhà Trường đã làm việc hữu hiệu từ khi bắt đầu cho một năm học của Nhà Trường, việc này làm cho việc làm của tôi được dễ dàng hơn. Tôi rất tin tưởng rằng chúng ta có một trường rất tuyệt hảo và tôi mong rằng trong tương lai chúng ta sẽ đạt được rất nhiều thành quả tốt đẹp.

Trong học kỳ này trường của chúng ta có tham gia trong việc Duyệt xét Bảo đảm Chất lượng và tôi thành thật cảm ơn nhân viên nhà trường, các em học sinh và phụ huynh nào đã tham dự trong buổi phỏng vấn. Toán Bảo đảm Chất lượng đã rất hài lòng với các thành quả đạt được của nhà trường và đã giúp đỡ nhà trường để hoạch định hướng đi của nhà trường cho bốn đến năm năm sắp tới. Bất cứ hội viên nào trong cộng đồng nhà trường muốn đọc bản Báo cáo Bảo đảm Chất lượng xin liên lạc với nhà trường.

Các giáo viên đã có các buổi gặp gỡ Phụ huynh - Giáo viên Buổi Tối trong học kỳ này để thảo luận về sự tiến triển học hành của học sinh. Có nhiều phụ huynh dùng các cơ hội này để biết được các tin tức hữu ích do nhà trường cung cấp. Đặc biệt các em học sinh Lớp 10 đã hoàn tất Kỳ Thi Thử Bằng Trung Học trong các môn Anh ngữ, Toán và Khoa học.

Bây giờ các giáo viên phải có một biểu hiệu tốt mà họ có thể mong chờ trong Học kỳ III và tôi mong đợi có vài kết quả rất tốt.

Kế hoạch cho năm tới đã bắt đầu thực hiện với các cuộc viếng thăm đến các trường Tiểu học địa phương - đó là các Trường Tiểu học Công Lập Cabramatta và Cabramatta West - để nói chuyện với các phụ huynh về những gì mà con của họ có thể mong đợi vào Lớp 7 của Trường Trung học của chúng ta vào năm 1996. Ngày Thăm viếng Trường của các em học sinh Lớp 7 cho năm 1996 và cho các phụ huynh của các em đã được tổ chức vào cuối học kỳ trước. Các phụ huynh và các em học sinh đã có một ấn tượng rất là sâu sắc đối với trường của chúng ta, những gì mà nhà trường đã mang lại.

Các buổi họp học sinh và Buổi thông tin tối nói về chương trình học sau Lớp 10 dành cho phụ huynh để hướng dẫn các em học sinh trong việc lựa chọn các môn học cho Lớp 11 trong năm học 1996. Có nhiều khóa học mà học sinh có thể chọn và các em cũng đã được cố vấn về các nghề nghiệp thích hợp với khả năng của các em và thích thú khi các em quyết định lựa chọn.

Nếu quý vị phụ huynh muốn được cố vấn thêm hay biết thêm chi tiết về các vấn đề trên hay bất cứ vấn đề nào khác nữa, xin quý vị đừng ngần ngại mà liên lạc với nhà Trường.

*G. C. Kidd*  
Hiệu trưởng

# HỘI ĐỒNG NHÀ TRƯỜNG

*Tóm tắt của Buổi họp vào Ngày  
6 Tháng Tư, 1995*

- \* Em Priya Sullivan là Học sinh Đại diện thứ hai trong Hội đồng Nhà trường.
- \* Sơ lược mục đích và tổ chức của Ban Duyệt xét Báo đảm Chất lượng trong Tuần Thứ 7 của Học kỳ II.
- \* Hội đồng đã bỏ phiếu cho 3 lãnh vực của Ban Duyệt xét Báo đảm Chất lượng. Sau đây là các điểm tổng quát và rõ ràng của các lãnh vực:

## *PHÚC LỢI*

Sự An toàn và An ninh

Giúp đỡ Học sinh

Kỷ luật

## *CHƯƠNG TRÌNH HỌC*

Chương trình học rộng rãi & cân bằng, thích hợp và tương xứng.

Đánh giá và báo cáo của học sinh.

Dạy Anh ngữ trong chương trình học.

## *CỘNG ĐỒNG*

Liên lạc giữa Cộng đồng và Nhà trường.

Thông tin

Tham gia của Cộng đồng

- \* Kế hoạch cộng đồng đã được nghiên cứu.

*Tóm tắt của Buổi họp vào Ngày  
18 Tháng Năm, 1995*

- \* Giới thiệu đến Hội đồng Nhà trường vị Hiệu trưởng mới của chúng ta là Ông Grahame Kidd. Ông Kidd đã nói chuyện với Hội đồng Nhà trường.
- \* Ông Munro đã phát họa về các điều luật mới liên quan đến Tiền trợ cấp đi học (Austudy).
- \* Ông Munro đã nói chuyện về đề nghị Kiểm tra An toàn cho trường Cabramatta, mục đích và tổ chức cho việc kiểm tra an toàn này.
- \* Bà Ballantyne đã nói về Bước đầu của Cộng đồng Tham gia thuộc Trường Bị thiệt Thòi. Có \$2,000. Ông Trinh, Ông Buu và Bà O'Donnell đã đồng ý để phát triển một kế hoạch.
- \* Ông Robertson xúc tiến kế hoạch mở một gian hàng bán đồng phục cho nhà trường. Hội đồng Nhà trường đã đồng ý trên nguyên tắc.
- \* Các hội viên của Hội đồng Nhà trường được mời tham dự vào buổi trà sáng mà sẽ có sự hiện diện của Dân biểu Reba Meagher vào lúc 11 giờ sáng Ngày 16/6/95.
- \* Yêu cầu giúp đỡ thêm cho các em học sinh tham dự vào các ngày hội thể thao trong giờ học nhà trường.
- \* Có câu hỏi như là khi nào phụ huynh nhận được giấy để trả các lệ phí.

# 校长的话

我作为我校校长的第一学期过得非常愉快。我感谢那些使我感到受欢迎的人们。我特别要感谢Mr Daly,他在第一学期效率极高地代理了校长的职务,以及Mrs Coombes和学校的行政人员,使我容易地适应了新环境。我相信我们有一种极好的学校,我以极高的期望展望未来。

这学期我校经历了教学质量检查,我感谢教师、学生和家长们参加面谈。教学质量检查组对学校的成就印象很深,帮助学校为以后的五年定下方向。学校社区的任何成员如想看教学质量检查报告,请同学校联系。

这学期教师们安排时间参加了家长/教师晚会,同家长讨论学生的进步,许多家长利用这一机会,发现在晚会上获得的信息很有益。特别要提的是十年级学生已完成了英语、数学和科学的模拟初中毕业文凭参考考试。他们现在对第三学期的学习内容应该有了清楚的概念。我期待着好成绩。

明年的计划已开始。我们访问了当地小学——Cabramatta和Cabramatta West小学——告知家长们他们的孩子在1996年到我校上七年级时会有哪些事情发生。学期末为1996年七年级学生和家长们举行了一个开放日。家长们和学生们对我们学校和所能提供的科目印象很深。

学生会议和为家长们举行的十年级以后晚会指导学生们选择1996年十一年级科目。学生可以在很多科目里做出选择。他们在选择时在考虑将来的职业、能力和兴趣上得到了指导。

家长们如果想就以上问题或其他问题得到进一步的指导或信息,请不要犹豫,即同学校联系。

J.C. Kidd  
校长

# 学校议会

1995年4月6日会议记录总结

- \* Priya Sullivan是校议会的第二位学生代表。
- \* 第二学期第七星期教学质量检查目的和组织大纲。
- \* 议会就教学质量检查的三方面进行了投票。这些方面是：

福利

安全和保安

学生支持

纪律

科目大纲

广泛而平衡的科目大纲

相应而有美

学生评估和学习报告

跨科目的英语教学

社区

学校和社区相融

联络

社区参与

- \* 审查了社区计划

1995年5月18日会议记录总结

- \* 向议会介绍我们的新校长, Mr Grahame Kidd, Mr Kidd在会上讲了话。
- \* Mr Munro 简略地谈了有关 Austudy (澳助学金) 的新规定。
- \* Mr Munro 谈了建议中的校安全检查, 它的目的和组织。
- \* Mrs Ballantyne 谈了不利学校因素社区参与, 有\$2,000 资金。Mr Trinh, Mr Bunn 和 Mrs O'Donnell 同意发展一个计划。
- \* Mr Robertson 为学校的校服店提交了一个计划。议会原则上同意。
- \* 议会成员被邀请参加于95年6月16日上午11点举行的一个早餐, 届时时议会议员 Reba Meagher 将出席。
- \* 提交了一个请求, 是要求为参加校运动会的学生提供更多的帮助。
- \* 谈了何时向家长送校费账单。

# Profile on a BMX Rider: Kylie French

Kylie started BMX racing competitively in July 1992 and on the 29/8/92 she received her first trophy, coming 8th in Division 3 at the Liverpool City BMX Club. Kylie competed in her first State Titles on the 2nd and 3rd of October, 1993, coming 9th place in the 10-year Girls. In 1994 she competed in her second State Titles, coming 7th in N.S.W. in the 11-year Girls. This year over the Easter long weekend, the 14th to 16th of April, Kylie had the chance to compete at the Australian National Championships. Kylie ended up coming 13th in Australia in the 12-year Girls. This was a fantastic effort for Kylie, as she had only been at the Tuggeranong BMX Track in February, 1995, for the A.G.T State Titles. Kylie performed really well at Australian Titles and she took 13.24 seconds off her previous best time. Kylie usually has to race a few age groups up when we go to race meetings, as there are not enough girls who race BMX. Kylie races in her own age group at the State Titles and the Australian Titles. At most Open Race Meetings, Kylie has to race in the Open Girls. These girls range in age from 16 to 25 and Kylie is only 12 years old.

On Tuesday the 30th of May, Kylie received an entry form for the World



Titles which will be staged in Columbia, USA. The BMX World Championships will be held in July 1995. Kylie qualifies for the World Titles because she finished in the first sixteen in her age group.

Kylie trains on a Tuesday night and races at club meetings every second Friday Night. Open race meetings are usually held on Sundays. When you start racing BMX you get to see a lot of different places. BMX meetings are held at Liverpool, Southlake, Blue Mountains, Canberra, Bankstown, Terrigal, Manly, Lake Macquarrie, Maitland, Castle Hill, Gunnedah, Penrith, Tamworth and Budgewoi.

BMX is a sport done all year round. We usually have our last race meeting in the first few weeks of December and racing starts again competitively on Australia Day. In Queensland they race all year round and the 1996 Australian Titles will be held in Miami, Queensland. Hopefully we will be able to get Kylie to the next Australian Championships.

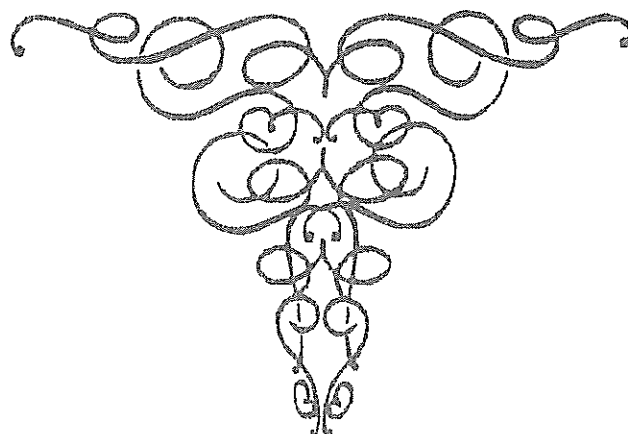
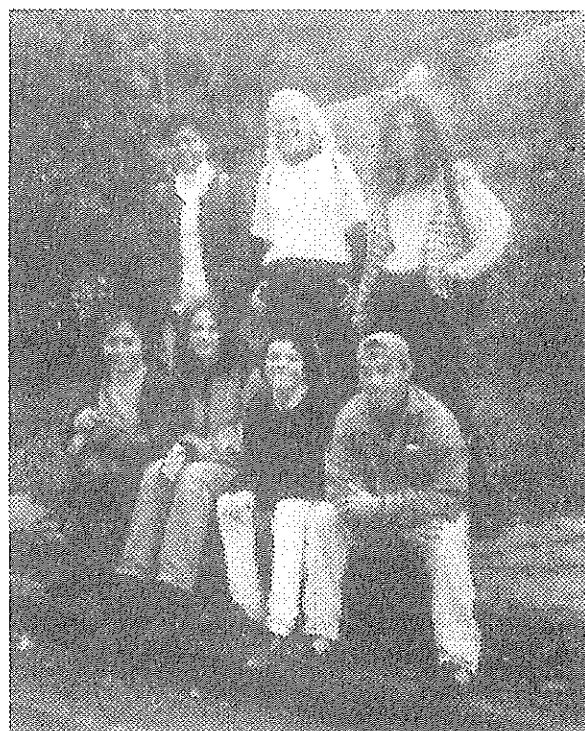
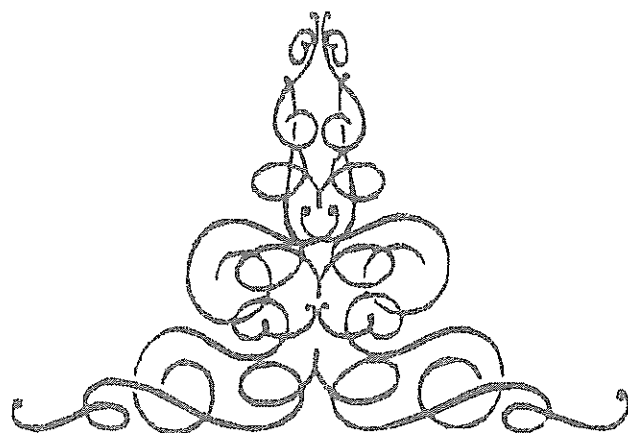
— Mrs French

# Todas Las Clases de Español van al Zoológico (All Spanish Classes go to the Zoo) **¡HOLA!**

Yes. All the Spanish classes (Year 9, Year 11 and Year 12), recently went to the Zoo for a day.

Three mixed groups were organised with a senior student from each group, i.e. Nelson Lim, Juan Carlos Rivas and Soledad Castillo, appointed as leaders of each group for the activities of the day. In this way each group had a chance to make or strengthen friendships from other Spanish classes in the school.

The language of the day was, of course ONLY SPANISH, as was the FIESTA had by all at lunchtime.



# NEPS

## (National Equity Program for Schools)

### Gender Equity Maths & Physics Camp

27th – 31st March, 1995

Naamaroo Conference Centre  
– Lane Cove

For girls in Years 9–10 from the Advanced Maths and Science classes. About 150 students attended statewide, including six from Cabramatta High School.

The purpose of the camp was to increase the number of girls participating in higher levels of mathematics and physics in their senior years at high school, and also to increase their awareness of career and subject choices, personal confidence and personal skills. The camp also offered a professional development program for teachers.

Activities included:

- \* Questacon Show from the Science and Technology centre, Canberra where amazing experiments were performed.

- \* Paddle wheeler ride on the Lane Cove River.

- \* A bushwalk to the CSIRO where the girls participated in a lot of hands-on experiments in their educational science lab, went for a short tour and spoke to a female scientist who explained the project on which she was working.

- \* A bus trip to the Sydney Observatory near the Sydney Harbour Bridge one night. Some girls had never seen the city sights before, let alone using the observatory's new powerful telescope

to see stars and planets such as Mars and Jupiter.

- \* Each day there were two 1½ hour sessions where female teachers/consultants conducted workshops in either a maths or science area. For example, one task involved group work where the team had to design a bridge, using limited resources of six straws, two sticky labels and scissors, which would support the most weight: the record was 510g!

- \* There were skills workshops where the girls learnt how to learn by setting lifelong goals, making effective notes, using their preferred learning style, increasing their memory, creating the best study environment, increasing learning using music and improving brain function through diet.

- \* One evening there were twelve visiting career women guest speakers and the girls could choose to listen to four of them: for example “Brains and Minds”, “How Maths & Astronomy led to a career in Meteorology” and “Women in Medicine and Medical Research”.

- \* On another night there were four activities from which to choose: “Computers – Maths & design”, “Relays and Real Live Maths”, “Playing with Puzzles” and “Meaningful Mathematics”.

- \* One of the highlights of the camp was on the last day when each of the ten groups had to do a presentation about the female scientist or mathematician after whom their group



*Pictured above are Linda Ngo, Thanh Nguyen, Ly Fang Yin, Lyna Banh, Sokli Tang and My Ai Ngo*

was named. They had spent the whole week researching her life and achievements, writing their scripts and making elaborate costumes and props from limited resources. The dramatic performances were imaginative, funny and thoroughly entertaining.

It was a high note on which to end the camp with each girl playing some part in the presentations which were highly motivating in terms of them seeing what women can achieve in the areas of maths and science and providing them with models upon which they can base their future career options.

This is what the girls thought of the camp:

*"The camp was fun and I really enjoyed myself. We went to the Sydney Observatory as well as attended workshops and talk shows everyday, helping us towards our future." – Linda Ngo*

*"It was my first time going to a camp and I had enjoyed it a lot because the camp was great! We went to the Sydney Observatory and from there I learned that the star is hotter when it is whiter. I enjoyed most watching the Questacon Show. Everybody cried out when the liquid nitrogen was poured onto the carpet because we thought the carpet would be wet but the carpet wasn't wet at all! The liquid nitrogen changed into gas when it was poured out of the container. The show was very*

*exciting and interesting and I had learnt a lot from it. I enjoyed the food too!" – My Ai Ngo*

*"To me the camp was late nights and early mornings. Throughout the day we'd all be attending classes, lectures, workshops, activities, etc. It wasn't really exciting. We visited the CSIRO and the Sydney Observatory. The Sydney Observatory was great at night: we looked through the massive telescopes and saw the sky in a whole new perspective. I thought the Questacon Show was the best. On the first night, a lady there showed us how she made ice-cream, which was weird. The best part of the show was when she brought out liquid nitrogen. She would just 'have fun' with the liquid nitrogen." – Ly Fang Yin*

*"My favourite event at camp was the Questacon Show, because it was exciting and fascinating to watch. We experimented with hydrogen nitrate and made ice-cream. We listened to guest speakers who talked about their career, Maths, Physics and we each made a badge and played games. The most enjoyable speaker was Jenny Taylor and her activity was called 'Meaningful Mathematics.' We went on a Paddle Wheeler and to the CSIRO and Sydney Observatory. We worked both independently and together planning out a play for our last day at camp. I met many new students from both Years 9 & 10 from other schools. Overall I thought the camp was a good experience." – Lyna Banh*

# Dreamtime in Cabramatta

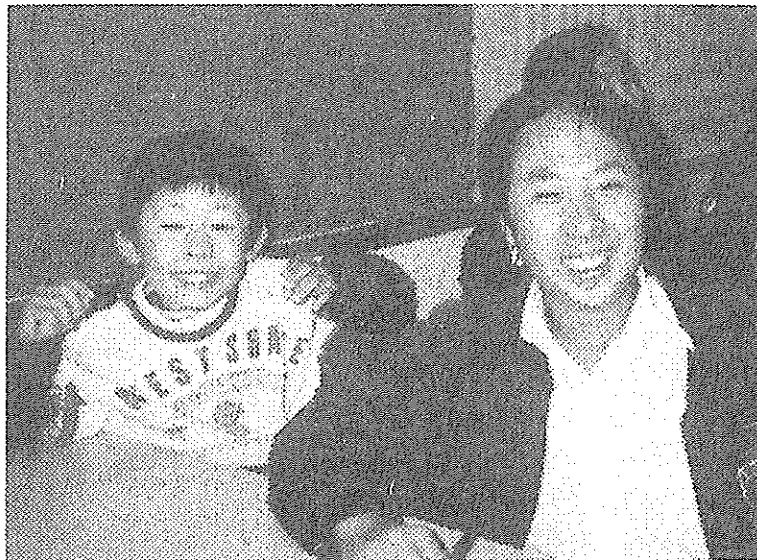
Term II has been an exciting term for Year 9 Human Society 4 of Cabramatta High School and Year 3F of Cabramatta West Primary School. These two classes have been working closely together every fortnight, expanding their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Culture and History.

The two classes have met as part of our school's "CabraLinks" program – a school-based initiative between Cabramatta High and our feeder primary school, Cabramatta West Public School. The aim of this "CabraLinks" program is to increase our communication and enhance our relationship with our local primary schools, giving students from both schools opportunities to help each other learn co-operatively and to produce creative pieces of work together.

Year 9HSIE4 and Year 3F, together, have been reading and learning about

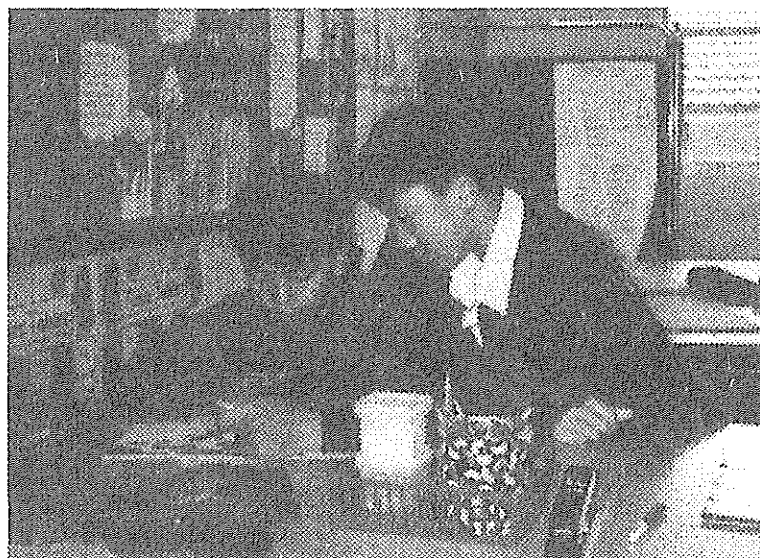
the Aboriginal Dreamtime, and stories of the Dreamtime. In mixed groups, they have written their own Dreamtime stories and have creatively illustrated them with drawings and a range of natural materials from the environment such as leaves, grass, flowers and bark!

These fantastic pieces of work can be seen as part of the display in Cabramatta High School's front office foyer. The student works are in the form of storybooks and posters.



The two classes are also producing a huge mural on the themes of Aboriginal Culture and Tolerance. This mural will be entered in the South-West Region Aboriginal Art Competition with its theme

being the International Year of Tolerance. Through this whole program, the two classes have certainly learned a great deal about tolerance – accepting each others differences and working together in a harmonious and co-operative way.

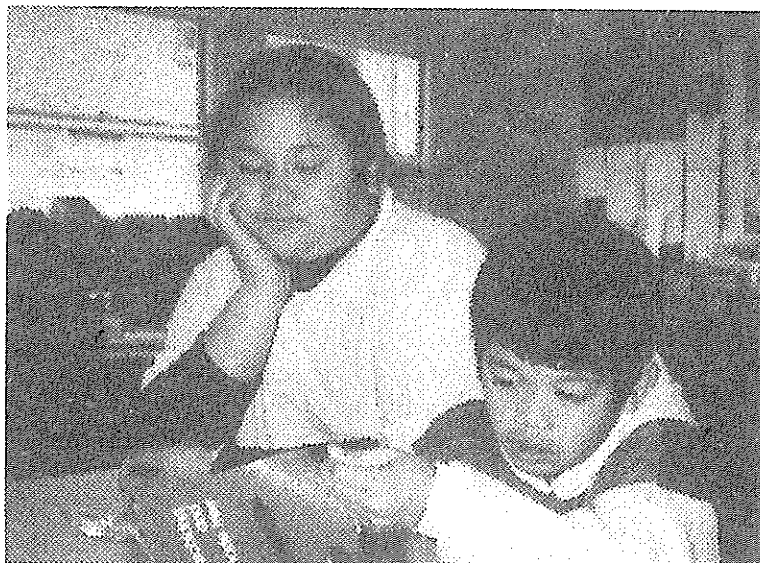


This HSIE CabraLinks program has also been a lead up to the Schools' Celebration of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week which will take place

in Week I of Term III.

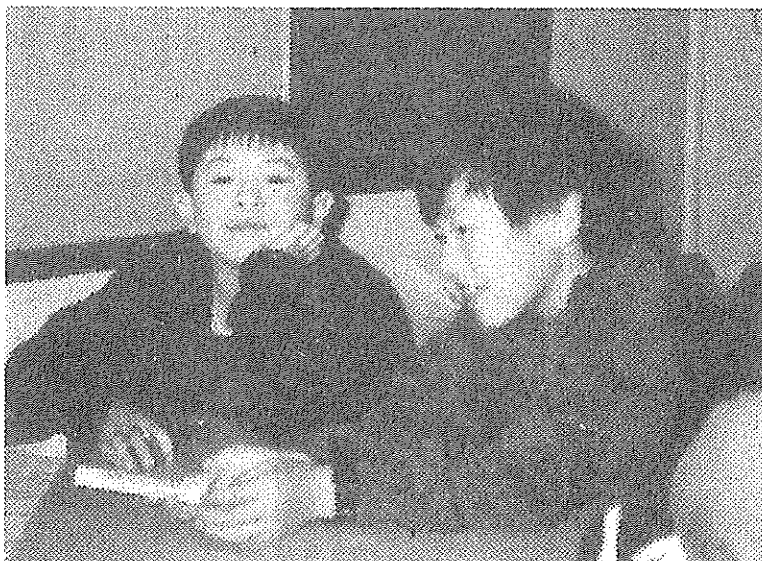
Ms Farrell (Year 3 teacher) and I believe that our students have enjoyed working together and both classes have learned many valuable lifelong skills such as written, verbal and reading communication skills, interpersonal and leadership skills. The two classes must be commended for their enthusiasm, motivation and exemplary behaviour!

Ms Kougelos



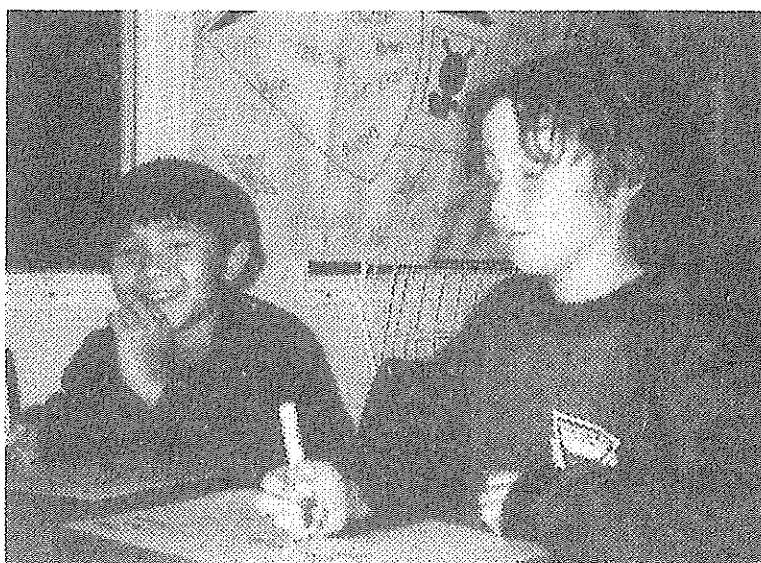
#### Student comments:

*"I've learnt a lot of leadership skills and how to talk confidently in front of an audience. It was fun teaching the little kids because they listened enthusiastically. I would enjoy doing it again. Overall, it was fun" – Tanja Djordjevic*



*"It has been a new experience for me and I have learnt more leadership skills. The Year 3 class at Cabramatta West P.S. were a great bunch of Kids. They seem to enjoy working with us and participated in all events that we did. It was great fun and I always look forward to working with them every week." – Houy Lim*

*"I like little kids but their first reaction to me was that they were scared. I tried to be as friendly as possible and it worked out eventually in the end. It was very nice working with them and I enjoyed being with them all. They were very excited to be doing work with 'big' kids." – Alice Huynh*



# ACO Concert to the Opera House

Cabramatta High School students are maintaining a tradition of attending concerts at the Sydney Opera House performed by the Australian Chamber Orchestra. The last concert attended was that of the 10th of March, which featured music by such notables as Henry Purcell (1659–1695), Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791), Camille Saint-Saëns (1835–1921) and Josef Suk (1874–1935).

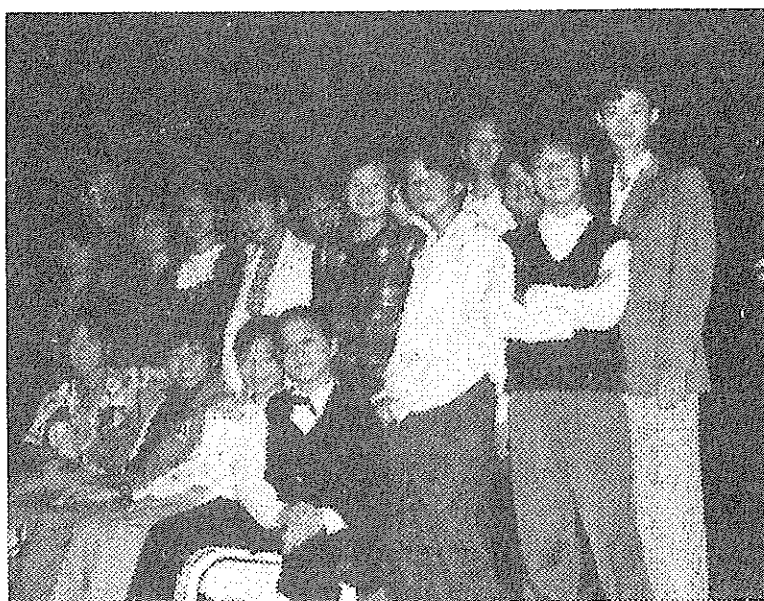
School groups with ten or more students can gain admittance to the concerts for the incredibly low price of \$8 each, and many students have made the outing a regular event. It appears that Cabramatta High is one of the very few schools to take advantage of this generous offer for its students.

The concert attendances are organised by Mr Gailey from the Music Department of the school, and with him on this occasion went Mr Wilson (our minibus driver), Ms Kostopoulos and Mrs Ballantyne. Students

from all Years of the school were invited, and those who attended ranged in age from 12 to 21. The students departed for the concert from the school, and most were taken “to their door” when we returned. One of the highlights of the concert excursion was dinner at McDonalds, Circular Quay (well, for the students at least!)

Most of the students have expressed interest in the next concert, which is scheduled for the 26th of August — a Saturday night — which will again feature Mozart, and also Beethoven. The next concert following this would be on the 17th of November.

The students have always been a credit to the school and their families on these excursions, which offer opportunities for musical experience that are not otherwise available in our region.



*The party assemble for the camera in the Opera House forecourt after the concert*

# ABSEILING

If students can do it – then teachers can too!

On Sunday 9th April, a group of staff, their family and some friends took up this challenge. Abseiling involves climbing down cliff faces while wearing a harness attached to ropes. The place for this day of adventure was Mount Keira, near Wollongong. Peter, our instructor, taught us all the skills necessary for safe abseiling, starting with the small nursery rock. This was where we practised climbing down heights of 6, 10 and 15 metres. There were screams of excitement (or perhaps fear!) as people made their first “jumps”.

After a picnic lunch the brave-hearted advanced to the mammoth 40 metre rock face. The thrill of descending down the face of a cliff, with a view of Wollongong over your shoulder 500m below, was amazing! The initial stage – of leaning back over the top of the cliff – was the most frightening. And then because we were facing backwards – we didn't have to look down if we didn't want to – it was just like climbing down a ladder, except it was about 17 storeys to the bottom! Some went back for a second and a third time, while one dare-devil went down facing forwards!

*The Thrill Seekers: Ms Kostopoulos, Ms Yeomans, Ms Geary, Mr Wilson, Ms Martin and Ms Bulmer*

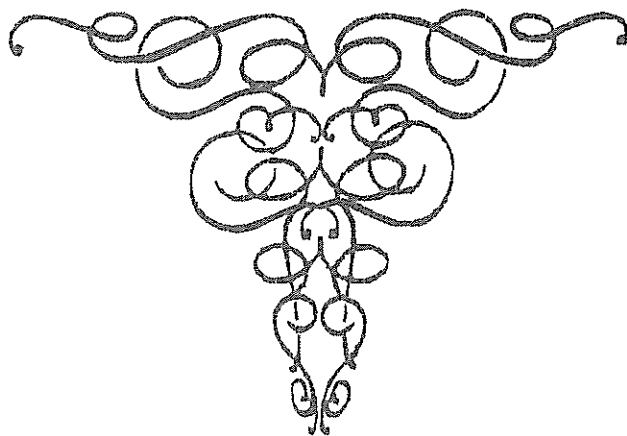


## English Classes for Parents

English classes for parents are being run by Jane Wu, a teacher for Outreach, TAFE Wetherill Park, at Cabramatta High School.

Outreach is a program run by TAFE and is aimed at parents who cannot attend fulltime AMES or TAFE classes. The parent class is held every Monday and Wednesday from 9.15 to 12.15 in the School's Conference Room.

*For more information telephone Gail Ballantyne or Grace Ngo on 726 2424.*



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*The editor of CabraMatters, Mr S.Gailey, takes this opportunity to thank all contributors of items of interest that made this edition possible. In particular Mrs G.Ballantyne, Ms J.Bulmer, Ms S.Cotsis, Ms S.Geary, Ms C.Kostopoulos, Ms H.Kougelos, Mrs C.Prados-Valerio*

# Aboriginal Day at Cabramatta High

(Year 9 Excursion)

Have you ever tried emu, kangaroo and crocodile meat?

Ever tasted fresh, hot damper?

Have you ever tried to make kookaburra sounds with a didgeridoo?

Ever wondered how an Aboriginal bush "telephone" works?

All these and more were tried, tasted and learnt on the 8th of June at Cabramatta High by a visiting Aboriginal group called the Western Sydney Community Aboriginal Corporation.

This group was invited to our school by the Human Society in its Environment (HSIE) Department as part of a lead-up to our school's celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week, to be officially held in Term III Week 1, and as part of our learning about Aboriginal Culture, History and Traditions in the Year 9 HSIE Course.

All Year 9 students and Year 3F from Cabramatta West Public School attended a number of workshops throughout the

day, learning about, trying out and having "hands-on" experience with various aspects of Aboriginal culture. The workshops included:—

- \* Bushtucker — damper, emu, kangaroo and crocodile meat which was prepared at our school,

- \* a display of Aboriginal art, artifacts and paintings,

- \* a display of Aboriginal musical instruments,

- \* a display of Aboriginal ancient weapons and tools,

- \* Aboriginal storytelling,

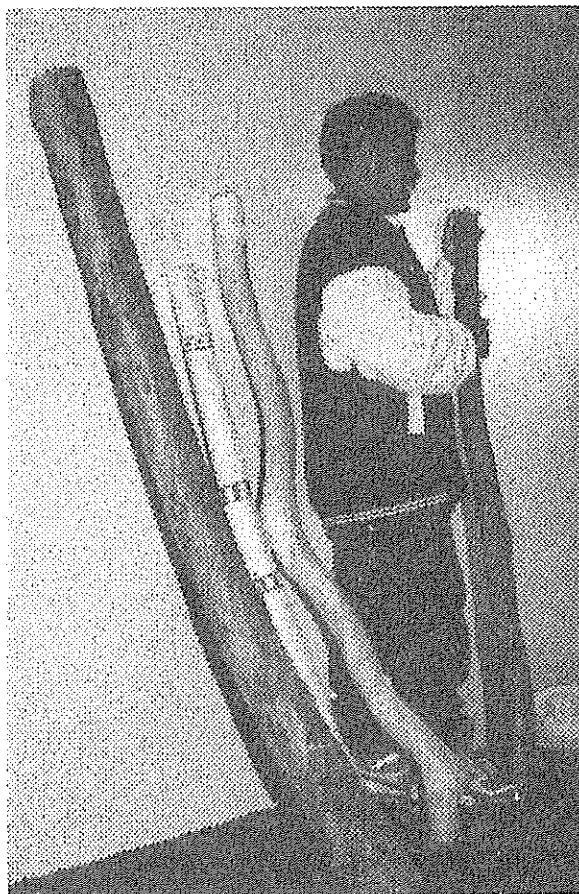
- \* a didgeridoo performance by two professional and experienced Aboriginal members,

- \* Cabramatta High and Primary students playing the didgeridoos,

- \* video viewing of Aboriginal culture of both today and the past.

Both Year 9 and Year 3 students thoroughly enjoyed the day and expanded their knowledge of Aboriginal culture, history and traditions.

*Here is a summary by one of the Year 9 students:*



*"Thursday, 8th June was a very rewarding and memorable day for the Year 9 students. An in-school excursion was held, organised by Year 9 Adviser Ms H. Kougelos. The whole purpose of the*

excursion was to learn and understand more about Aboriginal culture. It was a great opportunity and experience, and the day turned out to be very successful and fun. Moreover, the weather was just right, making it the perfect day for everyone to enjoy themselves.

Firstly, before the day's events were to begin, myself and the rest of the 9HS4 students were greeted warmly by a Year 3 class and their teacher, Ms Farrell, from Cabramatta West Public School. We had been working together for a number of weeks reading and producing Dreamtime stories.

After their arrival, we headed off to the Lecture Theatre where members of the Western Sydney Aboriginal Corporation introduced themselves. They explained how didgeridoos were produced and what materials were vital. Imitation of animal sounds were then performed, and everyone listened carefully with admiration.

Following that, we went off to our first activity in our separate HSE classes.

The demonstration of Aboriginal instruments attracted many volunteers, and with a little more practice, a band could almost be formed!

At recess, the Year 9 students

accompanied the Year 3 students, making them feel very welcome as guests.

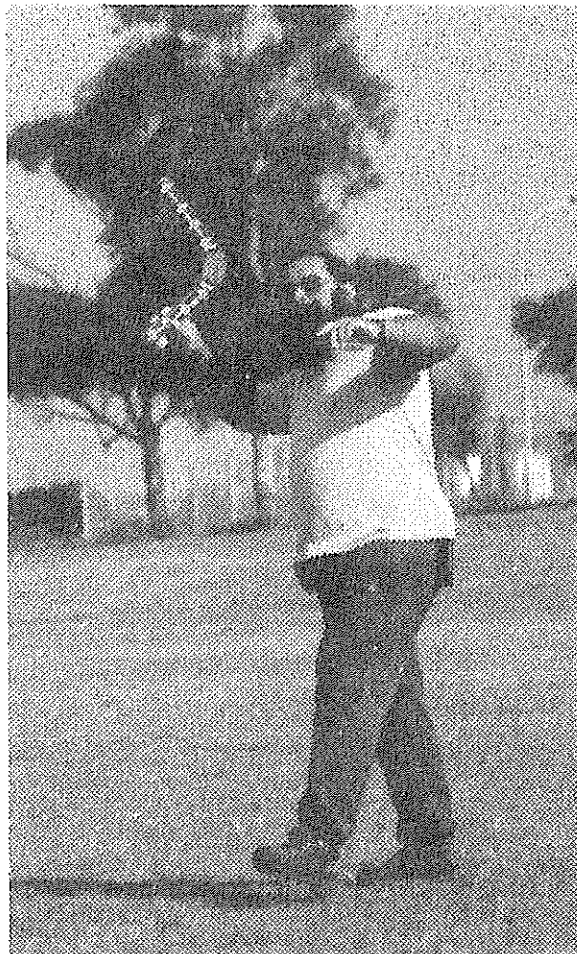
Watching a video about Aboriginal land, work, health and education was the next activity. The importance of these issues was illustrated thoroughly, especially the ways in which the white settler's arrival affected Aboriginal culture. Soon it was time for lunch. The Year 3 & 9 students had the privilege of a free barbecue cooked by Year 10 students.

After lunch, we had a taste of the Aboriginal diet. The food offered included kangaroo and emu meat, which both tasted like steak, and crocodile meat, which tasted like chicken, only better!!

Our next move was to the hall, where we observed with interest the exhibition of Aboriginal artefacts, arts and crafts. There was a variety of weapons, tools and decorations on display.

Lastly, everyone had the chance to throw a boomerang, being the most fun event of all. Before we knew it, the day was over. We were

praised highly on the success of the day, and there was nothing but smiles as each student left." — Linda Ngo



# Year 8 Camp At Lake Illawarra

May 10th – 12th

Eighty Seven Year 8 students and seven teachers enjoyed three days of camp activities, food, good weather and high spirits.

Activities included canoeing, archery, horseriding, cycling and orienteering

and all were well received by the students.

Honours go to Mr Munro for his orienteering expertese; Mr Blanch and his bikie gang for their “off the beaten track” cycling; Mr Wilson for his fence climbing ability; and to all of those students who managed to find their shoes.

On the return trip a stop was made at Minnamurra Falls with a short trek through the rainforest which ended at the waterfall.

Overall, a good time was had by all and special thanks go to the teachers attending for their invaluable help.



# Cabramatta Wins at the Regional Ancient Greek Drama Competition

Tuesday, June the 6th was a big day for Year 11 Ancient History students at Cabramatta High School. They took part in the Regional Section of the Annual Greek Drama Festival — and they won. Now they are on their way to the State Finals to be held at Macquarie University on the 20th of July, 1995.

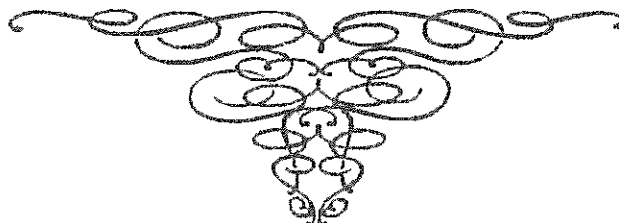
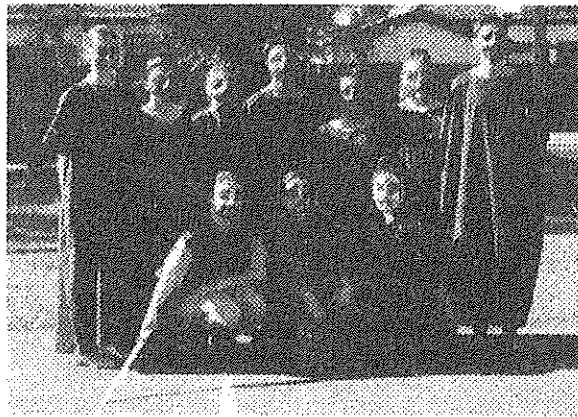
Taking part in the competition actually enhanced student learning by allowing students to research into acting techniques, Greek festivals and costumes. With the help of their

teacher, Ms Cotsis, the students made masks that were as close as possible to the masks that might have been used in Greece in about 500BC.

The students performed a small section from a play written by Æschylus called "The Choreiophoi", which is one of the plays in the "Oresteian TrilogY". The three plays deal with the return of Agamemnon from the Trojan Wars and his murder by his wife. The section Cabramatta High School performed dealt with the murder of Agamemnon's wife by her son, who was revenging his father's death.

The participants were of a very high standard. All schools performed well and the students had an enjoyable day through the spirit of competition and being involved in active learning.

Parents, staff and students formed the audience and a good time was had by all.



# Term III Community Calendar 1995

## III

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Term III commences Monday, 17th July – ends Friday, 22nd September

Thursday, 27th July: Beyond Year 10 – Final Session

Wednesday & Thursday, 2nd & 3rd August: School Certificate Reference Test

Friday, 4th August: Staff Development Day

Monday, 7th August: Year 11 Work Experience begins (2 weeks)

Thursday, 10th August: School Council (6.30 pm)

Monday, 14th August: Trial Higher School Certificate begins (2 weeks)

Wednesday, 16th August: Regional Athletics Carnival (day 1)

Wednesday, 16th August: Year 7 Parent / Teacher Meeting

Thursday, 17th August: Regional Athletics Carnival (day 2)

Monday, 28th August: Year 11 Final Examinations begin (2 weeks)

Friday, 8th September: CHS Athletics Carnival

Monday, 11th September: Education Week begins

Thursday, 14th September: School Council (6.30)

Friday, 15th September: Co-operation Day

Tuesday, 19th September: Year 9 Awards Ceremony

Friday, 22nd September: Year 7 Awards Ceremony

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