

The

ESSENGER

Mansfield Rudolf Steiner
School & Kindergarten
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MONDAY 23RD NOV. 09

TERM 4 WEEK 7

*The sons of God are One
and I am one with them
I seek to love not hate,
I seek to serve and not
exact undue service
I seek to heal, not hurt.*

*Let pain bring due reward
of light and love
Let the soul control the
outer form and life and
all events
and bring to light the
Love with underlies
the happenings of the time.*

*Let vision come and insight
Let the future stand revealed
Let inner union demonstrate
and outer cleavages be gone
Let Love prevail
Let all men love.*

GREETINGS! AND WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF THE MESSENGER.

2009 - SCHOOL EVENTS AND DATES TO REMEMBER.....

Term IV Tuesday 13TH October - Wednesday 16th December

CLASS 5 & 6 SURF CAMP Monday 23rd - Wednesday 25th November

CLASS 1 & 2 PLAY Thursday 26th November 'King of Ireland's Son' in the Merton Hall 7.00pm

Report Writing Day - Student Free Friday 27th November

CLASS 8 GRADUATION Change of Date: 4th December in Merton Hall 7.00pm

Little Kinder Last Session for 2008 - Christmas festival Thursday 10th December

End of Year MUSIC concert at PAC TUESDAY 1st December

LAST DAY OF TERM - Christmas festivals - Wednesday 16th December

Staff Clean up day - Thursday 17th December

COT/Faculty meeting - Friday 18th December

CLASS 1 & 2

WE ARE BUSY REHEARSING for our class play 'The King of Ireland's Son' which we will perform on Thursday 26th November 7pm in Merton Hall. All children should be delivered to the hall at 6.30pm on the night, thank you, Jeanette.

THE GRAPEVINE

LITTLE KINDER

Last week, to escape the heat of the day we spent time indoors making woollen twists and enjoying imaginative play.

KINDERGARTEN/PREP

The caterpillars have continued to be a focus this week. Each day a community of little creatures are collected, observed and cared for. The children built a castle inside for them all to live in. Then at the end of the day they are released back to the garden.

CLASS 1 & 2

Although the children have experienced a difficult week with such hot weather they have persevered with our play rehearsals. Coupled with this both the Class 1 and 2 children have worked well on their readers producing some beautiful writing and illustrations.

CLASS 3 & 4

The children were amazed with the Class 7 & 8 play of *The Tempest*. "How could they learn all those lines?" Thank you to Class 7 & 8 for such a fantastic performance. Meanwhile there has been serious sanding of shields in preparation for decorating.

CLASS 5 & 6

We are on camp at Phillip Island Mon to Wed this week enjoying an educational coastal experience and activities.

CLASS 7 & 8

Last Thursday night was the culmination of hundreds of hours of preparation. Lines learnt of language unfamiliar, meaning gained, characters understood and developed, costumes designed, fabrics purchased and sewn. Songs practised and music selected...backdrops painted, props built, stage prepared, publicity organised. Putting on a play takes an enormous effort and is not always an easy task, some are disappointed by their parts and others are overwhelmed. I believe the greatest gift that Class 7 & 8 students gave their audience last week was their BEST! Although those not familiar with Shakespeare may have found it difficult to understand the language I am sure everyone could appreciate the dedication and striving of the students to present their part to the best of their ability. "I have great confidence in this group me thinks", with their talents and personalities that they can perform anything asked of them - even turning up to Sunday rehearsals!

Congratulations to the students, and *Thank You* to all those parents who supported the play in any way. *Thank you* also to Ray Magnus for volunteering a hand.

A special mention must be made of Polly Ritchie, for the mammoth role of Prospero, which she obligingly undertook and steadily prepared herself. A huge thank you to Helen Hunt, the class were very lucky to have her involvement. Her passion, knowledge and expertise were an invaluable help. To Arthur, who I think has become the official godfather of the Class; he stepped in quietly and took over the set building and sound. He's even talking about next year! The school is also fortunate to have such a talented and generous craft teacher who produced such magnificent costumes.

It was great to have the play taken out to the wider community via Eileen. Maybe in the years to come it will become an annual event on the Mansfield Arts Calendar.

Now *The Tempest* has finally abated. We are back to reality with our new Main Lesson of 'Being Prepared', which will involve lots of revision of maths and science. Richard Smith is coming in for 2 sessions to revise chemistry and physics.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

STRATEGIC PLAN - The Committee of Management has been working on the School's Strategic plan for 2010-2013, with the help of consultant Ian Stehlik who consulted with the School Community in August. The plan is now complete and is available for anyone interested either from the office, or download from our website (Admin section - later this week).

BUSHFIRE POLICY You may have heard about various new initiatives regarding schools and extreme weather this year. The School Policy Committee is currently reviewing our Emergency Management Policies and Procedures. I am in consultation with the Department of Education, the Shire and other Mansfield District Schools & children's services, with a final meeting at the end of this month. The purpose of the meetings has been to ensure broader consultation and input for our own Emergency Management Plans, so there is some joint coordination. Our review should be finished early in December, and I will be publicising that then. Some information though, from the Department (still to be finally confirmed, but this is likely): Mansfield township is *not* considered a designated fire risk area, and Schools in Mansfield town will *not be required* to close on "Code Red" days, although they may choose to. There are arguments for and against this and we are working through that. Busses to/from Jamieson, Merrijig and Tolmie which *are* designated high risk areas will not run on "Code Red" days.

BUS USERS Please note that from 2010 the minimum age for children using the State Bus service will be the **PREP** age child. All Kindergarten children attending the school will need to be transported to school and signed in by an adult carer, thank you.

LIBRARY

ROALD DAHL IS GREAT! Having finished our 'Snake and Lizard' stories (such sad cries from the children!) We are having a delightfully shivery time with Dahl's 'The Minpins' - we haven't worked out what a pernicious snid is yet! Does your class 3-6 child have an idea?

With only a few weeks to go, could every family make that extra effort to find books and return them - please! (Maybe this is a good time to remind you ALL of books as the BEST PRESENTS!!! Keep the reading habit going over the holidays - fact or fiction - just read!!!!) Happy reading, Kaye.

MUSIC

A NUMBER OF STUDENTS sat AMEB exams last Friday at school, we congratulate them for their efforts and wish them well. Thanks also to the music faculty for their encouragement and support of this opportunity for those students involved.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

LITTLE KINDER-CLASS 8

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

THANKS to all parents who with their busy schedules have taken a bag of decorations to hand craft. Thank you also to Janine for preparing and handcrafting the Year 7 decorations and to Janine, Cam and Eileen for completing the Year 8 decorations.

All bags to be return by FRIDAY 4TH December (Little Kinder breaks up the week before Kinder/School). Extra materials available from the office.

Many hands make light work

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RUDOLF STEINER 'TEACHER TRAINING' INTRODUCTORY EVENING

WEDNESDAY 8pm NOVEMBER 25TH - AN EVENING of talks with the coordinator, tutors and present students of the Seminar. There will be some examples of work on display. A question time will follow and then supper. This course offers training in Steiner education, arts, sciences and individual development. Enquiries: Sandra Paulka, Melbourne Rudolf Steiner Seminar 37A Wellington Park Drive, Warranwood Ph: 9876 5199 office@steinerseminar.com

MANSFIELD LIBRARY

Stained glass birds and butterflies Tuesday 24th November 3.45pm
Christmas Angels Tuesday 8th December 3.45pm BOOKINGS 5775 2176

REQUEST FROM ISHE

A dear friend in Gembrook has advanced cancer and I would like to pull out all stops to support her healing whatever the outcome. I will be seeing her 28th / 29th of this month and ask if anyone in the community has a lymphasiser I could borrow for her to use in the next few months. It will be well taken care of and returned at the earliest time, please call Ishe 57752058.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - Summer Camp by the Sea 2010

Friday 8th to Wednesday 13th January - Burnside camp, Anglesea. Our exciting 5 day program will include a variety of children's games, art and craft activities, adult's study group, singing, storytelling and of course beach activities. Adults \$330 Youth \$280 Children \$230. A deposit of \$100 is required to confirm bookings - Summer Camp 2010 P.O. Box 413 Hawthorn 3122
All enquiries to Wendy Ryan 03 9725 9694 or 0448 535 525. (To apply for a concession please write to the Camp Committee at the same address).

	<u>KINDER</u>	<u>SCH 1</u>	<u>SCH 2</u>	<u>SCH 3</u>	<u>SCH 4</u>
Mon 23rd Nov.	Cam	Kerstie	Kerstie	Rebecca	Allison
Tues. 24 th Nov.	Melinda	Kerstie	Kerstie	Allison	Allison
Wed. 25 th Nov.	Helen	Patterson	Patterson	Allison	Allison
Thurs. 26 th Nov.	Lisa	Clare Ch.	Sarah B.	Sarah B.	Jenny R
Fri. 27 th Nov.	Lisa	Lyndal	Lyndal	Charlotte	Jenny R
Windows- Sharon	Merton Hall- Sarah Mc	Outdoors -John	Merton Hall-Fri. Sarah McC		

Please bear with us this term as we determine what is working well and what is not, if you have any queries please speak with Sally or Richard, thank you.

**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S
THE TEMPEST
YEAR 7 & 8 CLASS PLAY 2009**



If you missed this extraordinary production by our Yr 7 & 8 players DVD's are available for order in the school office at just \$25 each. Congratulations to all involved...



Paula Constant will be giving a presentation of her trek to Class 5 - 8 students
On THURSDAY afternoon 3rd DECEMBER

Paula has kindly requested
a 'Gold Coin' donation
to cover her costs.

(A reminder note will be sent home requesting this cover charge prior to the day)



IN 2004, Paula Constant began walking from Trafalgar Square in London. Since then, she has walked over 12000km through 8 countries: England, France, Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Mauritania, Mali and Niger. The walk has been done in three separate stages – the first leg, from London to MHamid el Ghizlaine in Southern Morocco, was walked with her husband Gary during 2004-5. Paula and Gary returned to the desert in September 2005 and continued with four camels and local guides. When Gary left the walk that November, Paula continued on to walk over 2,800 km through Morocco and the Western Sahara. She returned to Australia in June 2006 after her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, and in October of that year returned to Mauritania to continue her walk – this time planning to complete a West to East crossing of the Sahara on foot with only local and camel support. She received sponsorship from Dove Australia, Birkenstock Australia, and Utopia travel insurance for this leg of the walk, and chose to dedicate the walk to raising awareness for the National Breast Cancer Foundation of Australia. Paula went on to walk over 4,200 km through the Sahara, passing Tomboctou in Mali and entering Niger, where she was stopped by authorities due to a civil war which is as yet unresolved. She was over halfway across the desert when she was forced to halt her walk.

Her first book, *Slow Journey South*, was released by Random House in Australia in 2008. Her second, *Sahara* is in store now.