



CLAREMONT TIMES

This School Page in *The Mercury* was produced by students Emma Casey, Stephanie Gadd, Christine Wilson, Hope Taylor, Nicole Burton, Jessica Hawkes, Nathan Brown, Kaidie Eldridge, BJ Larkin, Matthew Wilson, Genevieve Peterson and Aaron Marney. Teacher: Gabrielle Falconer.

Question of mastering the essentials



SOLUTIONS: Students in the Essential Learnings Unit.

THIS year Claremont High School is offering a unit called Inquiry as part of the Essential Learnings framework.

This unit involves the investigation of understanding questions and how to ask them, and finding useful information and presenting it.

We have looked at World War II, the Great Depression, and the history of the Cadbury's factory, Gardner's Multiple Intelligences and how different people learn.

The whole idea of the unit is to teach skills that

focus on questioning, investigating, problem solving and evaluating these skills which could also be used in other subjects and various times during a student's life.

These days there is so much information readily available, that students need to be able to understand and be able to use these resources rather than memorise facts.

The Essential Learnings unit ties in with our new ELS reporting system. This unit and reporting system are new for parents and teachers. As a result we

have all approached it with some trepidation.

"However, the benefits students gain from using new found skills in Inquiry should outweigh any uncertainty we all may be feeling," the head of the Senior School, Mrs Walker, said.

The parents of students were a bit confused at the start but after talking to teachers and getting information from the school, the parents understand the unit is beneficial to everyone.

Nathan scores

NATHAN Brown from grade 10 has been chosen to compete in the under 16s State Soccer side. Nathan, who already plays seniors with Metro Soccer Club, says it is much more difficult playing against grown men because most of them have fairly big builds and are stronger than he is.

So far this year, he has kicked two goals in the seniors and two goals in the under 19s.

Nathan has been playing soccer for nine years and mainly plays as a striker and a midfielder.

He believes that there is a lot of talent in the under 16 state side and thinks they may be able to beat many of the teams that they play against.

His life goal is to be a professional soccer player and play for a highly rated club overseas.

He would love to represent his country in the Socceroos.

He loves the game and feels that soccer comes before anything except for family.

Claremont goes for gold

CLAREMONT High School students are participating in the Wakakirri national dance competition for the first time.

The Wakakirri is a story told on stage using a mixture of movement and acting to pre-recorded music or live pop vocals.

The Wakakirri competition is well known throughout Australia with over 600 schools participating and allowing more than 40,000 students to perform on stage, and be televised across Australia.

Wakakirri is an Aboriginal word meaning story dance. The event involves six competitions including dance, storytelling, singing, film, writing, and story-boarding.

Wakakirri is affordable because the competition encourages schools to use a wide range of re-useable and recyclable items instead of expensive props and costumes.

Claremont High School will be telling the story of "Choices and Decisions" and how these affect young teenagers in today's society. Sometimes young people come to an intersection in their lives where they make decisions that will affect their outcome in life.

The performers from Claremont High School will represent the idea of good and bad choices through the characters of an angel and devil.



JOURNEY BEGINS: Claremont High School students begin work on their Wakakirri performance.

The story follows a group of teenagers in difficult situations, such as at a party where they are offered drugs. Some of the teenagers give way to peer pressure which leads to bad or good outcomes.

This year the participating Tasmanian schools will perform at The Wrest Point Casino on August 25 and 26. It is the first year that Claremont High has been in the production.

Students are being helped

by teacher Miss Peta Revell, who has participated in five Wakakirri performances with other schools.

She says the students will need to be prepared for a long hard journey of scripting, prop-making, dance routines

but most of all rehearsal.

Wakakirri isn't just about winning — it is about having a go, having self-esteem, gaining confidence, having pride in your school and having fun.

Activity Afternoon

ONCE a fortnight Claremont High School students have an Activities Afternoon.

The activities include department and grooming, netball, dance sport, wakakirri, golf, soccer, BMX bike riding, photography, relaxation and there are many more. Teachers think the Activities Afternoon is good because the students gain confidence, new skills, and have a lot of fun.

Students like the Activities Afternoon because they can have a break from their normal classes and spend some time with their friends having fun.

Learning Centre

CLAREMONT High School has introduced a new Learning Centre in the senior school.

This room provides assistance for anyone who would like it but especially for students with special needs.

The room has benefits for teachers and students, as the teachers can send small groups to get extra help with their work and students can get individualised assistance.

Students use this room at recess and lunch to socialise and play games such as air hockey and table soccer.

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