



Connections

JULY 2006



ELTHAM IN ACTION!

If there's a while since you visited us, ELTHAM in Action tour is a great way to get to know your school again. You'll see how young people are given the freedom to learn and make their dreams happen. Join us at our Research Campus to see our innovative programs in action and meet our students and staff. Visit us to experience Freedom to Learn on the following 2006 dates:

- JULY:** Friday 28
- AUGUST:** Thursday 3, Friday 11, Friday 18
- OCTOBER:** Friday 20, Thursday 26
- NOVEMBER:** Friday 3, Friday 10
- Junior Years Entry (ELC - Year 4):** Tours leave at 9.15 and 9.30am
- Adult Years Entry (Years 5-8):** Tours leave at 9.00am, 9.15am and 9.30am
- Senior Years Entry (Years 9-12):** Tours leave at 9.30am

For further information, please contact the Recruitment Office on 9437 1423 or email registrar@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au



Welcome

to the second edition of Connections, the publication that celebrates the entire ELTHAM College of Education community through the members of its key support associations: ECCA, ExECS and Foundation.

Connections supports the sharing of news, ideas and event information between these dynamic organisations that work to friend-raise and fundraise for the College, encourage parent and community participation, and network with former students.

This edition of Connections celebrates some of the exciting initiatives launched by ELTHAM and its key associations in the past six months. These initiatives are representative of the spirit of innovation which has earned ELTHAM an international reputation as one of Australia's leading independent schools.

Connections is published by the ELTHAM College of Education, 160 Box Hill Road, Box Hill, Victoria 3008. It is published twice a year. For more information, please contact the Publications Office on 9437 1423 or email registrar@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au



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PAVILION OPENING

Roy Show, ex-Collingwood Captain, Margaret Kirkright and family joined College Founder, Les Clarke, ExECS, Foundation and ECCA members to officially open the Arthur W. Kirkright Sports Pavilion on Sunday 7 May. XX Football and XX Cricket Club members enjoyed the long-awaited opening.

Quoting ELTHAM Founding President, Don Davey, Les Clarke recognized the late Arthur W. Kirkright, former ELTHAM Business Director. "To enjoy watching an Australian Rules game with AWK was an experience in itself. You never knew where his good natured banter would lead. Arthur's premiership playing filled us all into the realisation of the value but the transcendence of Mr's personal relationships and friendships. This occasion is a fitting tribute to a College identity whom we now salute."

Like the oval, the Pavilion is about ELTHAM's relationship with the community. At weekends, ELTHAM is crowded with young and older people participating in sport. We have community soccer, AFL, cricket, tennis and basketball. Our oval, one amongst the most widely used in the State.



ELTHAM NORTH CHILD CARE GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Rock, pool, music programs and visits from local firemen are all part of helping the children at Eltham North Child Care to develop a sense of self. The focus on individual development is warm and fun environment has made Eltham North Child Care one of the most highly regarded child care facilities in the community.

"Our focus every day is to make sure that each child goes home feeling respected, loved and valued with a sense of belonging to the community. We aim to provide the opportunity for each child to broaden their world and feel comfortable in an environment beyond their family. We believe that this builds a healthier confidence in the child's self," says Somma Dempsey, Director of Eltham North Child Care. "This is made possible by our dedicated staff. We have an outstanding team of 25 professionals that provide their utmost in creating a warm environment that feels as much like home as possible. A trained staff turnover reinforces this focus."

Eltham North Child Care was designed and built with the child's enjoyment in mind, reflecting Eltham North's belief from its inception that the well-being of children must be its central focus. Programs occur daily such as music, palace visits and watching children's hockey. Ms. Dempsey and her staff make a regular commitment to attending conferences that encourage new ideas and programs to facilitate learning.

"Children find the programs exciting and interesting and these are designed to see the child with unlimited potential. Knowledge is drawn from each child by the influence of their relevant ideas and through personal engagement between teacher and child. We receive consistently positive feedback from parents about what we bring to their children's lives," says Ms. Dempsey.



Eltham North Child Care Director, Somma Dempsey, shares a moment with a young learner.

Eltham North Child Care is also a successful business. The high level of enrollment, over 85 places is due to a strong word-of-mouth reputation.

"The ELTHAM Foundation Board has been pleased with the performance of Eltham North. We have a very high regard for the work of Foundation and Early Learning in its building which includes a host of environmentally sustainable design elements. This includes a solar-boosted hot water service, a high efficiency heating and cooling system, and extensive insulation in the walls and ceiling. The orientation and design of the building ensures maximum solar gain in winter and shading in summer."

The Active Foundations' 'Breathe Easy' principles were also incorporated into the interior design which includes dust partitioning and maintenance areas of cleaning to keep the internal atmosphere fresh and clean.

As well as having a focus on health and safety, the builders of Eltham North Child Care have also focused on creating an interactive, which would match the programs developed by staff.

"What we have achieved in Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning is a series of thoughtful and smart decisions compared to other child care facilities in its form, function, and design, which includes making it friendly, interesting, and comfortable for the children and staff," says Chris Seidler, Managing Director of Seidler Project Development. We translated that into lots of curves and angles, and incorporated a range of surfaces and finishes that will add interest. This includes the playground with interactive garden spaces such as wash out areas and soil pits for planting."

The ELTHAM Foundation was delighted with Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning and it would make a tremendous and very necessary addition to the community. We look forward to many years of wonderful memories for the youngsters whose first experience of relationships and learning outside the family home will take place at Laurusim's say ELTHAM Foundation Chairman, Allen Williams.

Further enquiries about Eltham North Child Care should be made to Somma Dempsey at +61 3 9437 1424



CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS EVENTS 2006

Saturday 29 July 7.00pm - ECCA Dinner Dance Grand Hyatt Melbourne	Friday 24 November 7.00pm - ECCA ELTHAM Years 5-12 Sports Awards Evening Telstra Dome, Melbourne
Tuesday 8 August 7.30pm - Student Council Annual Fashion Festival The Centre, Leithouse	Saturday 2 December 10.00am - 2.00pm ELTHAM Year 5-12 Multipurpose Hall ELTHAM College of Education
Saturday 12 August 7.00pm - 20 Year Reunion (Class of 1986) ELTHAM Hospitality Training Centre	10 Year Reunion (Class of 1996) 2006 dates to be advised. For more information on this event, email your name and details to eaccs@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au
Wednesday 13 September 7.30pm - ExECS AGM Conference Room ELTHAM College of Education	Sunday 8 October 10.00am - 5.00pm ECCA Food, Wine & Fun Fair ELTHAM Sporting Fields & Hospitality Training Centre

Freedom to Learn

Roll up, roll up, for the greatest circus in town!



This year of Year 8 begins our first Circus Wastide tour to be precise. This initiative, premier physical theatre company, in partnership with the Year 8 team, has developed a pilot program to engage students in an exciting and demanding experience. Students have been visiting the Wastide space in Fitzroy for a weekly two hour workshop since late April.

As part of our new Interdisciplinary Learning (IL) program, the Circus gives our students the opportunity to learn in a physical, cooperative and stimulating environment away from the traditional classroom setting. Whether it's up on the trapeze top and climb swing or down to acrobats, tumbling, juggling, balancing and clowning, new skills have been learnt and challenges met.

Pyramids, group balances and trust games are also provided the opportunity to challenge and support each other while cooperation and consideration are "theory" the "name of the game". During our exercise loop, under the watchful eye of talented circus workers, Lucy, Sarah, Alicia, Dylan and Noah,

class groups play theatre games and physically warm-up and stretch before embarking on skill development using specific circus apparatus.

As the weeks have gone by students have elected on one (acrobats, tumbling, clowning, juggling etc) in which they wish to specialise. The disciplines were presented to an audience of Year 8 parents and other middle years students on Thursday 15 June at Wastide's Fitzroy Circus venue in a thrilling performance.

The Year 8 team is very excited about the program. It has been especially pleasing to watch all students step together in an extremely supportive and focused manner. This year's program has been a pilot scheme and it's hoped ELTHAM Year 8 students will be making a speciality of themselves for many years to come.



LAURSIM CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING OPENS DOORS TO COMMUNITY



The official opening of Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning was celebrated by many guests including ELTHAM Foundation Chairman, Allen Williams, Laurusim Child Care Director, Somma Dempsey, Managing Director of Seidler Project Development, Chris Seidler, Laurusim's Director, Alica Woodard and Eltham North Child Care Director, Somma Dempsey.

This outstanding new facility was officially opened on Sunday 4 July by Danielle Green, State Member for Yan Yean, Wills/Murray, Councillor John Fry, also spoke at the event which was attended by over 100 guests. Both Ms Green and Cr Fry praised the centre for setting new standards for child care, highlighting its child-centred focus and the environmentally-friendly and aesthetically-appealing aspects of the design.

Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning offers a new level of child care in the Laurusim Estate development and the City of Whittlesea. The design of this purpose facility maximises play and learning areas for children, as well as work areas for staff. The architectural form and function make it light, bright, and airy space that has a sense of openness and tranquility.

"At Laurusim, we are a long day care that also offers kindergarten. We employ people with a love of children who are dedicated to developing a child's self. Our focus is on the child's needs. Ever-loving of Laurusim, from the building to the programs, has been designed to further develop and entertain children. We provide resources to playworkers with child care and three to five-year-olds in early learning with an atmosphere that is nurturing and fun," says Laurusim's Director, Somma Dempsey.

One of many outstanding features of Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning is its building which includes a host of environmentally sustainable design elements. This includes a solar-boosted hot water service, a high efficiency heating and cooling system, and extensive insulation in the walls and ceiling. The orientation and design of the building ensures maximum solar gain in winter and shading in summer.

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Further enquiries and enrolment details for Laurusim Child Care and Early Learning should be made to Alicia Woodard at +61 3 9717 3761.



