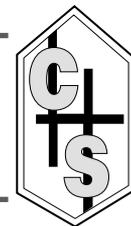


A new day for Claremont High



In brief

Shared stories

SHARED Stories is a program which has been run by Mrs Elliott, our principal's mother, for the last four years.

A group of female students talks to Mrs Elliott about their lives and she shares stories about hers. It is interesting for all to compare experiences and gives the students a perspective on how our world has changed — or stayed the same.

Across the ages

STUDENTS from Claremont High visit nearby Windermere Hostel and spend time with the elderly residents.

This program teaches students that we all share similar needs, no matter what our age. It is an enjoyable experience for both the students and the residents.

School visitors

CLAREMONT High recently hosted principals of high schools in the northern suburbs of Melbourne to discuss the Real Learning Real Futures programs.

This year Claremont High ran the Derwent Maritime program with the Austins Ferry Yacht Club. Six students who have taken part in the program discussed their experiences with the visiting principals.

Boxing champs

TWO Claremont High students, Melanie Daniels and Scott Briggs, recently went to Adelaide to represent Tasmania in the National Under 16 Championships. Melanie claimed a silver medal.

School page contributors:

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Fresh look for school

BIG changes have been taking place in the grounds of Claremont High School for the past three years.

The redevelopment at the 43-year-old school has cost more than \$2 million and caused minor disruptions to classes for a year but it will all soon be finished.

One of the major changes has been the removal of "D" Block — a two-storey building that stood in the centre of the grounds and was the main offender in giving the school a classic 1961 factory look.

There is now a grass area where it stood.

The long corridor that ran through the Arts block has also gone, leaving individual classrooms and a much quieter school.

Students aren't going to get wet when it rains any more because of the new covered walkways and fences have been built around the perimeter of the school as an effective security measure.

Classrooms have been updated from bleak and boring to modern and brightly coloured (like the red home economics room).

All regular classrooms have computers for student use and there are two new computer labs.

There are new desks, new whiteboards and other teaching resources.

Mature trees will be planted later this year and more landscaping will create a more attractive paved area between buildings.

Coupled with the physical improvements, enrolments were up 10 per cent in 2004.

"The community has responded really strongly to the programs on offer and the redeveloped campus," said Claremont High principal Malcolm Elliott, who is a former student of the school.

One of the last things still to be made over is the uneven surfaces between the bottom classrooms. Quotes are now being received for this work.



BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE: School principal Malcolm Elliott with student Hope Taylor.

Newsreader back in classroom

CLAREMONT High School opened its doors in 1961.

The new high school had many grade 7 students, one of them being future WIN television national newsreader John Remess.

Remess, who recently returned to the school for a visit, feels that his education at Claremont High helped him with his life and career ambitions in many ways.

He remembers the size of the school being very small in proportion to the number of students.

There were only two classroom buildings plus the office and the front oval. The rear of the school was bushland.

Remess was a great lover of sports in his high school days, especially soccer, rugby and swimming.

His favourite subjects were drama and languages (German and French).

Remess, who worked for the ABC before moving to WIN in 1992, liked Claremont High and is very proud of it. His granddaughter Amy is now in Grade 7 at Claremont High.



OLD BOY: John Remess in the school's MDT area.



HEAD START: A young Remess is pictured fourth from right.

Learning to run a sport

By JANAYA BANKS

A NEW Sports Education class started at Claremont High School in May.

Miss Clements teaches the new class, which conducts its own sports season.

The students hold elections to decide who will fill key roles and run the roster. The roles include board members, publicity officers, first aid, members of the disputes panel, end-of-season organisers, coaches and captains.

"This is a trial course this year," Miss Clements said.

"It is a bit different to normal classes because students are used to teachers telling them what to do, so they forget that they can go to the noticeboard in the gym if they need to know something or they can go and see the sports board officers.

"Small problems iron out as the class goes on, like some students wanting to play

instead of organising rosters. But they all end up having a go in the end."

The students voted on which sport to organise and basketball won.

"There were some arguments about the choice of sport, mainly because of skill levels, but they accepted that basketball was what they were going to do and joined in," Miss Clements said.

A grand final was held on June 2. The teams contesting it were the Dagwood Dogs and the Non-Smokers, who triumphed by 11 points.

"I enjoyed the class and its responsibilities and I think it should become a class for next year because it's fun," Grade 10 student Carrie Connolly said.

"It gives you a chance to choose what you want to do. I have learnt how to run a sport roster and to be more organised," she said.

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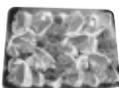
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