Photo from ELC to Year 2 Music Morning
Coddled Kids

As I stood on bus duty this week I noticed mums and dads and maids and drivers walking students to their classrooms. I noted that in many cases the students did not carry their own school bag. Later that day I spoke with some members of the School Leadership Team who were seeking my opinion on whether maids should be able to come to the school at morning tea and lunch time to deliver freshly prepared snacks and lunch for students. As we were discussing the issue I recalled a really useful article I read several years ago that is equally relevant today.

In the 9 March 2013 edition of the Illawarra Mercury, well-known Australian child psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg talks about a generation of "snowplough" parents who pamper their children to the point that their children become learned-helpless with no learned strategies to overcome routine problems on their own. That is, these parents, with the very best intentions, go ahead of the children to remove all of the obstacles that provide the training ground for building resilience, self confidence and self-esteem. In a world characterised by constant change, with the need for individuals to be flexible and adaptable, Dr Carr-Gregg suggests parents would be well-advised to seek ways to build independence and resilience in their children from a very early age.

According Dr Carr-Gregg, an unwanted spin off of the coddled child is an alarming decrease in mental well-being of teenagers and a corresponding increase in rates of teenage depression, anxiety, substance abuse and tragically sometimes, suicide. He was reported as saying that "about one in four young people will have a major psychological problem before leaving school.....". While this is an alarming statistic, he went on to give some excellent advice to parents. He said, "I have a rule of thumb, 'never do for your children what they can do for themselves' " and remember "children aren't made of glass and they are not going to shatter."

Dr Carr-Gregg has a wealth of excellent ideas. Below are five tips for parents to avoid becoming a “snow plough” parent that are adapted from the article written by Kate McI1wain in the 9 March 2013 edition of the Illawarra Mercury.

Psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg. Picture: DAVE TEASE
How to care for your children without being a snowplough parent

Make sure your children get enough sleep
Sleep is the single most important study tool because children who don’t get enough sleep are “crabby and unpleasant and can’t learn properly”

Make sure they eat a healthy breakfast
Research suggests 10 percent of schoolchildren don’t eat breakfast and another 15 percent eat unhealthy food.

Zero tolerance of alcohol
Alcohol is toxic to the developing brain, so children should not drink any alcohol at all until at least 16 years old.

Moderate and limit technology use
Dr Carr-Gregg says most parents are unaware of tools that allow them to block or moderate their children’s internet and video game use. Parents need to use programs to allow children to access the internet for homework but block social media that will distract them.

Talk to your children. Eat at the table
Parents don’t spend enough time talking one-on-one with their children when they are young. Eating at the dinner table leads to better academic results, language development and protection against alcohol and drug abuse.
Message from Middle & Senior School
Simone Fuller, Head of School

Visible Learning in the Middle and Senior School

I have visited a number of classes over the past weeks and so have our Heads of Department. Our visits are centred around talking with students to find out about their learning. All of the students that have had an opportunity to talk with have demonstrated the characteristics of a visible learner. Students are able to explain what they are learning about, they have been able to explain how they know when they have understood the information and what is really important is that they have found the use of assessment rubrics very helpful. For each assessment task, students are given a rubric. This rubric breaks down the criteria for assessment and explains what students have to do in order to achieve at every level.

Our staff are developing what we term as an Impact Cycle for Visible Learning. Each staff member chooses an aspect of Visible Learning and looks at how and what they are doing in the classroom that impacts on the achievements of their students. This has been a powerful tool for our staff. Here is an excerpt from one of our teachers, Mr James Unsworth.

“Like in any walk of life, in teaching, fads come and go. Our current learning focus upon Visible Learning is different however. The body of knowledge in the field of Visible Learning is substantial, it is built upon a strong empirical base. As a Social Scientist this appealed to me from the start. This term, teachers have been asked to undertake a project in our own class. While I was already a fan of Visible Learning, I have been surprised by the remarkable learning that I have garnered from my project, the product of which is a small set of very practical improvements that I can make to add-value for each of my students. Visible Learning is a very positive direction for our already great school and this latest project has only reinforced this fact for me.”

James Unsworth, Humanities & English Teacher, Year 11 & 12 Group Leader

We will continue our work with improving learning in the school through this model and strongly believe that it will enhance the academic outcomes of our students who will have a greater understanding not only of their learning, but how to learn best.
Malaysian Studies Excursion
Madame Liliane Heininger, Head Of Department Modern Languages

On Wednesday, 13 May, Year 6 Bahasa and Year 8 Malaysian Studies classes went on a field trip to Muzium Negara and Central Market. The aim of the trip was to expose the students to the culture and the language of the country they live in. All had a fantastic time admiring the artefacts on displays at the Museum and practising their language skills while shopping and ordering their lunch at the markets. Below is a part of a presentation made by the students at our last MSS assembly.

We are so lucky to be living in Malaysia, and attend AISM, an English speaking school. To better understand the country that we live in, we also have the opportunity to learn Bahasa and on our recent field trip we were able to put our skills in action and practise the language in the real world. Our day at Central Market exposed us not only to the culture but the everyday language of the local people. We were able to ask the price of items before purchasing small gifts, and also order our lunch in Bahasa. It certainly gave us the confidence to continue our language learning and improve our skills. Thank you to our teachers for the organisation of a fantastic day.

Our excursion to the National Museum helped us to discover more about Malaysian history and culture. The National Museum is a beautiful building, it features traditional Malay architecture and stands proudly in the heart of Kuala Lumpur as a national heritage building. The National Museum was recently refurbished in 2008 and now appears more attractive and interactive, bringing visitors in to explore the history of Malaysia starting from the prehistoric era until present Malaysia. As a result of our visit, we are now more aware of the history and the people of the country we are currently calling home. Thank you to our teachers for the organisation of a fantastic day.

Jemma Brisk, Year 6
Gwen Clayton, Year 8
Over the past fortnight students of French, Spanish, Bahasa and Malaysian Studies participated in the Language Perfect World Challenge. A series of activities were available for them to test their writing and listening skills. The students used the programme for the purpose of revision leading up to exam week as well as to compete against their fellow students at AISM and students throughout the world.

We are proud to announce that we received:

2 Elite awards (10 000 + points)
4 Gold awards (3000 + points)
7 Bronze awards (1000 + points)
9 Credit awards (500 + points)

We congratulate all students for their enthusiasm and also the students whose names are listed below and look forward to presenting them with their awards in Term 3 when the certificates arrive at school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elite Award</td>
<td>Hamza Macci</td>
<td>10,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elite Award</td>
<td>Taiitsu Masunaga</td>
<td>10,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Award</td>
<td>Jack Teoh</td>
<td>7,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Award</td>
<td>Yasmine McKibbin</td>
<td>3,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Award</td>
<td>Sarmad Al-Atabi</td>
<td>3,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Award</td>
<td>Alexander Kam</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Pei Xien Yeoh</td>
<td>2,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Xuan Lin Tan</td>
<td>2,547</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Jacelyn Lim</td>
<td>2,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Taasia Thong</td>
<td>2,105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Haziqah Shahari</td>
<td>2,043</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Chrystal Lum</td>
<td>2,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Award</td>
<td>Yan Yi Au</td>
<td>2,002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze Award</td>
<td>Aloysius Khoo</td>
<td>1,817</td>
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<td>Bronze Award</td>
<td>Ashley Boudeville</td>
<td>1,342</td>
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<td>Bronze Award</td>
<td>Sydney Maynard</td>
<td>1,073</td>
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<td>Nick Wong</td>
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<td>Cara Hobson</td>
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<td>957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit Award</td>
<td>Joo Hann Oh</td>
<td>953</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jemma Brisk</td>
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<td>Jerome William</td>
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<td>Priyanka Krishna</td>
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<td>Jasmine Teoh</td>
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<td>Henry Chen</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sakiko Okayama</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit Award</td>
<td>Sonia Mahtani</td>
<td>501</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On Monday, June 1, the three Year 9/10 Commerce classes participated in an excursion to the Kuala Lumpur Courts Complex and Publika Shopping Centre. At the Courts Complex we were very well received and were given the opportunity to see the inner workings of the Malaysian Court System. The Deputy Registrar of the High Court, presented and provided an excellent overview of the Malaysian Court System. This was also an excellent opportunity for hands-on learning experience, as we were then brought in to observe the Drug Crimes Courts. Following this activity, we were then transferred to Publika Shopping Centre, where the students undertook a series of marketing-based activities.

Thanks to Ms Cortez and Ms Gibson for their supervision on the day.
The Australian Curriculum at AISM

The Australian approach to education is based on world’s best practice and the curriculum itself is rigorous, comprehensive and extremely relevant. It has been developed to ensure graduates are fully prepared for life after school and is mindful of the fact that today’s students cannot be properly prepared for success in the future by undertaking a traditional education model that was designed for success in the past. The general capabilities that underpin all Key Learning Areas, ensure graduates are fully prepared for modern day challenges. Graduates of the Australian curriculum will have strong foundations in English and Mathematics, be effective users of technology, be creative and critical thinkers and problem solvers, be able to collaborate, be internationally aware, and be conscious of their social and environmental responsibilities.

In New South Wales, education is overseen by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards. BOSTES has adopted all aspects of ACARA’s Australian curriculum, but has followed a different timeline to the other states, providing additional support materials to ensure schools successfully and meaningfully introduce each new curriculum. In 2014, the English curriculum was introduced, in 2015, Mathematics, and in 2016, Science and History will be introduced. Geography is not far away, and the other Key Learning Areas will follow.
Congratulations to all the students from ELC to Year 2 on their fantastic performances at today’s Music Concert. The classes sang beautifully, the individual performances were outstanding and the “Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhyme” costumes were fantastic. So many beautiful Cinderellas! Thank you Mr Herron for organising this wonderful morning.

Music Concert

Junior School teachers are also currently in the process of developing rubrics (marking grids) that will assist students to develop their writing skills. The NSW English curriculum, which was introduced at AISM last year, requires students to develop imaginative, informative and persuasive writing skills. These rubrics are designed to assist students to know exactly what they need to do to further develop their ability to write effectively in these genres. The English curriculum also requires students to be exposed to a range of quality literature, and significant investment has been made, and will continue to be made throughout 2015, to ensure students in the Junior School have access to an outstanding range of quality reading materials.

Swimming Lessons

Thank you to all the parents who have been helping with the Stage 1 swimming program. Your help makes it possible for us to maximise the amount of time each child can safely spend in the water. I know the children are very much looking forward to the Stage 1 Swimming Carnival scheduled for Friday 19 June.

For more photos click here: Music Concert
How to relax and watch an Iron Man DVD

You will need:
- An Iron Man DVD
- A DVD player
- A couch

What to do:
1. Get an Iron Man DVD.
2. Open the cover.
3. Put the DVD into the DVD player.
4. Sit back on the couch and relax.
5. When the movie is finished, take out the DVD.
6. Now you are relaxed and ready to do some hard work!

How to make Oobleck

For those of you unfamiliar with Oobleck, the name comes from the Dr. Seuss book, “Bartholomew and the Oobleck.” It is a non-Newtonian fluid, meaning it has properties of both liquids and solids. You can slowly dip your hand into it like a liquid, but if you squeeze it or punch it, it will feel solid. (Mr N)

You need:
- Cornstarch
- Food colouring
- Bowl and water

What you need:
1. First tip the cornstarch into the bowl.
2. Tip the food colouring into the water
3. Tip some water into the bowl and stir.
4. Repeat until shiny.

Have fun playing!

How to make an AMAZING sandwich

What you need:
- Bread
- Lettuce
- Ham
- Cheese
- Egg
- Mayonnaise
- Knife

Instructions:
1. Get 2 slices of bread
2. Put the lettuce on the bread
3. Cut the ham in slices
4. Put ham on bread
5. Put egg in little pieces
6. Put egg on bread
7. Squeeze mayonnaise on the egg
8. Put the 2nd piece of bread on

Art Works

Australian Indigenous Line Art,
Yi Yan, Maddison, Michaela,
Nadya and Marley 1G

Australian Indigenous Art,
Miley Sawler 1M

Still Life Charcoal Tree,
Emma Gnemmi 1W
Message from Performing Arts
Malcolm McCormick, Head of Arts

Young Musicians Competition

On the weekend of the 23 and 24 May, three students performed in the Young Musicians Award Competition at International School@Desa Park City. This was a competition for students up to the age of 14 from various international schools in Malaysia. The students from AISM were, from the Junior School, Mia Tan on Violin and Ru En Ho on piano, and from the Middle School, Haziqah Shahari on piano. All of our students performed with confidence, skill and a fine sense of musicianship. Thanks to Mr Herron for direction of Junior School students and Miss Poh for her accompaniment.

For more photos click here: Young Musicians Competition

Sports
Damian Pietsch, Junior School CCA Coordinator

Co-Curricular Activity

Congratulations to all of the members of the Taekwondo Co-Curricular Activity and to the instructors. On Tuesday afternoon they were presented with their new belts after undergoing an examination earlier in the term. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to present the belts to the students who were very proud of their achievements.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 10 June
Girls Softball Friendly @ GIS

Saturday, 13 June
U/18 Boys Softball @ Tenby
U/13 and U/15 Girls Netball @ Alice Smith
U10/U12 Boys and Girls Soccer - AISM vs Islamic International School @ AISM
Message from Library
Mrs Denise Miller, Library Services Coordinator

On Monday, June 8 and Tuesday, June 9, AISMS will host Australian cartoonist and author, Dave Hackett.

He is the author of seven how-to cartooning books, two picture books and six novels, including the hilarious series ‘UFO – Unavoidable Family Outing’.

Please go to Dave Hackett’s website for further information about his work and books.

http://www.cartoondave.com

This week the Junior School classes have been very involved in a Fairy Tale and Nursery Rhyme activity. Ms Mei Tan created the wonderful castle with traditional characters hidden throughout it.

ELC story time with Ms Umi
Year 11 Chemistry class
Year 10 Physical Education class

Fairy Tale activity

Year 3G
Year 5
Walkathon Fundraiser for Matilda Project

Colleen Derham, Service Learning Committee

When: Tuesday, 16 June (Week 9)
Time: 8.45am - 10.00am
Theme: CRAZY dress!

As we are only a week or so away from the Walkathon (Tuesday 16 June), I would like to thank those who have already made donations. This is our major fundraising event for the year and all proceeds go to the Matilda Project which supports the Desa Pukak Hostel in Sabah. The children who stay at the hostel are able to attend school on a regular basis instead of walking two and half hours over hilly terrain to get to their school, SK Pukak.

In the past, we have had some families who have kindly sponsored an individual child’s education costs for the entire year. To sponsor a child to stay at Desa Pukak Hostel for a year is RM2,700. A tax exemption receipt will be given for donations.

If you are interested in sponsoring the annual cost of a child to stay at Desa Pukak Hostel, donations can be made via:

- Administration Office either by cash or cheque payable to “Australian International School Sdn Bhd”
- Direct transfer to AISM bank account Alliance Bank Malaysia Bhd account 12136-0-01-000600-4 Swift Code: MFBBMYKL (for overseas transactions).

(Please write Matilda Project on the back of the note or as a note to the transaction, and email the payment slip with your name written clearly)

For more information, contact Colleen Derham via email colleend@aism.edu.my
New Students
AISM is delighted to welcome the following new students who joined us recently.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Connolly</td>
<td>Rion Muiruri</td>
<td>2G</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Alicia Elizabeth</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Australian</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Amara Jane</td>
<td>6G</td>
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