

# COLLINGWOOD ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*The monthly school newsletter*



## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

What's coming up

**Tuesday 30th March**

**Collingwood Campus** Portrait Exhibition,  
Smoking ceremony with Uncle Robbie

**Wednesday 31st March**

**Broadmeadows** Acknowledgement of Country  
and Park Excursion

**Thursday 1st April**

Last Day of Term, Graduation Ceremonies  
**School Finishes 2pm**

**Friday 2nd April**

Good Friday, **No School**

**Monday 19th April**

First Day of Term 2

## Inside the March issue:

- Key dates for your diary
- Principal's Message
- Craigieburn Beach  
Excursion
- Makerspace
- Collingwood Campus  
Portrait Exhibition and  
Smoking Ceremony

*Above: Uncle Robbie performing a Smoking  
Ceremony at the Collingwood Campus Portrait  
Exhibition. Continued on page 7.*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear parents and carers,

Tomorrow, Thursday 1st April, is the final day of term 1. I am very happy that we have had an 'almost normal' school term.

There have been a number of special activities to ensure our students feel happy and have a sense of belonging to the school as they have returned to face to face learning.

We know that our students were challenged by remote learning in 2020 and teachers have been working very hard to ensure students are supported and engaged in their learning. Many students have struggled with concentrating for longer periods of time and we have supported and encouraged students to build their concentration levels back up. We know that some students take a little bit longer to do this and we need to be patient.

CELS has celebrated harmony day this week with a gathering and an exhibition of portraits created by our students. Some classes were very lucky to meet Robbie Thorpe, an elder from the indigenous community. Your children should be able to tell you about this very special day. As usual our newsletter contains photos and student writing about their learning.

Thank you for checking your Compass messages each week. You can also go to our website for information including important school dates and all our newsletters.

The school website is  
<https://www.collingwoodels.vic.edu.au/>

Have a safe and happy holiday. Term 2 begins on Monday 19th April.

Catherine

## Guided Drawing and Gardening at Broadmeadows Campus



Building 4 recently did some fun "under the sea" guided drawing.

They had to carefully follow the tutorial to draw a sea turtle.



B52 have been learning about what plants need and how they grow. Two weeks ago they chose some seeds to plant in their garden beds. They have had some good results so far growing wheatgrass and radishes, and are waiting on the results from the carrots and beans.



# Craigieburn Beach

## Excursion

Two weeks ago, secondary students from Craigieburn Campus had an excursion to Altona beach. They then wrote a recount of their day. Some pictures from the day and some of their writing can be seen below.



our trip to Altona Beach

On Wednesday, I went to the beach with my classmates to learn how to be safe. First, C13, C21 and C31 got on the bus we put seat belt. The bus was clean and nice. Next we arrived to the beach we went to the change rooms. They were very crowded. After that we played soccer with my friends. It was difficult to play soccer on the sand because we couldn't walk. After, we sat under trees and ate lunch. After lunch we went and took the orange T-shirt and I wear it and then C22 went with lifesaver and also we C13, C22, C21 and C13 did many activities. The activities were very enjoyable and we had a lot of fun. Finally, we went to back to the school. Thank you to my school and to the teacher.

Jesus Sisi  
C13





### Our trip to Altona beach

Two days ago my school friends and I went to Altona beach with many teachers. First we stayed at school a hour before we went to bus. That was better because we did some homework with MRS Christine and I put sunscreen. Next the bus came and C32, C21, C13 were on the same bus and I sat next to Valentina. Bus seats were different and comfortable and mask was important in bus. After that we reached to the beach and some students went to change room and some went to walk on the bridge, I went to walk with them and I saw some people doing fishing then we went back. I played soccer with many friends on the sand. It was so fun to play soccer on the beach. Then we had a lunch time at the park. After lunch we got ready to swim and do activity. We did running with the body board and we wore life vest. They had three colour red, yellow, orange

I wore a yellow one and we swim in the deep water.

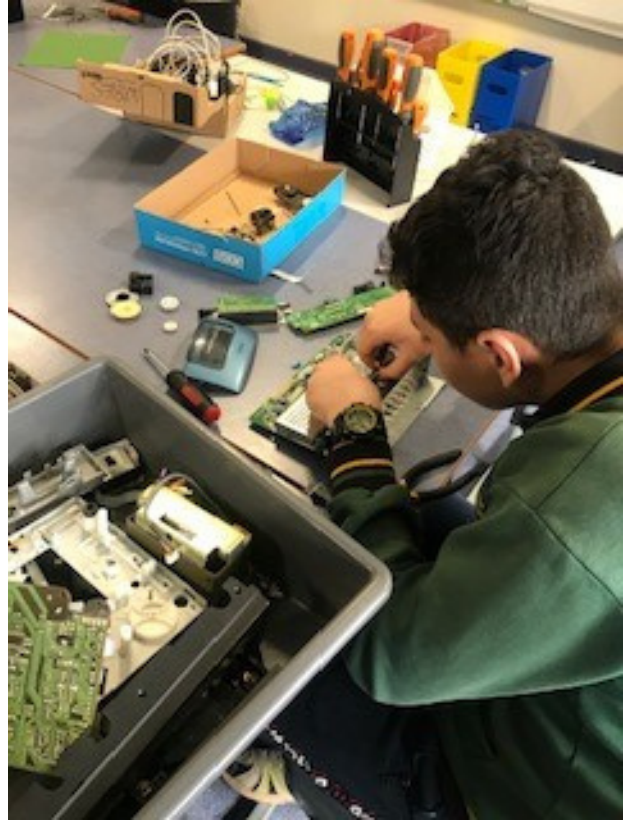
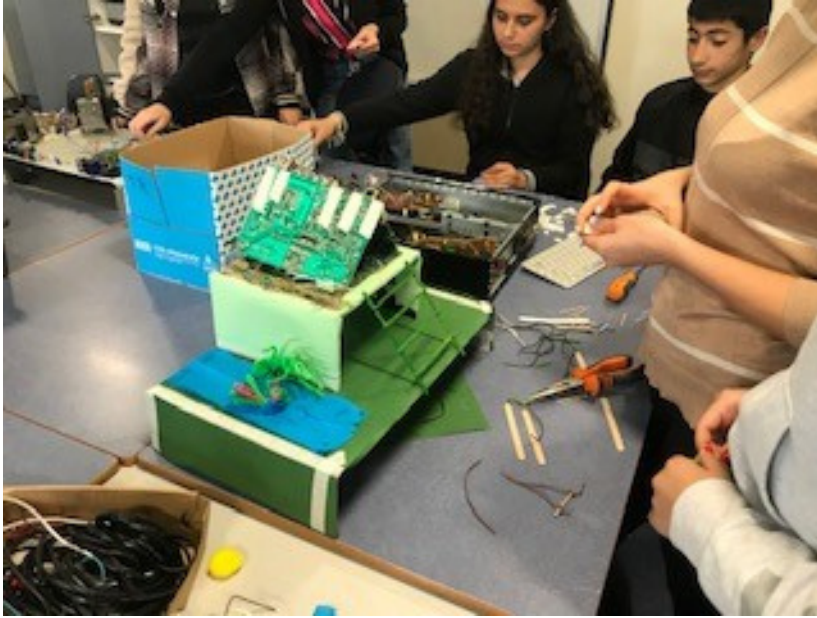
The life saver man taught us some information about life vest and he was so kind with us. Finally we finished all the activities and we went to change clothes again to change our wet clothes, I wore my outfit and I gave the orange T-shirt to some one that gave it to us before. Finally, we got into the bus and went back to school. We had so fun and I hope to repeat this day.

Lidya Noni  
C13





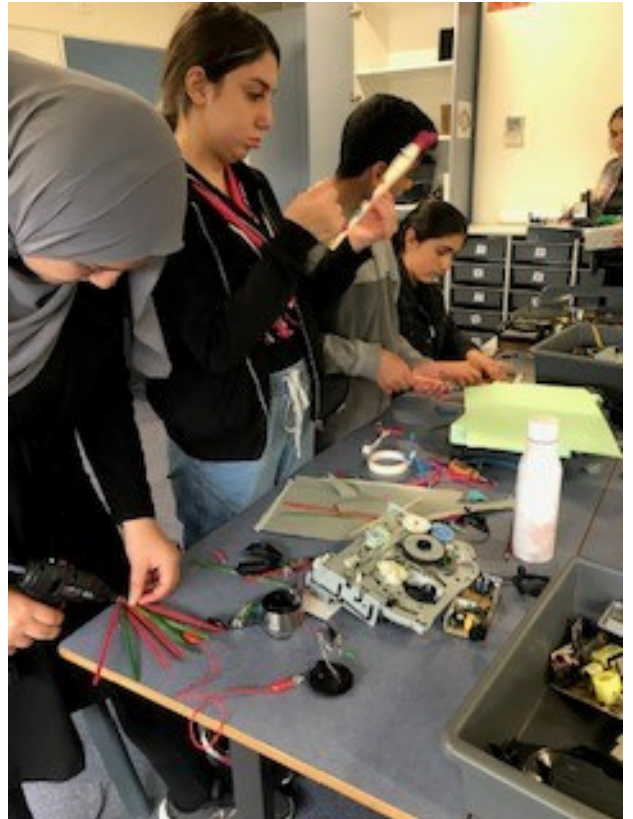
# ***MORE MAKERSPACE***



Here are some more pictures of students enjoying Makerspace this term. These pictures are from Broadmeadows campus.



Students are experimenting and learning about STEAM subjects through Makerspace - STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics.





# "Making a Fluid" Science Experiment with HG32



Students from HG32 recently conducted a science experiment on fluids with Marisa.



# COLLINGWOOD CAMPUS PORTRAIT EXHIBITION

## and Smoking Ceremony with Uncle Robbie

This Tuesday, the students at Collingwood Campus held a portrait exhibition with artworks they had created in class this term. Each class took a different approach to their portraits - some classes made *figurative* self-portraits, drawing themselves using mirrors, some made *abstract* self-portraits using objects that were significant to them. Some people made portraits of their families or people close to them. The students' artworks were displayed on boards in an outside gallery set up for the event.



Collingwood Campus was also visited by Uncle Robbie, who performed a Smoking Ceremony before the exhibition.

Uncle Robbie is a Tjapwhurrung Gundidjtjmarra and Krauatatungalung man from Lake Tyers and Snowy River Country. He has been active in indigenous solutions and has been a strong advocate for 'Pay the Rent', an indigenous initiative intended to provide an independent economic resource for Aboriginal peoples. His niece is Lidia Thorpe, Senator for Victoria. He is an important leader in the Melbourne community.



Smoking ceremonies are an ancient custom among Aboriginal Australians in which native plants are burnt to produce smoke and acknowledge the ancestors and pay respect to the land, waters and sea of country. The smoke is believed to have healing and cleansing properties. These days they are often performed to teach people about aboriginal customs and at special events in the community by a leader.

*Continued on next page*





More pictures from Collingwood's Portrait Exhibition. Special thanks to Kylie for organising the exhibition and smoking ceremony, to all of our art teachers - Effie, Rosemary, Irene, Sathy, and May, and all of our students for sharing their beautiful artworks with the school.