Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

Year 2024 – School Magazine









Greatest Happiness!

Acknowledgement of Country

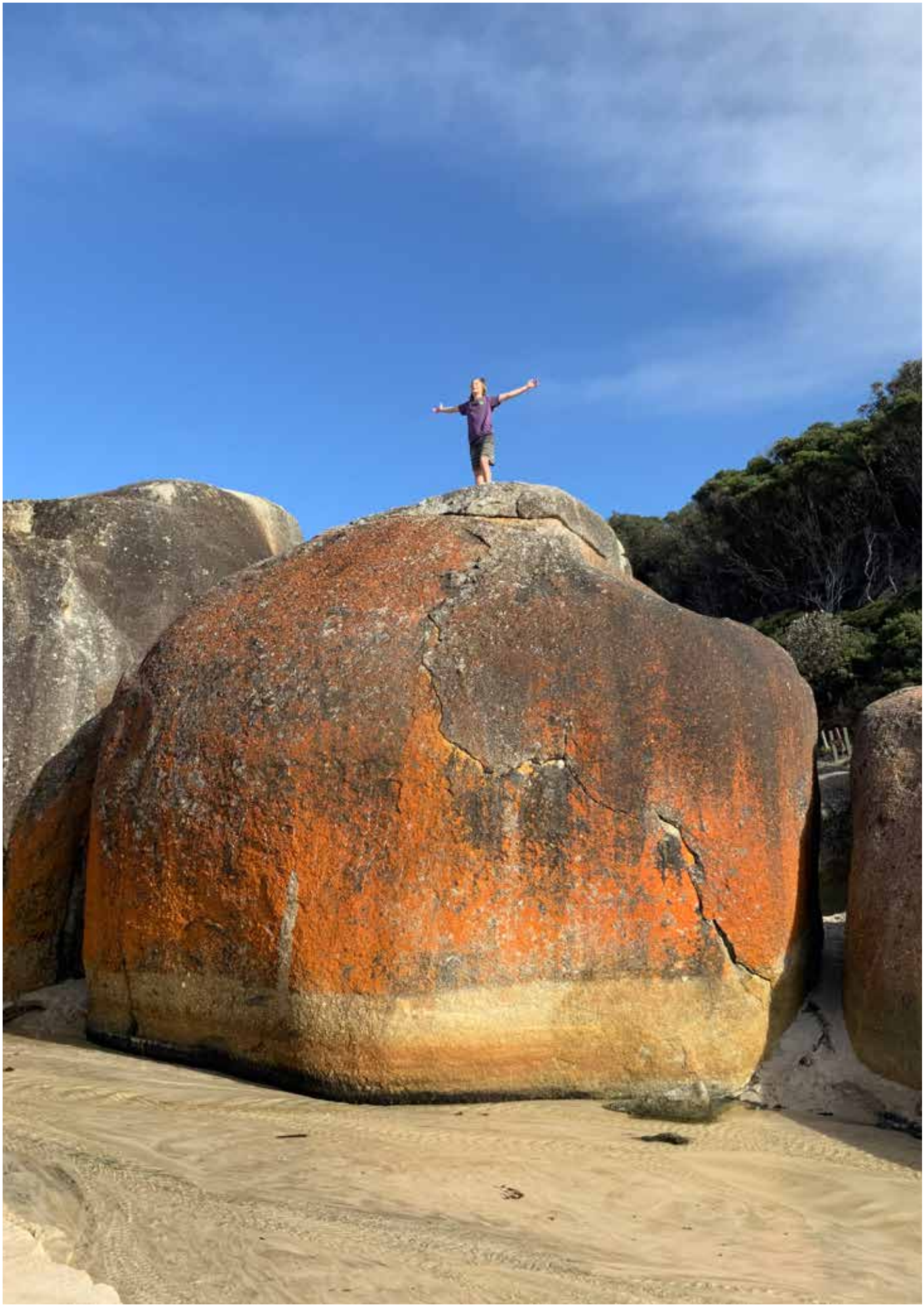
We would like to acknowledge
the Traditional Owners
of the land on which we meet today.

We would also like to pay our respects to
Elders past and present.

We thank the Bunurong People
for sharing their country.

We promise to care for the water, the land,
the plants, the birds, the animals
and the Bunurong People,
every day as we learn and play at
Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

2024
Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College Students



Founder's Message



Nam Mô Bổn Sư Thích Ca Mâu Ni Phật

According to the Lotus Sutra, the purpose of the Buddha's birth was to show human beings how "to enlighten and live from awakening seed". The essential idea is to clearly recognise and to live according to awareness, to clearly see the nature of things and, to create a happy and peaceful life. The presence of Buddhist organisations has no other vision than to nurture the Buddha's teachings to human beings: to overcome suffering and to live by wisdom, with a peaceful body and mind.

Our children are our future. Education is crucial to give insights to human beings, to become good citizens, practicing clear mind, clear heart and global responsibilities. To foster quality education accessible to the Buddhist communities, it is a strong commitment and dedication. No matter what and how busy a school is, Buddhist philosophy gives insight to true learning, through reflection and practice. "It takes ten years to plant trees, one hundred years to cultivate/transform people." The educational work of Hoa Nghiem Temple is too early to judge at this scale. However, we are clearly aware that when we work wholeheartedly for our descendants, our children and grandchildren will have a bright future. That is the principle of Cause and Effect in Buddhism.

This year 2024, the whole HNBC community has been very active and full of happiness and joy. This was made possible thanks to our decicated educational team! The entire Buddhist community is fortunate to be able to count on educators of the utmost quality of being. It is satisfying to see the evolution of the students in our systemic approach to learning, from well-being to academic growth. The transmission of values, the continuation of practice and even healing are real. Educating children is a holistic life mission and, as the saying goes, 'it takes a village to raise a child'. One of my greatest joys is to see teachers in tears at graduation ceremonies or school events, crying and smiling at the same time, with deep happiness for what has been achieved. We can say that he vision of "Bi - Tri - Dung" (Compassion - Wisdom - Bravery) has been embraced by to Buddhist school's community.

Our vision and mission are broad. Over the next few years, the temple will continue to focus on refining and broadening the curriculum, continuing to attract dedicated teachers to be part of our long-term educational project. On that note, the Temple is preparing the construction permits on the new land to open Year 7 - 12 classes in the future, hoping that the full cycle of Buddhist education in the mainstream path will soon be achieved and successful. The accomplishment and success of our Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College give us wings to pursue our vision in Buddhist education.

What we have achieved today at this point in time is the fruit of everyone's heart, in the interest of the Buddhist education of our children and grandchildren. This is the momentum, the launching pad for today and for the future. It is certain that, building on this positive momentum, our Buddhist community in Australia will have a Buddhist College from year 7 to year 12, in the near future.

Most Venerable Thich Thien Tam
Founder of Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College



Hoa Nghiem Temple and Buddhist College





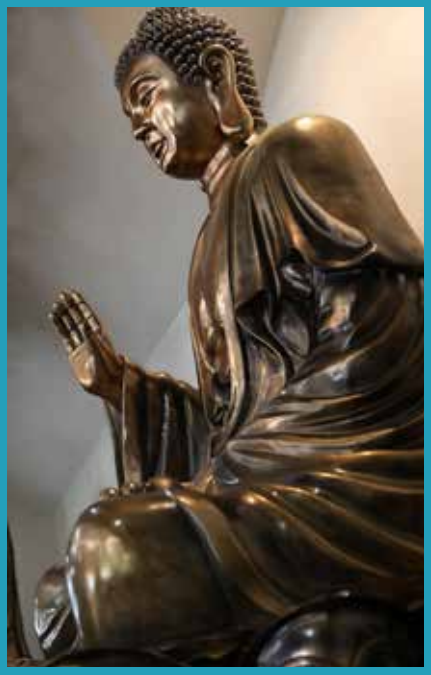
Community Connections


























Hoa Nghiem
Buddhist
Temple
Springvale
South



Celebrating a Year of Remarkable Achievements



Nam Mô Bổn Sư Thích Ca Mâu Ni Phật

At Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College (HNBC), we are filled with immense pride and gratitude. The year 2024 has been an incredible journey of teaching, learning and growth. We thank our educational team for their unwavering dedication and the crucial support of external professionals who have assisted the school to explore and learn beyond the curriculum.

HNBC students have excelled on both national and international stages, as evidenced by their outstanding achievements in the ICAS international competition. The students' accomplishments reflect not only their hard work but also the exceptional quality of education they receive at HNBC. Our dedicated educational team, led by Lorraine Tonietto, Director of Curriculum, has been instrumental in fostering an environment where each student's unique potential is recognised and nurtured. Through real individual differentiation in their daily teaching practice, Mrs Tonietto, alongside dedicated professionals — Georgia Benson, Arielle Hall-Smith, Ellicia Anderson, Eleni Hutchison, Grace Timson, Sarah Kimbal, Madison Walker, Madeline Filopoulos, Lopa Das, Dieu Lac, Peter Biggs and Marie-Laure Mimoun — has made a profound impact on our students' growth and development.

Within and beyond the school:

- In 2024, we implemented the Philosophy classes (F-6) to cultivate deep thinking and the ability to connect theoretical concepts with real-life and existential concerns. For example, students explored the complex meaning of impermanence, which is crucial concept to Buddhist awareness practice. Thầy Thích Nhất Hạnh taught us "The best thing we can offer to the world is our insight. To live our life in mindfulness and with concentration is to continue to produce insight – for our own liberation, healing, and nourishment, and for the liberation, healing, and nourishment of the world." Witnessing the growth of students' deep-thinking, these classes have enriched our students' intellectual landscape, encouraging them to ponder life's profound questions and develop critical thinking skills.
- We are also incredibly proud of our students who had the opportunity to work with professional filmmakers, Laurent Filippini, Kevin Nay, and Servane Jacob, to produce a professional Short Film called "Mr Bee". This project not only honed their artistic skills but also allowed our students to promote reverence for life and compassion. The whole process also provided a platform for their creative expressions, which will be showcased at film industry competitions. Year 5/6 students also had the unique opportunity to be the founder of the Bee Magazine - Student Online Magazine, to display students' learning journey and achievement. This project not only fostered their creativity but also provided them with the opportunity to work with media professionals.
- On the global stage, our Vice Principal, Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun-Sorel, made a significant contribution to international educational discourse by authoring the chapter "For an Education that Contributes to Heal the World: The Role of Buddhist Education" in the book "Education and the UN Sustainable Development Goals." Her work underscores our commitment to using education through a Buddhist systemic learning approach promoting wisdom as a force for positive change in the world. This is a remarkable achievement for HNBC, and for Buddhist education to be visible worldwide.
- In addition, we celebrated the completion of our sophisticated Learning to Be in the 21st-century digital wheel, thanks to Serge Mimoun exceptional A-Z programming skills. This innovative digital framework represents our unique Systemic Learning Approach, connecting all dimensions of our Buddhist philosophy and practice to all our teaching and learning areas.

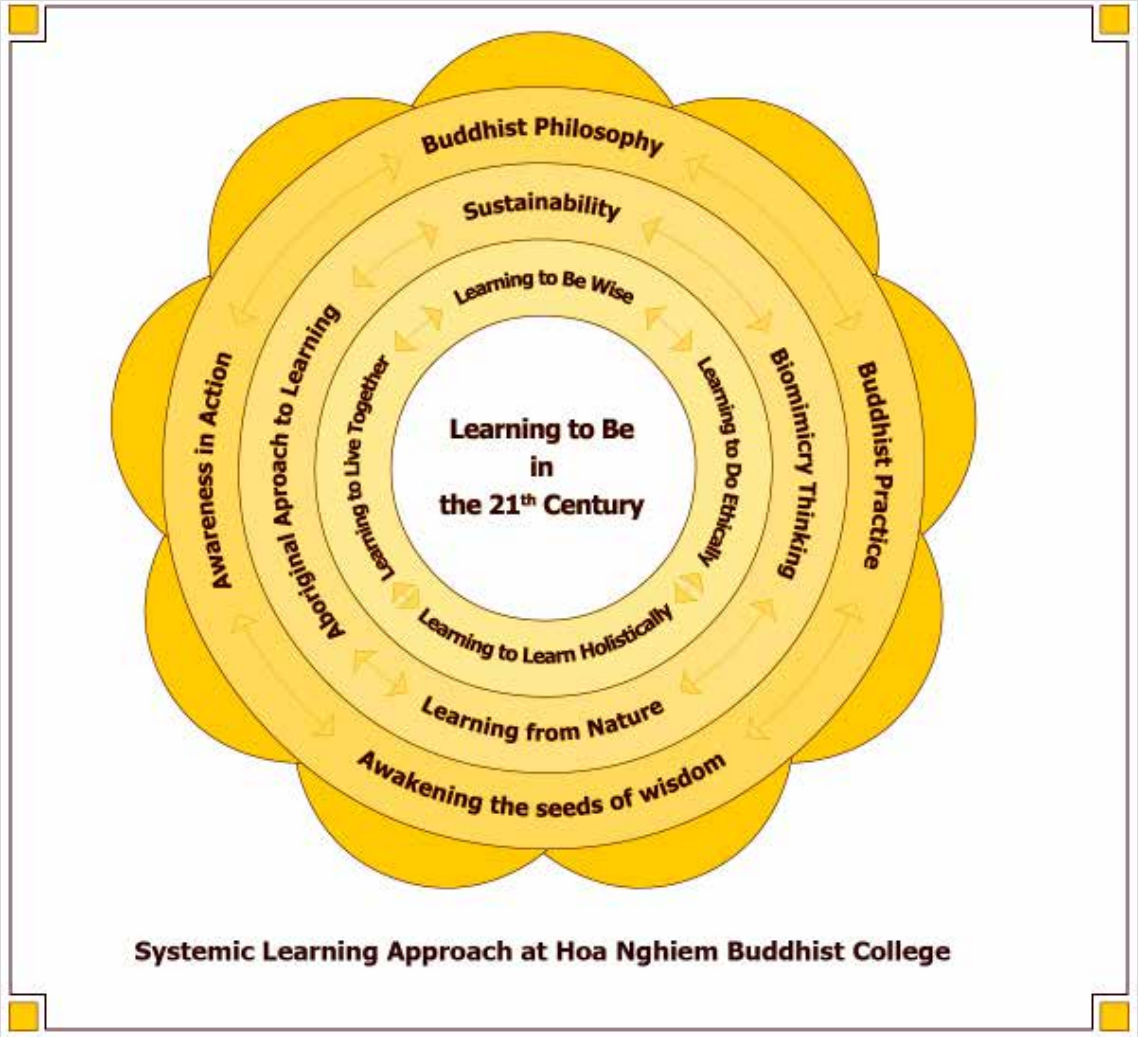
As we celebrate the remarkable achievements of 2024, through tears of beauty and joy in smiles, we look back with pride and welcome the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead. Thank you to our dedicated staff, outstanding professionals, inspiring students and supportive parents and community for making this a truly exceptional year.

Nam Mô Công Đức Lâm Bồ Tát Ma Ha Tát.

Sr. Thich Phuoc Uyen
Principal, Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

Learning to Be in the 21st Century

Awakening the seeds of wisdom



Systemic Learning Approach at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

At Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College,
students learn to Awaken the Seeds of Wisdom within them,
to flourish as wise persons.

Every week, students learn Literacy and Numeracy, Awareness and Humanities, Science and Technology, Visual Art and Performing Art, Philisophy, Health and Physical Education, Vietnamese, Gardening and Cooking.

Being part of Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College is also about growing intellectually and emotionally, physically and spiritually from our Systemic Learning Approach.

Another year of growth, learning and happiness!



Namo Shakyamuni Buddha

As we conclude another wonderful year at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College, my heart is filled with gratitude and appreciation for the vibrant community that makes our school so special.

Firstly, I extend my deepest thanks to the families who have entrusted us with the education of their children. Your belief in our commitment to Buddhist philosophy and practice is truly inspiring, and we are honoured to guide your children on their educational journey.

To our dedicated educational team, I offer my heartfelt gratitude. Your dedication and passion for teaching have created an environment where students can thrive and grow. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and it is through your hard work that our students have flourished this year.

A special thank you goes to our incredible students. Despite the diverse challenges they have faced, they have shown resilience, determination, and a strong spirit. Their growth and achievements over the year have been nothing short of inspiring.

This year, our students have also thrived in a variety of extra-curricular programs. They experienced the thrill of swimming with seals in Port Phillip Bay, the excitement of performing in mini-Olympics, the importance of Life Saving programs, and the creativity of learning podcasting and composing music with The Arts Centre Melbourne. Our Nature camps at Wilsons Promontory for Year 5/6 and Iluka Nature Camp at Shoreham for Year 3/4 provided unforgettable outdoor experiences. Additionally, the educational program with Puffing Billy offered historical insights and fun-filled adventures for our F/1/2 students.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to our school captain, Natasha Dao, for her exemplary leadership. Her kindness, humility, and compassion have been a guiding light for her peers, and she has fulfilled her role with grace and dedication. Natasha has been a wonderful role model for everyone.

My deepest thanks go to our principal - Sr. Thich Phuoc Uyen, whose clear vision and dedication to incorporating Buddhist education into every aspect of our curriculum have been instrumental in our success. Her leadership has been a source of strength and wisdom for our community.

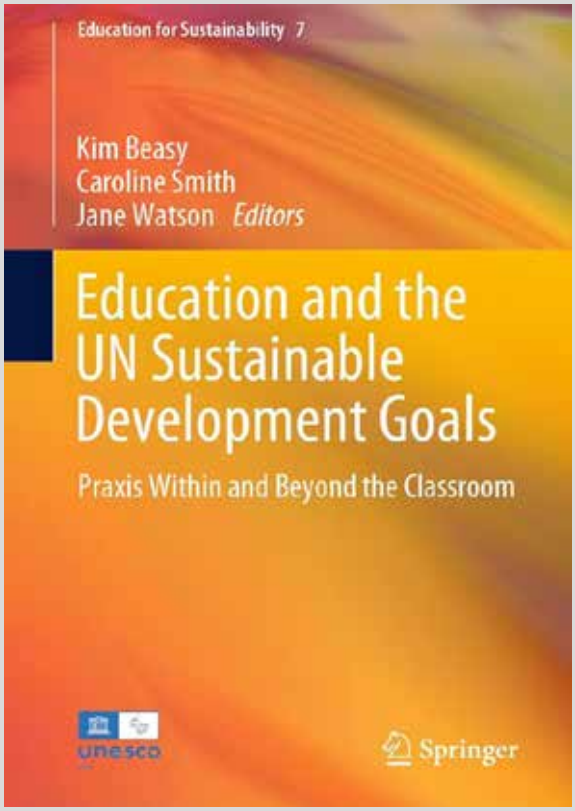
Finally, I express my deep gratitude to Thầy for leading our community with insight and compassion. His guidance has helped us navigate challenges and celebrate moments of great happiness throughout this journey.

As we reflect on the past year, let us carry forward the lessons we have learned, the connections we have made, and the accomplishments we have achieved. Together, we look forward to another year of growth, learning, and happiness.

Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun
Vice Principal, Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

Book Publication

Awakening the seeds of wisdom



"For an Education that Contributes to Heal the World: The Role of Buddhist Education"

I have written this chapter in the collaborative book above "Education and The UN Sustainable Development Goals" to emphasizes the importance of integrating Buddhist philosophy and practice in a systemic learning approach that fosters wisdom and sustainable way of being for the present and future generations. The emphasis is made through re-evaluating our individual and collective priorities and reconnecting with nature and collective wellbeing.

The chapter highlights the role of Buddhist education in developing awareness and promoting wise solutions for individuals, communities, and the environment. The implementation of Buddhist principles and model at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College is explained and demonstrated in various learning areas of the Australian curriculum and beyond.

By focusing on wisdom as the ultimate educational achievement, I believe we can regenerate humanity and contribute to a more compassionate and sustainable world.

Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun-Sorel



The strength of the Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College's literacy and numeracy program is that it is arranged flexibly and creatively to meet the students at their point of need.

Teachers regularly assess students across various domains including reading, spelling, writing, number and shape to monitor progress and to adjust their teaching methods accordingly. As such, students are placed in flexible smaller groupings to allow them to receive teaching that enables them to grow with their learning and go beyond their grade.

In the four years since starting at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist School, I have seen considerable growth in teachers and students alike, both socially and academically. I have worked closely with teachers to assist them in building their knowledge of the curriculum and different assessment strategies. New programs have been established and adjusted along the way to meet the continually changing needs of students at the school. In 2024 we adopted the Direct Instruction approach, which research demonstrates best meets the needs of a wider range of students, whilst continuing to utilise our own established model of students working in smaller flexible groupings for each topic.

The particularity of our teaching at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College is to implement a systemic learning approach that incorporates the Buddhist philosophy and practice as well as Biomimicry Thinking in all areas of the curriculum. We encourage students to look for wise and ethical responses and we guide them to look at the expertise of Nature to find solutions to our human concerns, by asking the question: "How would Nature solve this problem?" This approach helps students develop an inquiry mind with wise intentions.

It has been such a delight to witness the growth taking place across the school each year!

Lorraine Tonietto
Curriculum Director of Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College

Maths Challenge (Australian Maths Trust)

First run in 1978, the Australian Mathematics Competition is Australia's longest running, largest and most well-known maths competition for school students. The AMC contains unique problems designed each year by leading educators and academics to challenge and extend your students' problem-solving skills.

The Maths Challenge runs over 3 – 4 weeks, with students dedicating 3-4 school hours each week. Students are encouraged to work collaboratively together in pairs, challenging and extending their problem-solving skills.

The Maths Challenge aims to foster students' understanding of the power of mathematics and the joy of mathematical problem solving. In 2024, seven students in Years 3-6 took part in the Maths Challenge, an in school problem solving program. 5 students received the awards, with two **DISTINCTION** and three **CREDIT**.



Natasha DAO
Year 6 - **DISTINCTION**



John THAI
Year 6 - **DISTINCTION**



Minh Quang Luu
Year 4 - **CREDIT**



Theodore BRAY
Year 3 - **CREDIT**



Nelson DAO
Year 3 - **CREDIT**

Well done to all students who participated in the Challenge!

The internationally-recognised gold standard in academic competitions

ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) is a historic academic competition that has been sat by over 10 million school students from 16,000 schools across 41 countries since 1981.

It recognises academic performance in a way similar to sports or the arts, with engaging, fun questions designed by psychometricians, education measurement experts and experienced teachers to test students' higher-order thinking skills.

ICAS provides rich insights into students' strengths and weaknesses, helping teachers to accelerate learning outcomes and unlock student potential.

40 Years + Leaders in assessment

16 K+ Participating schools

10 M+ Participating students

41 Countries

ICAS is an online international academic competition, from Years 2-6, that is designed to assess students' higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Writing and /or Spelling Bee around the world.

2024 was the second year students at Hoa Nghiem Buddhist School participated. The selected students made good growth, achieving 5 Distinctions across the various domains - our first set of Distinctions for the school. This outstanding achievement brings happiness to the entire community.

It is an amazing achievement as a Distinction places a student in the top 10% of the already high achieving international entrants in the competition. Well done to all students who participated and stretched their thinking this year in the very high standard of ICAS competition.

Majority of HNBC students who entered the ICAS competition have now progressed to the 2025 ICAS All Star Academic Championship (the ICAS State Championship).

Students will participate across all four domains, English, Mathematics, Writing and Spelling, with some students participating in multiple domains.

Well-done to all students who accept this further challenge!

ICAS assessments

Students qualified for ICAS State Championship 2025



Natasha DAO
Year 6



Niah GORE
Year 6



Jayden TA
Year 6



Emerson GORE
Year 4



Minh Quang Luu
Year 4



Nelson DAO
Year 3



Theodore BRAY
Year 3



Karlin BUN
Year 2



Phoenix FALETANOAI
Year 2



School Captain's Message



At Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College, serving on the Student Leadership Committee (SLC) provides students with a wide range of opportunities to understand, through practical experience, the meaning of wise leadership, which is fundamental to Buddhist education.

When applying for a specific role, students present to their class or school community as well as to the leadership team the qualities they possess and the personal challenges they will face in taking on that role. When becoming captains, students strive to fulfil a specific category of leadership, each of which requires specific attributes and a willingness to be challenged.

I am very happy to be the Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College Captain for 2024. I feel extremely honoured to have been chosen and to have been trusted to fulfil this role. For me, being a captain is not just about leading others, but above all about listening and being fully aware of what is happening around me, every day. I always try my best to really see and respond to the needs of the younger students.

Through my role, it is privillage for me to participate in making Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College - a place where everyone feels happy to belong. To achieve this, I always encourage everyone to be kind and respect each other's boundaries. I have learnt build up my own courage to improvise when necessary to help the school go as a river.

Nathasha Dao
2024 School Captain

2024 Student Leadership Committee



John THAI
Goldfish Captain



Ruby FAMRNER
Moon Captain



Niah GORE
Lotus Captain



Tan NGUYEN
River Captain



Jayden TA
Sport Co-Captain



Kathy DAN
Compassion Captain



Kent Le Bui
Boddhi Tree Captain



Cindy TRAN
Sport Co-Captain



Lyn PHAN
Visual Arts Captain



Robert NGUYEN
History Captain



Hannah GIANG
Nature Captain



Emma DO
Performing Arts Captain



Darren TRAN
Technology Captain



Kathy DAN
Eucalyptus Class Captain



Emersion GORE
& Liam TRAN
Frangipani Co-Captain

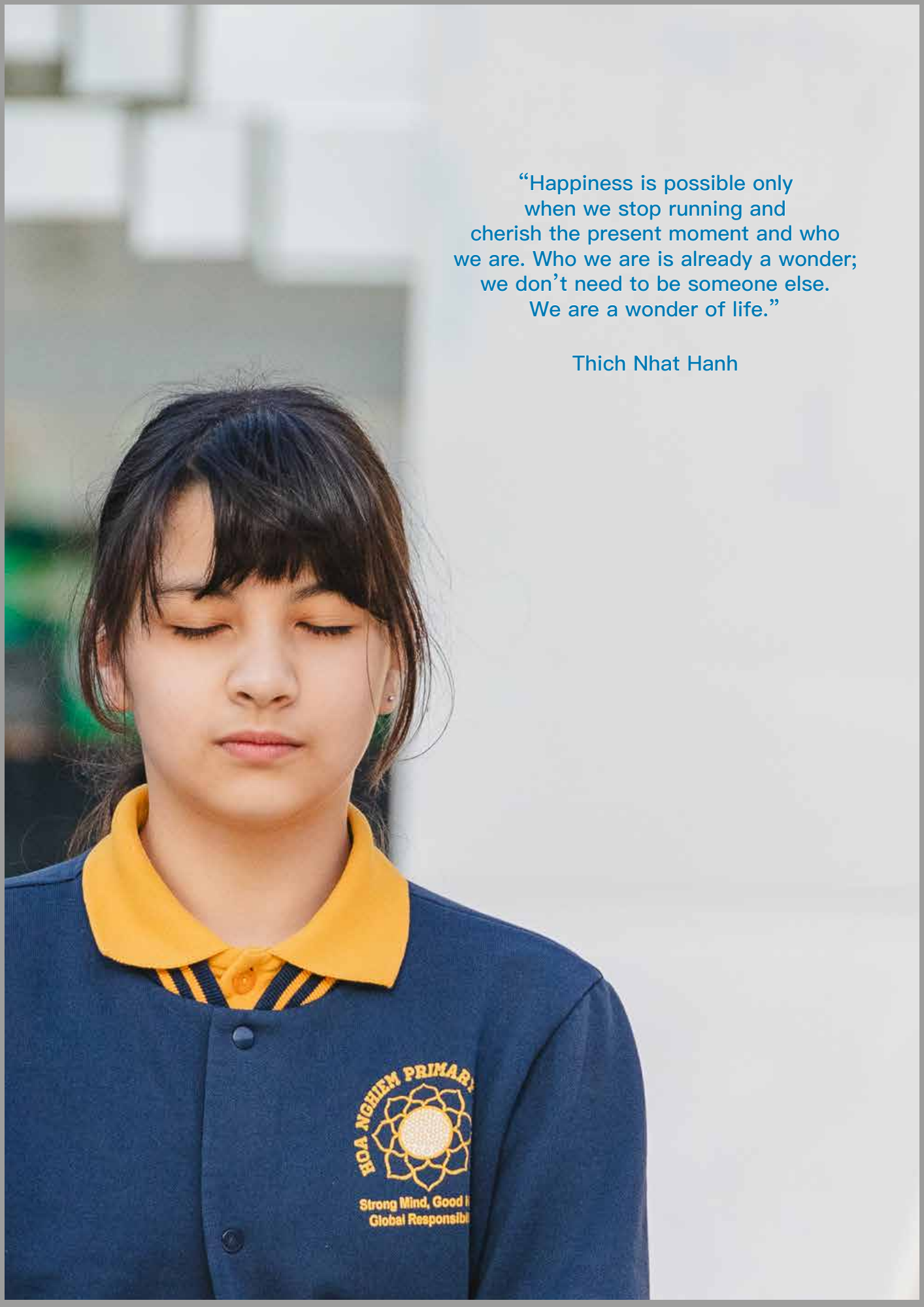


Steffany TRAN
& Candy TRAN
Banksia Co-Captain



Brian TA
& Linda NGUYEN
Acacia Co-Captain





"Happiness is possible only
when we stop running and
cherish the present moment and who
we are. Who we are is already a wonder;
we don't need to be someone else.
We are a wonder of life."

Thich Nhat Hanh















Greatest Happiness

'Sometimes your joy is
the source of your smile,
but sometimes your smile can be
the source of your joy.'

Thich Nhat Hanh





























All in One .... One in all















Awareness Practice

HNBC reflects and implements the Buddhist practices of compassion and kindness. They enhance students' experience and understanding of mental and emotional processes leading to greater inner peace and wisdom, whatever the different contexts they will evolve in. To help in this process, students practice daily meditation sessions as well as meditation in action.

Their purpose is to increase self-awareness and quality of being in the present moment, which will develop students' inner peace, clear vision, and therefore wisdom to approach life challenges.



















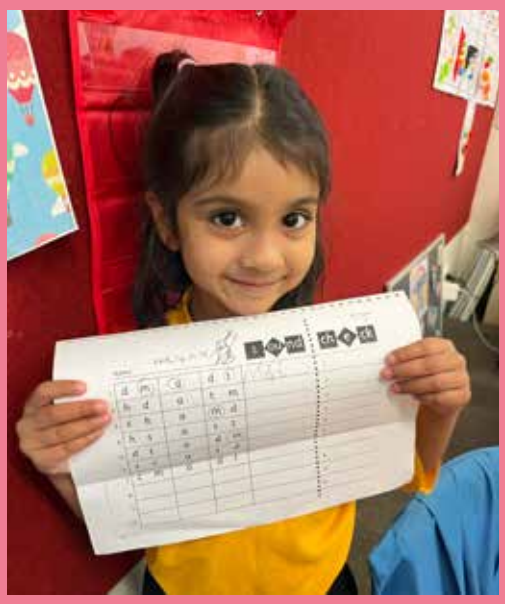










Acacia Class

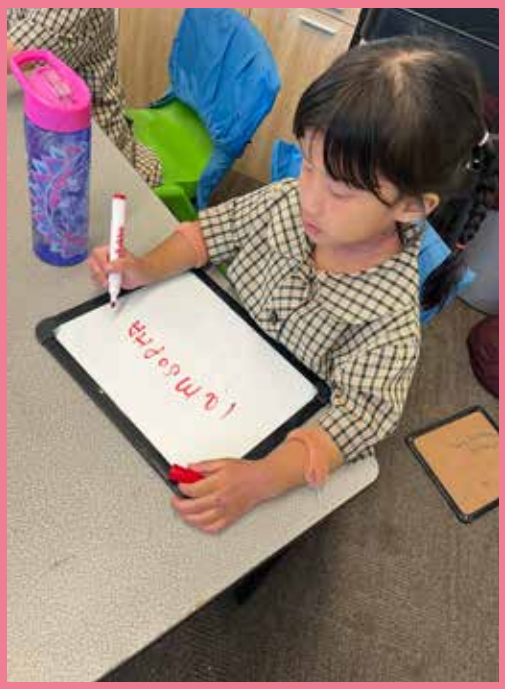
What a wonderful and fulfilling year the Acacia students have had. For some students, this was their first year of school and a chapter of new beginnings. Students have strengthened their knowledge on sounds and letters, moving onto blending those sounds and letters to start reading and spelling.

We celebrated '100 days of school' with activities to promote curiosity and wonder, including 'what does 100 look like?' display which encouraged students to bundle numbers in 10, and count to 100! Students have explored different writing genres and with daily writing practice, strengthened their knowledge of sight words and handwriting. Students learnt all about community helpers including life savers, police officers and even had a visit from the local firefighters to teach them all about fire safety.

I am proud of all the students in Acacia for their daily hard work and dedication in, and outside of the classroom. Each day they became more independent helping each other to overcome their challenges.

Mrs. Georgia Benson - Acacia Class Teacher








TODAY A
READER,
TOMORROW A
LEADER.






the l
the litl
Ked


89
405
Only
Get out,
stay out
and call
Triple
Zero
000












FUN, GAMES &
D.I.Y. ACTIVITES
25 YEARS
1994 - 2019







Banksia Class

What an amazing year students had in Y1/2! It has been wonderful to see all of the growth in learning and confidence as the year went on. I am so proud of everyone in the Banksia class for coming to school with a big smile, ready to give everything a go.

Students have been working hard in their writing, exploring a range of different text types and challenging themselves to broaden their minds and explore their imagination. Students have had a wonderful time collecting phrases and interesting words that they read and putting them into their special magpie books. These books have helped them to broaden their vocabulary and have fostered their love of reading.

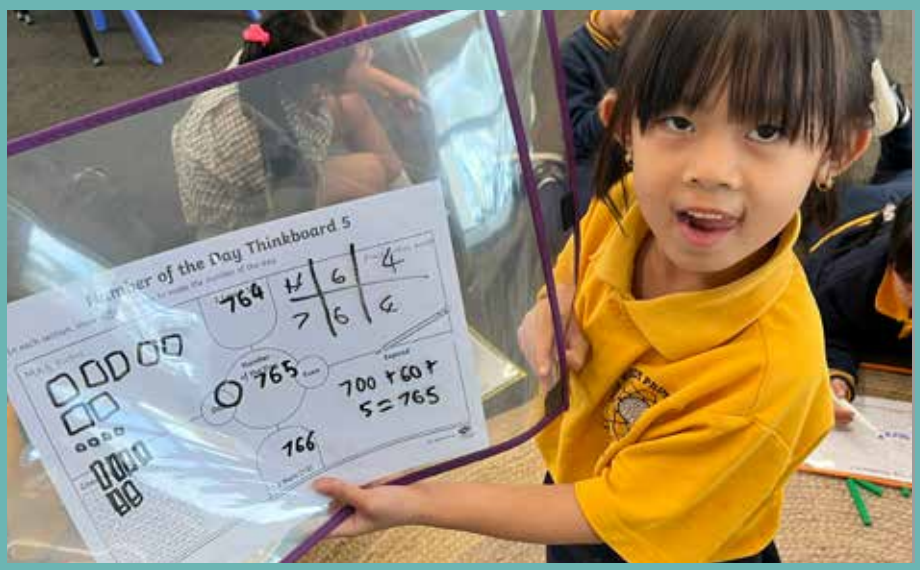
Through mathematics students have developed their problem-solving skills and have challenged th emselves to think critically using different representations to solve problems. We have shared exciting experiences together, including a local visit from firefighters and a Cultural experience where we learnt about Boonwurrung culture and language through stories, songs and dance. Students also absolutely loved their Puffing Billy excursion and their Life Saving program at the beach!

Ms. Arielle Hall-Smith - Banksia Class Teacher








Number of the Day Thinkboard 5
764
765
700 + 60 + 5 = 765
766



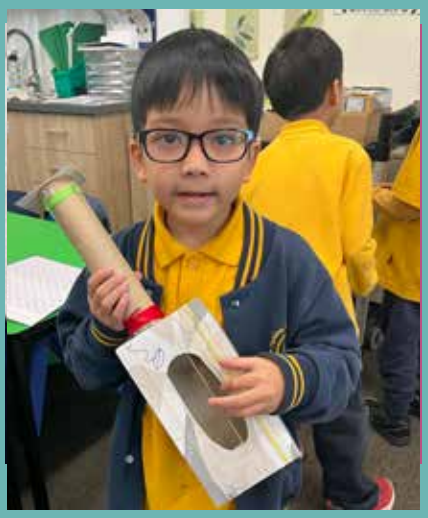





A4 Manilla Folders








In a storm the sea is a tiger a powerful wild tiger. In the calm the sea is a cat a cute happy cat.





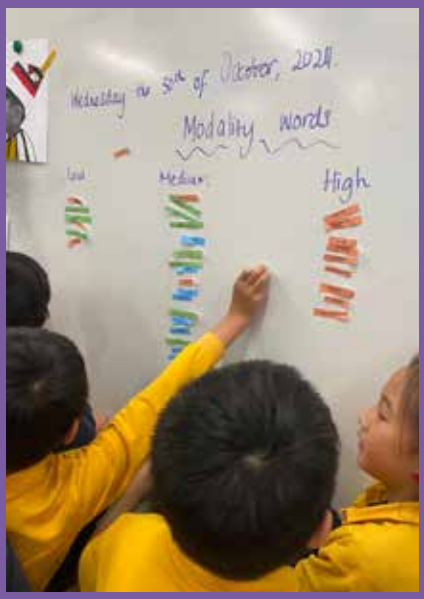

I love
you miss
Miss










Modality words
High







Frangipani Class

What a fantastic year students had in Frangipani!

It has been wonderful to see the growth and development of each Y3/4 student, and the confidence they have gained in many areas of their learning. The students have been working hard with their writing, writing a range of different text types including narrative, informative and explanation. They have used problem solving skills for their open-ended mathematical tasks and excelled in many mathematical challenges. They have shared so many exciting experiences together, including kayaking at Carrum Beach and a character-building excursion at The Art Centre, where students displayed amazing dramatization of different characters.
Frangipani students have been a delight to teach!

Mrs. Ellicia Anderson and Ms. Grace Timson- Frangipani Class Teachers

















Eucalyptus Class





Year 5/6 demonstrated amazing growth in 2024!







Through their Buddhist practice in every aspect of the curriculum, Eucalyptus students have demonstrated strong resilience and enthusiasm in their learning journey. Throughout the year, as members of the School Leadership Commitee endowing growing responsibility through a variety of leadership roles, Y5/6 students have become wiser leaders.

Their enthusiasm for learning and taking initiatives has been infectious, inspiring one another to push through challenging learning moments and celebrate their achievements together. Everyone of them has thrive and discovered their potential through various areas of the curriculum as well as fantastic extra-curricular activities allowing them to develop skills beyond the curriculum, thanks to external professional advice. This year has truly been a testament to Y5/6 students' perseverance and dedication, setting a strong foundation for future success.

Mrs. Eleni Hutchison and Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun - Eucalyptus Class Teachers







Indira Gandhi



Alexandra David-Néel



Wangari Maathai



His Holiness The Dalai Lama



Thầy Thich Nhat Hanh



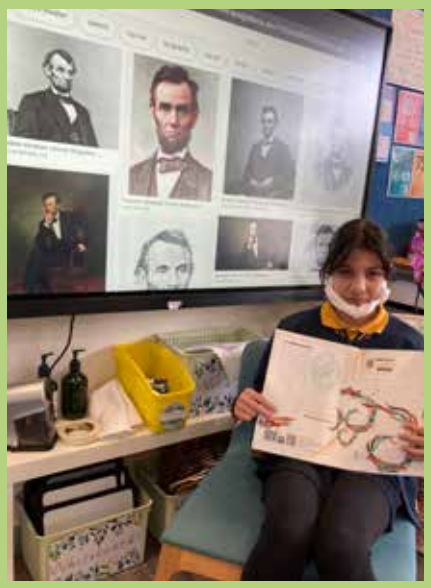
Sitting Bull



Mohammed Yunus



Martin Luther King



Abraham Lincoln



Rigorous Mathematical Thinking (RMT)

RMT (Rigorous Mathematical Thinking) in 2024 has been a hive of activity.
Students have worked in small groups exploring a variety of hands on activities and mind benders based around Shape, Measure, Money, Patters & Algebra, and Chance & Data.

Students were encouraged to stop and reflect on their thinking, justifying their answers to others. They learn various cognitive skills and tools including Visualisation, Categorisation, Working Systematically and creating Lists & Tables.

Lorraine Tonietto
Director of Curriculum

















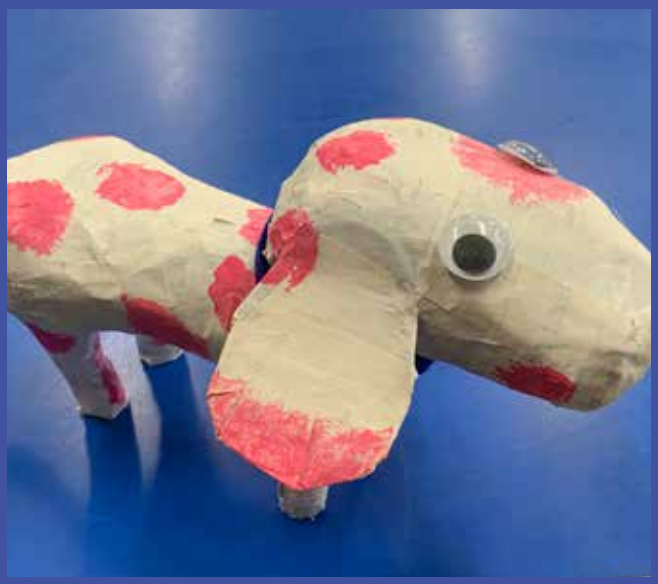


Visual Arts

During the year, students have studied different artists' styles according to their year levels. For example, Foundation students created artwork based on the picture storybooks 'Mr Huff' and 'Pinkalicious'. The also looked at the French artist Paul Cezanne and explored the idea of still life.
In Y1/2 to students have been looking at the work of artist and illustrator such as Angie Rozelaar such as her recent work 'Planet Cat'.

In Y3 to Y6 students focused on the American artist Wayne Wayne Thiebaud as inspiration to create their art work. They explored the Pop Art movement of the 1950's and how it challenged the view of traditional art. They also explored the artwork of Ancient Egypt and how this can be used to give information on the lives of Egyptian people.

Mrs. Sarah Kimball - Visual Arts Teacher






BFF
MATERIAL




Dog love their owner


A Dog will never lie of
how much a Dog loved
you.






Every child
is an Artist



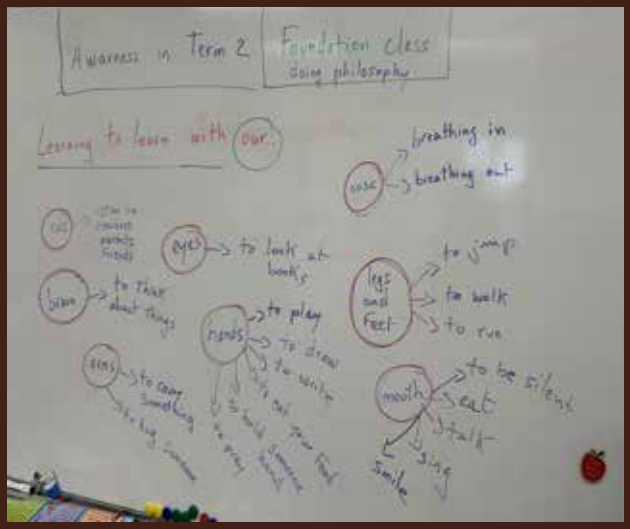








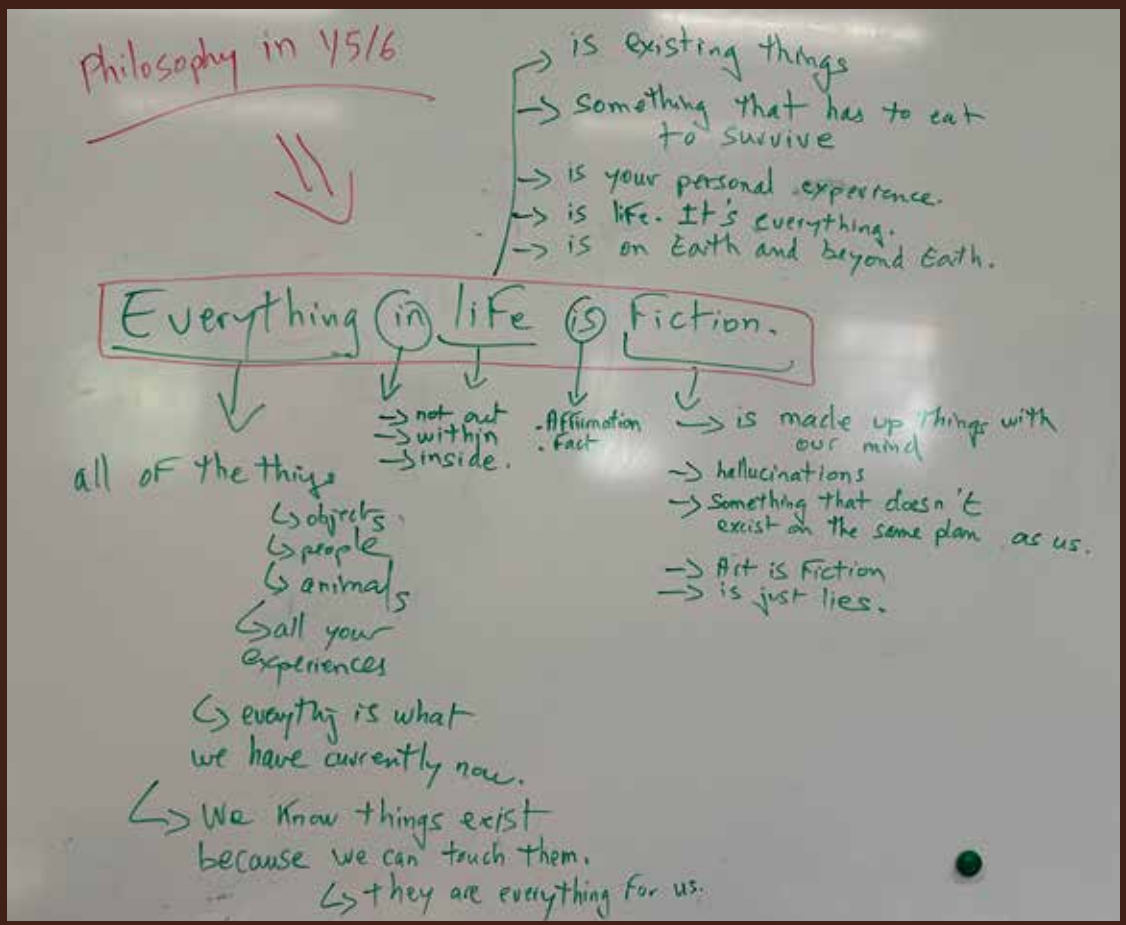


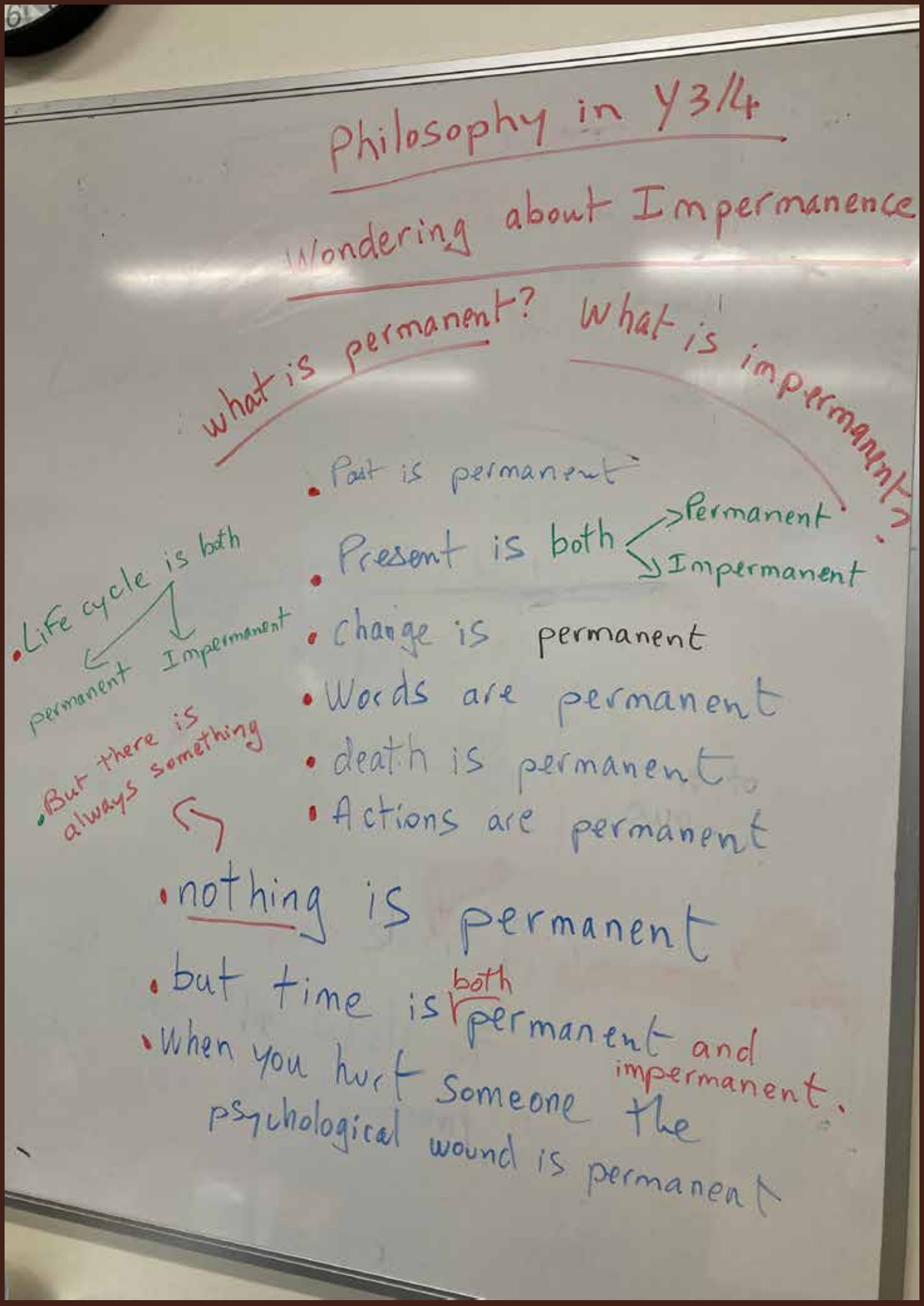


Philosophy Classes

In philosophy classes, students of all year levels have been encouraged to think deeply about complex concepts and big questions that they may ask themselves but have never taken the time to explore. These lessons have helped students to become more active thinkers and to make connections beyond school life. On this double page are just a few of the reflections students have made. One is on the concept of 'impermanence in life'. Another is the deconstruction of the statement 'everything in life is fiction' that Jayden (Y6) brought up during a lesson. Yet another is a brainstorming session with Foundation students to explore 'how we learn from our bodies and senses… and connect with others'. The students were very interested in their philosophical journey. They understood that the most important thing is not to worry about the right answers they might give, but to free themselves to dare to question life, which leads to an endless exploration of thought and possible solutions from a variety of perspectives.

Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun




Philosophy in Y3/4
Wondering about Impermanence
what is permanent?
What is impermanent?
Past is permanent
Present is both
Permanent
Impermanent
Change is permanent
Words are permanent
death is permanent
Actions are permanent
Life cycle is both
permanent
Impermanent
But there is always something
nothing is permanent
but time is both permanent and impermanent.
When you hurt someone the psychological wound is permanent





Learning with the Art Centre - Melbourne

Students had the opportunity to learn from professional experts at the Melbourne Arts Centre. Each of them created their podcast as if they were working for a radio station. After recording their voice, they learned to add various sound effects to enhance our texts and create a special atmosphere.

They also learned how to create our own music. They explored the technology and techniques used to generate the kind of music we hear every day. It was great fun exploring different rhythms and melodies to produce their own arrangement.










THE
CHANNEL
ARTS CENTRE MELBOURNE
Welcome to the land of
the Wurundjeri people.







Whole School Book Week Activities








NEYMAR
10




LIV
Swim
Lessons











Swimming Program

This semester, students gained familiarity and confidence in the water and were supported to participate in swimming lessons, progressing from a range of skills. They really enjoyed developing their swimming skills through very explicit teaching as well as aquatic games. Our students also received a training on how to play safely in the water and what to do and how to behave in a water rescue operation.




waves
WATER SAFETY AT KINGSTON


FIRST
MARIO











Physical Education

Students in Grades 3/4 and 5/6 have been working on the manipulation and modification of the elements of effort, space, time, objects and people to perform movement sequences. They experienced counter-balances and games which explore the use of force and speed of movement and objects. Foundation and Grade 1/2 students have practised moving their body in different ways, in sequences and in response to different stimulus. They also took part in games with and without equipment and reflected on how physical activity helps to keep us healthy.

















Mini-Olympics

All the students have been involved in a cross-age inquiry prior to participate in our Mini-Olympics sporting events. In their different schoolhouses they researched about the country each house was going to represent: Nepal, Cameroun, Iceland and Guatemala. They learned about the History, Geography and Sociology of these countries. They investigated their customs, and they even learned a few sentences in their native languages. They also made flags and choregraphed a dance for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Then, they competed in the events of sprint, long jump, endurance race, parkour, sack races, tunnel ball and flexibility. Each schoolhouse also made a mascot symbolizing their country.
Joy was in the air throughout the whole process!

HNBC Educational Team































Puffing Billy - Foundation - Year 2









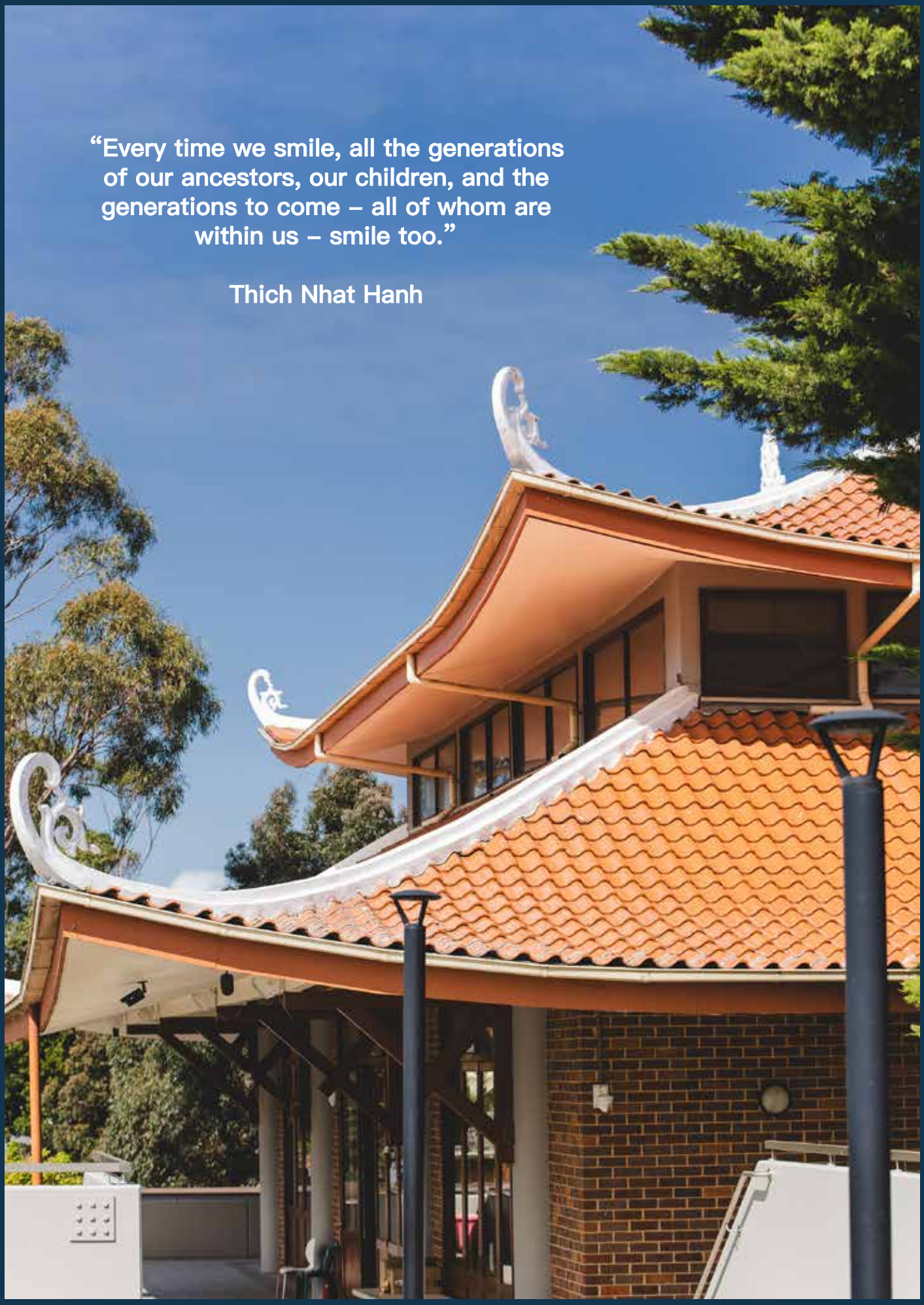


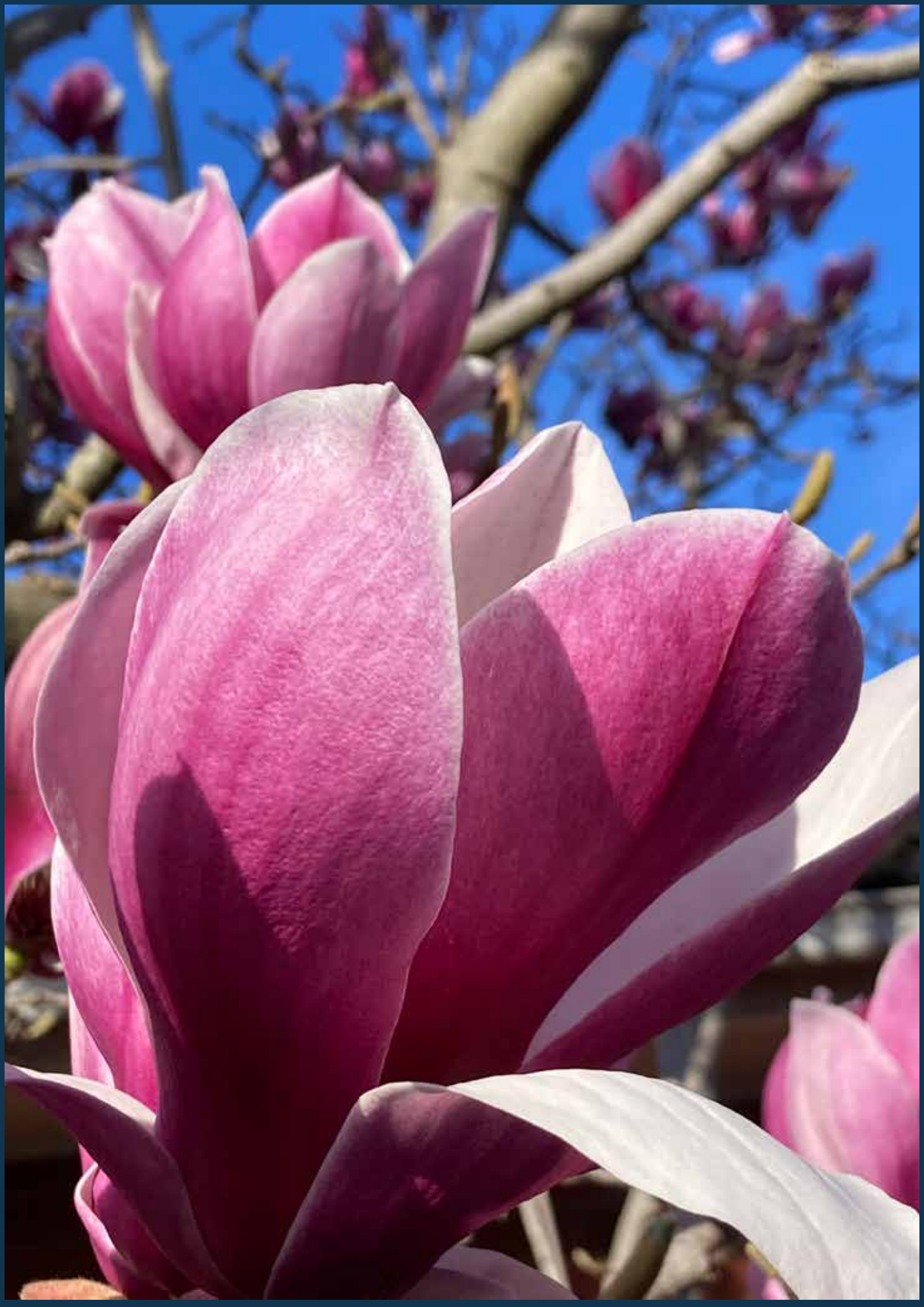

Education Programs at Puffing Billy Railway incorporate multiple learning activities with a focus on an exploration of history through storytelling, a journey into nature, endless discovery, emotional and cultural connection, adventure and fun.









“Every time we smile, all the generations of our ancestors, our children, and the generations to come – all of whom are within us – smile too.”
Thich Nhat Hanh





Overnight Camp - G3-6

To prepare students for their respective Nature camps, Y3/4 and Y5/6 students started the year with an overnight camp. They enjoyed participating in diverse physical activities, including their first sea kayaking session at Carrum beach.

They were challenged in acrobatic jumping on trampoline and rock climbing. Sitting around the campfire and looking at the stars was also a special moment of communion with friends and Nature.





















Wilson's Promontory Camp - G5/6





Students climbed the Mount Bishop and walked more than 20 kms during their Nature camp. They also practised Kayaking every day. They discovered the joy of cooking their meals, making a different recipe every day!





Through their one-week nature camp experience at the Wilson Promontory, Grade 5/6 students re-connected with nature, its ecosystems and wonders. At 7 am in the winter mornings, they were brave enough to practise silent walking meditation for one hour on the cold beach. One of the educational purposes of these silent walking meditations was for the students to pay attention to their own noise pollution in order to have the minimum impact on nature, and feel totally immersed in it.

This practice allowed students to experience being an integral part of Nature while they tried to disturb it as little as possible. They began to develop the skills of deep listening, as well as humility, that are the roots of wisdom in Buddhist practice.

While honouring the Earth through their quality of being and presence, students had multiple opportunities to experience the inter-being relationship with Nature and its ecosystems. They didn't only learn about Nature. They *became* Nature, blending completely into it.


















JUST DO IT.






FILA















Iluka Camp - Grade 3/4



















For their first nature camp, the Y3/4 spent 3 days at the Iluka retreat centre in Shoreham. Every day, they learned to participate in the life of the community.

Each team had a role to play, whether it was preparing meals under the supervision of Co Ha, washing dishes, sweeping the floor, lighting the fire in the fireplace or setting the table. They enjoyed gaining independence by being able to look after the group.

Of course, they also loved taking part in various initiative games, bush cooking, canoeing, obstacle courses, raft building and tree climbing! They also made great friends with the camp's very cute goats.



































Sorrento Marine Excursion
Grades 3 to 6
Swimming with Seals

As Reverence for Life is one of the key principles of our Buddhist philosophy and practice, our Y3/4 and Y5/6 students had the fantastic opportunity to go on board a boat to encounter seals in Port Philip Bay.

It was a real adventure to put on very tight wetsuits and snorkeling gears, but nothing compared to the courage to jump into the cold water! The seals had a very strong smell, but they were so agile and funny when they approached students to play.










ADRENALIN
ENDURO FLEX













Life Saving Program
Whole School

To help keep students safe the Lifesaving Education Program harnesses a three-pronged approach to swimming and water safety to ensure that they develop water safety knowledge, acquire swimming skills and transfer these competencies to various open-water environments.

Our whole school did the Life Saving Program with Ramzi and his team of wonderful educators. Our Foundation Students were particularly excited about it.



















Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College - Students' Magazine



You can click on the bees and drag them around. It's a one-page site, don't use the browser back and next arrows. Load full screen

Be(e)Magazine #1 11/2024 2024 Highlights & Journeys

Why have we created our Bee Magazine?

Thinking of the bees that make honey by gathering nectar from flowers, we (the Year 5 and 6 students) have found similarities between the production of honey and the learning process. We compare our learning to the many nectars of the blossoms that transform our minds and hearts into rich honey for ourselves and those around us. The knowledge we acquire, like the honey produced, is reinforced by the diversity of learning experiences, and by the encouragement and kindness we receive from our teachers.

We also found that the word bee, as a homonym, echoes the Learning to Be in the 21st century dimension, which is at the heart of the school's mission. Moreover, as the bee is an endangered species, naming our magazine after this magnificent living creature is a way of honoring and respecting bees, and showing our intention towards Reverence for Life; one of the fundamental principles of our Buddhist practice.

It is for all these reasons that the bee has been chosen as the symbol of the Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College Student Magazine. The purpose of our magazine is to give us a voice throughout our holistic learning journey and to make visible to the community the variety of our learning. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do!



Mandala inner journey



Darcy's poem



What our teachers have learned



A sea journey to encounter the seals



Nature retreat at the Wilson Promontory



Celebrating 100 days of learning



Our Mini-Olympics



Learning from our senses



Learning with the Arts Centre Melbourne



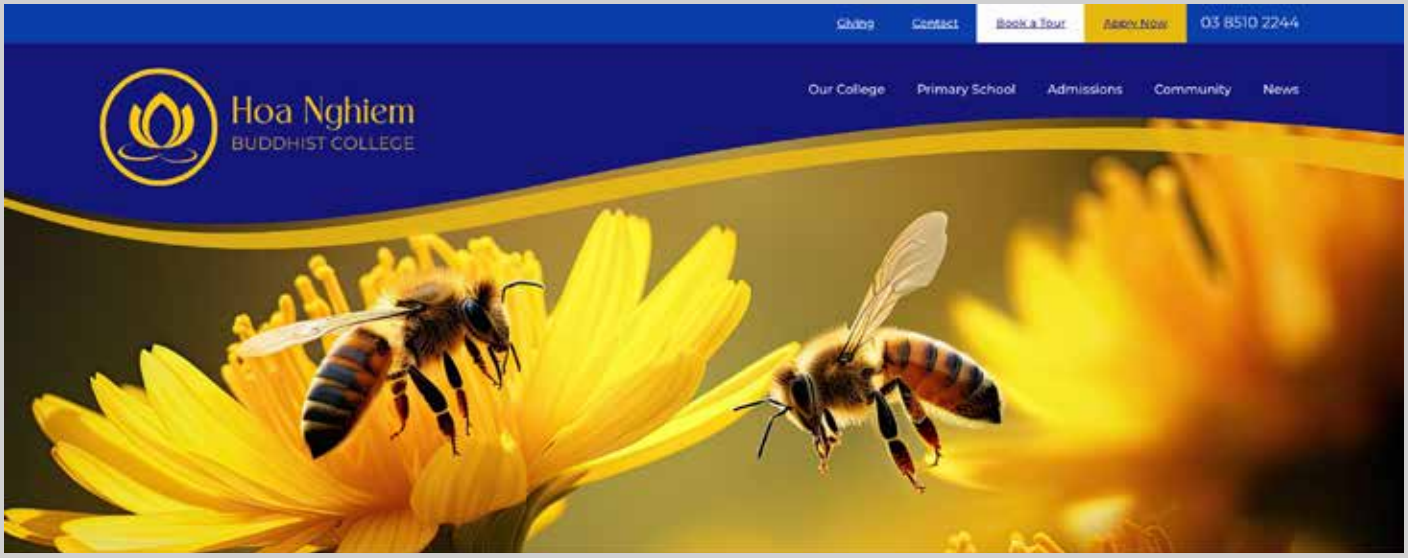
Riding my imagination at the tip of my pencil



Creations Box



Mr Bee short film - Behind the scenes



Students' Online Bee Magazine



Georgia Benson - F/1 Teacher



Eleni Hutchison - Y5/6 Teacher



Ellicia Anderson - Y3/4 Teacher



Arielle Hall-Smith - Y1/2 Teacher



Lorraine Tonietto - Director of Curriculum

Our team of young journalists representing the **Bee** Magazine - Ruby, Darcy and Tan - have interviewed some of the teachers to ask them the questions:
"What have you learn through your teaching journey?
What is challenging for you in your daily life?"








00:00


00:12


00:14


00:06


00:06


00:28


00:36





Short Film: Mr. Bee

Students had the opportunity to work with professional filmmakers and take part in the short film Mr. Bee, written by Laurent Filippini.
All the Y5/6 students were part of the crew and were given different tasks to help the professionals, such as assistants to the director, assistants to the director of photography, assistants to the producer, but also assistant make-up artists, acting and so on.

It was very interesting for the students to see everything that goes on behind the scenes in the run-up to the film and also during the film. It was a big project that students loved to be part of!





Hoa Nghiem Early Learning Centre (HNELC) Kindergarten program

HNELC provides a combination of Long Day Care and Kindergarten for children aged three to five years old. We offer Free kinder offset for all eligible families.





Our Early Learning Centre is nestled amid Hoa Nghiem Buddhist College. We focus on developing the whole child within a values-focused Buddhist environment with very dedicated and passionate professionals.

Our programs develop a sense of wonder through imaginative, free and structured play opportunities to help our children become confident, creative, happy and capable learners.







Hoa Nghiem Early Learning Centre
From 6 weeks to 6 year old

We believe in developing meaningful relationships with the children in our care, fostering a sense of belonging for the children and their families.

We focus on the development of the whole child through physical, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual learning.








CHÙA
HOA
NGHIÊM

While there is no universal definition of “mindfulness,”
Thich Nhat Hanh often describes it as “being aware of what is
happening inside and around you in the present moment.”

Thay’s key teaching is that, through mindfulness, we can learn
to live happily in the present moment — as a way to truly develop peace,
both in one’s self and in the world. We see mindfulness as part of a path,
beyond a tool or technique, that requires training and practice. It can be talked
about in words, but its true transformative power is felt only
when experienced firsthand.



Year 6 students with Ven. Thich Thien Tam (School Founder/School Chair), Sr. Thich Phuoc Uyen (Principal) Dr. Marie-Laure Mimoun (Vice Principal) and Mrs. Eleni Hutchison (Eucalyptus Class Teacher).

Year 6 Students' Graduation

It is with immense pride and a heart full of joy that we celebrate the achievements of our y6 students at the end of their primary years. We wish them personal success, wisdom and great happiness for their future learning journey.



John THAI
Foundation - Year 6



Cindy TRAN
Foundation - Year 6



Darren TRAN
Foundation - Year 6



Kathy DAN
Foundation - Year 6



Natasha DAO
Foundation - Year 6



Emma DO
Foundation - Year 6



Niah GORE
Foundation - Year 6



Kent BUI
Year 5 - Year 6



Edward NGUYEN
Foundation - Year 6



Tan NGUYEN
Year 1 - Year 6



Lyn PHAN
Year 5 - Year 6
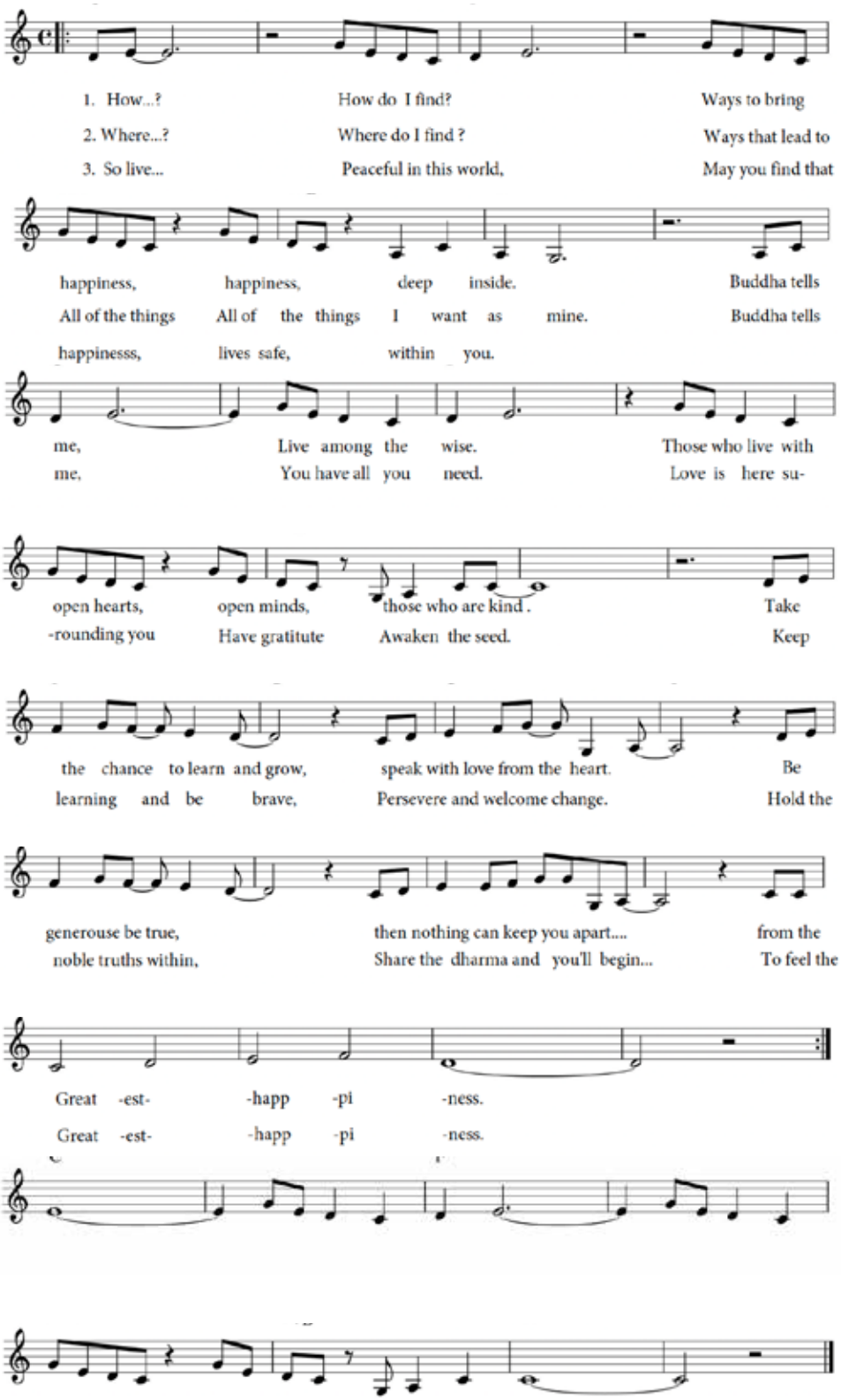


Jayden TA
Foundation - Year 6





Greatest Happiness!

Words and Lyrics by Tamara Kuldin. Inspired by 'Discourse on Happiness'.
Phóng tác theo Kinh Phước Đức



Hoa Nghiem BUDDHIST COLLEGE
442 Springvale Road Springvale South VIC 3172. AUSTRALIA
+ 61 (3) 8510 2244 www.hoanghiem.vic.edu.au