Congratulations to Luke Seidler, Class of 2010

Congratulations to Luke, Class of 2010, who has recently received two awards from the Building Designers Association of Victoria. Luke, a student at RMIT University, School of Design (TAFE), was the joint winner in Drafting Excellence by a Student as well as receiving a commendation for Best Response to a Design Brief by a Student.

During his VCE years, Luke studied Visual Communication and Design, VET Interactive Digital Media, Economics, English, Business Management and Further Mathematics. His talents in design and production were clearly evident during his school years and it is a credit to him to see him pursuing his passion in this area.

Luke Seidlers winning architectural design

Farewell to the Warner Family

The following is an extract from the College Bulletin, October 14, 2013 written by ELTHAM College Principal Dr David Warner

Our Parent Association (ECCA) organised a wonderful community farewell to my family and I on Sunday. It was a warm and very emotional function. Many thanks to everyone who helped; we were blown away by the wholehearted expression of support and love. Thank you very much. The videos from the younger students, the gift of the 100 Languages poem and the speeches from past and present students was such a wonderful ‘ride’. I will take with me the strong belief that we have, together, created the best school in Australia!
Homestay Dinner

On Monday October 14 our Homestay parents, graduating students and staff had a wonderful dinner to celebrate the beginning of the end of year celebrations for our Year 12 students. Emma Zheng (International Captain for 2014) welcomed the guests by playing a traditional Chinese instrument, the guzheng. Guests were entertained by students who spoke about their first memories of arriving in Australia to study and the challenges of being away from home and family. Kellie Alway gave the audience insight into being a homestay mother with three daughters – her own, one from China and one from Italy. Everyone agreed the evening was a wonderful occasion.
Thai CETA Tour - October 2013

Congratulations to the CETA students and their ELTHAM buddies for their annual October visit. During the visit the CETA students enjoyed entering the Middle Years classes and extending their understanding of going to school in Australia. All visiting students participated in making a DVD to take home to their family which highlighted different aspects of the ELTHAM College facilities.

An ELTHAM Experience

Lucrezia Cornagliotto has been studying at ELTHAM College since the end of Term 2 2013. She attended the Central Australia Trip with our current Year 11 students and has undertaken a variety of subjects including Spanish and Studio Art. Lucrezia comes to us from Turin, Italy to study abroad for a Semester. When she leaves at the end of Term 4 she will take with her lifelong memories and an invaluable cultural and educational experience.

Vox Pop with Lucrezia Cornagliotto

What Year level are you in? 11
First memory of a class at ELTHAM? It was Spanish class. I remember talking with the guys attending Spanish class and they were talking about their trip to Spain the year before.
Favourite Subject? Studio Art
Favourite Food (Aussie)? Roast lamb with roast vegetables and gravy.
Favourite Food (Italian)? Gnocchi pasta.
Favourite pastime while in Australia? Spending time with Venus (Yang – ELTHAM College International Student) in Melbourne city and going to Queenscliff with Kellie and Eliza (Homestay Family)
Favourite Song? Counting Stars by OneRepublic
Dream Career? Child Psychologist working in a Hospital.
Best Thing about Living & Studying at ELTHAM? Improving my knowledge about Chinese culture and improving my English speaking with the local students.
Hobbies out of school? Shopping, running and playing with my homestay sister Eliza.
Final Comment? I had a great and lovely time here. I think Australians are just awesome at making you feel good wherever you are.
ELTHAM College is pleased to announce the strengthening of friendship between our school and Yan’an Junior School in Shanghai. We look forward to welcoming officials from Yan’an to the Research campus in July 2014. Yan’an Junior School was founded in July 1946, originally named by Mr Deng Xiaoping as Yan’an Middle School. In August 1998, Yan’an Middle School moved to a new location to become a boarding school, while the junior department remained was renamed East Yan’an Middle School, and was again renamed Yan’an Junior School in March 2003. From 6th to 9th grade the school now has 34 classes with nearly 1500 students. There are 138 teachers, including 28 advanced teachers, 1 extra-advanced teacher, 2 advanced academic leaders in the district, 5 regular academic leaders in the district, 3 Master graduates and 7 who have completed the Master courses.

**Principal’s Address**

*With the development of our country in the 21st Century, our school shoulders the responsibility of educating the talents and builders of China. We will stick to the “Three faces” of teaching and follow the rules of education. Every teacher’s duty is to creatively carry out the teaching policies, We pass down and develop the traditions of Yan’an and advocate the spirit of “hardworking, devotion, science and cooperation”.*

We constantly improve our campus culture which is based on the conception of the faculty and students’ development. We develop the democratic management and strengthen the approach construction of “Digital Education”. We are welcoming more and more first-class teachers.

We teach every student to understand the traditions of China as well as the modern civilization. The curriculum reform, featuring “to be a good man, to learn well, to handle affairs, to exercise oneself”, has set a good foundation of the simultaneous development of the students, teachers, parents and society. With the teaching spirit of “Honestly operating, diligently educating” and the help of our moral faculty, we nurtured a large number of top students with the characters of Shanghai Yan’an Junior School.

- Yan Jie, Principal of Yan’an Junior School
Melbourne City Experience - Making friends with fellow Year 9 students

During the second half of Term Four our new Year 9 students who are studying Bridging English at the Research campus will be making 4 trips into our City campus to join in a range of activities with students who are studying in the city. The activities will link students who are studying Chinese language together and introduce the new students into the year level before they join the Senior School in Year 10, 2014.

International Student Designs Celebration Night Handbook Cover

International Student Alice Lo's design concept was chosen for the Celebration Night/ELTHAM College Handbook Cover 2013. The cover features the thumbprints of all graduating Year 12 students in alternating colours. Alice has undertaken Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design as part of her Year 12 course and hopes to continue her artistic endeavours at University in 2014.
Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Yulia Cai. As a graduate international student, it is with great honour and pleasure that I stand here to share my experience at ELTHAM College.

Graduating. It sounds exiting. The curtain that once hid the world begins to draw up. Somewhere in this hall, we hear in soft hushes of an invisible audience: it’s our time. It’s the time to make some difference in the future. The next adventure is handed to us. Looking back, we have spent our precious senior years at ELTHAM College. Our Teachers are hospitable, responsible and supportive. Whenever we have problems of study or even have troubles in life, they will be willing to help. Our school is equipped with high quality facilities for both study and entertainment. I was very proud when I described our school to my friends from other schools. We have a photography dark room for studio arts and an excellent hospitality training centre, which other students may have no chance to experience. Especially, ELTHAM College is the outlook through which I can learn about Australia.

I still remember the first trip that I came to Melbourne. It was the flying crane over a blue mystery, I felt surprised when I arrived at Eltham suburb. It is all hillside—miles and miles of land until reaching the mountains protruding from the broader grounds. Just like every Chinese student, my life revolved around the atmosphere of Chinese cities—tall buildings, busy traffic, and even pollution. Moving to a new country can be a difficult journey of adjusting to life in a new environment. People always say, ‘if you are going to a different country, you should prepare yourself for culture shock’. Thanks to ELTHAM College, we have tackled different cultures and overcome hardships. During my nearly two years in Melbourne, I have experienced a great many festivals, parades and celebrations, which led me to believe that Australians are obsessed with life. Life is joyful and peaceful here. This is probably why so many people are drawn to Australia and wish to settle down.

I came from a very strict boarding school in China. Every student at my school absorbed themselves in study, and used pent-up energy on copy after copy practice exams. When I was studying at ELTHAM College, things were different. I was so glad that Judy gave me the chance to join the multicultural group. The idea of bringing students together, verbalising opinions and being open minded is brilliant and deserves to be encouraged and embraced. At first, I didn’t understand why we spent so much time on social activities rather than studying only. However, working with Angus, Wendy, Jason and Kardelen gave me the chance to view things from different cultural perspectives. We organized some extracurricular activities such as ELTHAM Shield successfully. Then I find the ways to pull myself out of the boring schedule—to discover fun and experience difference.

What’s more, I appreciate what I have picked up at ELTHAM College—to think independently and critically, to enjoy the learning process. It is from the process of our own exploration, research and demonstration that we learn. One of my great experiences of studying at ELTHAM College is having the Screen Extension course. Initially, my simple aim to attend this course is to gain extra bonus to my VCE ATAR scores. However, with the patient help of Dave, experiencing group work with my talented classmates, I found that the learning process is much valuable than the bonus. I found that the local students were very active to speak up about confusions and express different opinions. Under such positive influence, I started to enjoy what I learned out of exams. As the only international student in our screen class, I got much support from local students. I shot my major film with Alana at Montsalvat; I tried different roles in making a screen product with Claire, Patrick and Lucas. Such experiences left me wonderful senior years’ memories.

Finally, thank every teacher, thank every parent for supporting us up to this stage. Today, we graduate! Good luck to everyone for our VCE exams!
As part of her Year 12 Visual Communication and Design coursework, student Oceanna Kwok created a hardcover children’s book entitled ‘Picky Peter’. The process included creating the storyline, developing the text and digitally designing and creating the illustrations. She also had to produce marketing posters and paraphernalia to assist with the sale of her product.

Oceanna explains “I was asked to design my own client with a communication problem and I need to solve that. In piece one, I designed a children’s horror story book (target audience: children under six). In the process, I explored different options such as characters, illustration methods, colours, layouts, binding, thickness of the paper and fonts.

In piece two, I designed an ad for the book. I designed a point of sale.

I think it’s a good idea to provide the target audience (parents) a chance to read the book. Hence encourage them to consider buying one for their child.”

The resulting product is a high quality, entertaining children’s book worthy of being sold in retail bookstores.

Oceanna Kwok with her children’s book and promotional poster

Inside pages of Oceanna’s book “Picky Peter”