



International Student Program Newsletter

Newsletter 3

CRICOS No 00608A DE TE

Term 3 2014

Student Co-ordinator

Maria Masselos
B22
+617 3394 0709
mmass2@eq.edu.au

Home Stay Co-ordinator

Lesley Huxley
B22
+617 3394 0797
lhuxl6@eq.edu.au

TESOL/ESL Help

Susan Sneddon
Thursday – time varies from
week to week

Contact Us

International@cavroadshs.eq.edu.au

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Hola – hello in Spanish). Juan Martinez in Year 11 is from Colombia. Juan has been with us since Year 8 (2011). Juan's parents have applied for permanent residency and he hopes to complete Year 12 with us.

Term 3 (just like Term 2) was extremely busy – hence the newsletter coming out after the term has been completed. This term we welcomed Riccardo De Nardis Di Prata (Italy), Marco Manzo Margiotta (Italy), Niklas Napp (Germany) and Nicola Tiberio (Italy) all in Year 11 as well as Guangpu (Up) Wang (China) in Year 10.

We had a number of Study Tours happening this term. Nichidai Tohoku was with us for 2 weeks. They presented the school with a red cow – Beko (Akabeko). According to Riko from our sister school exchange it is a symbol of the Fukushima Prefecture and brings good luck. Hainin came to us from China for a day visit. Both groups really enjoyed the time they spent with our students and loved the pizza they had for their

farewell functions. A massive THANK YOU from Lesley and myself for your support and having more students than chairs in your classrooms.

The University of Hong Kong had three groups of pre-service teachers visit us each for one day. They all commented on the fact that both students and teachers move to classes. They also could not believe that students only studied six subjects and that they could select their subjects.

We also said goodbye to Nicola Tiberio from Year 11. He returned to Italy to continue his studies. He really enjoyed his time here. In Italy they do not wear school uniforms so our Italian students found that a little hard to adjust to that when they first started. Now Nicola has taken his sports uniform with him to wear back in Italy.

One of Nicola's wishes was to go whale watching. We were going at the end of August but Miss Masselos became ill. So we went on the first Saturday of the school holidays – this time Mrs Huxley was ill. Nicola, Niklas, Grace, Sherry and a friend of Sherry's all piled into Miss Masselos's for the drive to the Gold Coast.

We saw some whale activity – Niklas and Nicola sat in the bow and had fantastic views. The whale is Nicola's favourite animal. We saw whales breach, tail slap and do all of the whale activities that we wanted to see. The tour operators told us it was quite rough and it was no wonder that Miss Masselos and Sherry succumbed to sea sickness – so did ¾ of tour! After being back on dry land we drove to Charis Brothers for some fish and chips by the seaside before coming home.

This newsletter is published 4 times a year at approximately mid-term

Birthdays this Term

Seven birthdays were celebrated over this term.

30 June – Miekal Al Zoubi
6 July – Jacky Cheung
11 July – Harry Han
1 August – Nicola Tiberio
12 August – Chiaki Hettiarachchi
13 August – Dilan Hiralu
24 September – Mari Sekiguchi

The students enjoyed a cake made by Cathy Leung at the birthday party.

They also enjoyed pizza at the end of term break up.

Grammar Lessons

Mrs Carius has been providing ESL help for our international students for this term after school on a Monday or Wednesday. The first six weeks were compulsory.

The students look at a particular aspect of grammar then work on their assignments while Mrs Carius works one on one with the students.

Mrs Carius also helped prepare our Year 12 students for QCS.

Lone Pine Koala Visit

Our students were given the opportunity this term to visit the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary.

They enjoyed getting to hold a koala and have their picture taken. Marco tried hard to get a photo of a joey's face peering out of its

mother pouch but all he got were its legs.

I am sure the joey was playing with him because every time he put his camera down the joey popped its head out and went back in when he lifted his camera. They got to pat an emu as well as seeing platypi, wombats and a host of other animals. One the way home we stopped at Mt Cootha for a scenic photo opportunity of Brisbane.

Students

Our students for Term 3 are:

Year 12

Mario Ding (China)
Dilan Hiralu (Sri Lanka)
Jean Jang (Korea)
Sherry Zang (China)

Year 11

Miekal Al Zoubi (Germany)
Jacky Cheung (Hong Kong)
Riccardo De Nardis Di Prata (Italy)
Harry Han (China)
Cathy Leung (Hong Kong)
Marco Manzo Margiotta (Italy)
Juan Martinez (Columbia)
Niklas Napp (Germany)
Bridget Nsiah (Ghana)
Nhi Truong (Vietnam)
Grace Xian (China)
Mia Zhang (China)

Year 10

Vicky Chang (Taiwan)
Mari Sekiguchi (Japan)
Sukritta (Wave) Seelsut (Thailand)
Paphawarint (Franc) Kalpana (Thailand)
Chiaki Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka)
Chizuru Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka)
Guangpu (Up) Wang (China)

Next term we will be joined by another 4 students.

Homestay News from Lesley

Lesley works in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. If you need to contact her please either come and see her, call her on 3394 0797 or send her an email on lhuxl6@eq.edu.au.

Cultural Differences

Many cultural differences exist between different groups. Over the next year I will be including some of these differences in the newsletter.

Asian students will sniff rather than blow their nose as it is not polite to blow your nose. Some will become highly embarrassed if someone hands them a tissue.

In some Asian and Middle Eastern cultures Authority = Respect and this can only be shown to a male.

In Japan when you hand over a business card use both hands to either hand one over or to receive one.

Questions?

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on 709 or email mmass2@eq.edu.au. Drop in and see us in B22.

We do have language dictionaries in our for use by students during exams. They are allowed to have access to a paper dictionary – not an electronic as they can be programmed. The languages we have are: Chinese, Vietnamese, Italian and Spanish.

Colombia

Population **48.32 million**



Size: 1,141,748 sq km

Location: Northwest of South America, bordered to the northwest by Panama, to the east

by Venezuela and Brazil to the south by Ecuador and Peru.

Climate: Colombians describe their country in terms of the climatic zones. Below 1,000 metres in elevation is the tierra caliente (hot land), where temperatures are above 24 degrees C. Approximately 82.5% of the country's total area lies in this zone. The majority of the population can be found in the tierra templada (temperate land; between 1001 – 2000 metres). Tierra Fria (cold land lies between 2001 – 3000 metres) beyond that lies the Alpine conditions. Above 4000 metres the temperatures are below freezing and have permanent snow and ice (tierra helada).

Bogotá is the Capital.

Interesting Facts

- ⊗ The current flag was officially adopted on 17/12/1819
- ⊗ The colours of the flag have 2 interpretations
- ⊗ The first – has the yellow is sovereignty and justice, the blue loyalty and vigilance, the red valour and victory in the fight for independence from Spain.
- ⊗ The second – has yellow for the gold once owned by Colombia, the blue – contact with two oceans, the red represents the blood shed in their struggle for independence.
- ⊗ The name Colombia is derived from Christopher Columbus's name.
- ⊗ When greeting people men shake hand with direct eye contact.
- ⊗ Most Colombians have both a maternal and paternal surname and will use both
- ⊗ If giving flowers do not given lilies or marigolds as they are funeral flowers.
- ⊗ Wrapped gifts are not opened when received.
- ⊗ Spain arrived in Colombia in 1499.

Adios – goodbye until next time.