Global Connections

Welcome to 2013 - The Year of the Snake

This year ELTHAM College welcomes five new international students to our community. Particular congratulations go to Matthew Yau who represented Bell House in the college swimming carnival in only his second week of study at ELTHAM College. The Swimming Carnival was held on Monday 11th February and coincided with Chinese New Year. The college community marked the occasion with a surprise dragon dance which entertained the students as the swimming carnival commenced. On behalf of the ELTHAM College community, we wish all our families and connections a very happy and prosperous Year of the Snake.

New students meeting with Homestay Officer Fran Challons

Bosco Wong enjoying the Dragon Dance

Bridging English students Aria Yu and Couros Chen teaching Chinese characters to Early Learning Centre students

Matthew Yau representing his house in the swimming carnival

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Congratulations class of 2012

Since 1998 our long standing ability to place international students into mainstream university programs has made us the college of choice for many international families. From our 2011 and 2012 graduates an outstanding 99% of students were offered tertiary placements to continue their study in Australia’s top universities.

International University Offers 2011 /2012

ELTHAM College Teacher wins Prime Minister’s Award

“I am interested in exploring ways that the experience can be improved between the incoming student and their receiving institution, and the possibilities for mutual adaptation.”

University of Melbourne PhD candidate Karen Lindner has been selected as one of 20 Australian postgraduate students to receive a 2013 Prime Minister’s Australia Asia Award. The Prime Minister’s Australia Asia Awards provide scholarships for the best and brightest university students from Australia and Asia. The Awards provide the opportunity for students to undertake not only international study, but also internships.

Karen’s doctoral research examines expectations of international students as they enter Australian secondary schools, and the extent to which these expectations are met by their actual experience.

“I am interested in exploring ways that the experience can be improved and the possibilities for mutual adaptation between the incoming student and their receiving institution,” said Karen.

The Award will enable Karen to spend time in China carrying out research towards her PhD. While in China, she will be hosted at Tsinghua University, where working with academic staff will enable Karen to extend her knowledge of the literature in this area.

Karen’s fieldwork will include the collection of data, in the form of questionnaires and personal interviews, from Chinese students preparing to study in Australia.

“My research is targeted towards better understanding international students so that we can more comprehensively prepare them for their experience in Australia, but so that we can also question the services we offer and the ways in which we may adapt to better accommodate the needs of the students we are welcoming into our country.”

The Prime Minister’s Australia Asia Awards aim to develop internationally-aware, skilled future leaders and to establish enduring education and professional linkages between Australia and Asia.
**Sporting Success**

On the 27th and 28th of October the 2012 State Target Archery Junior Championships were held at Diamond Valley Archers in Yan Yean. Harri Howden and David Collis (Year 6) both competed in the event although in different divisions. The competition was decided over two days, shooting two 144 arrow rounds over four distances from 40 to 25 metres. Harri competed in the 11 & under Compound division and won with a new state record. The score would have put him in first place in the age group above, 13 & under Compound. David Collis competed in the 13 & under Recurve division and won. This was his first major archery competition since taking up the sport a few months ago. Congratulations boys on your outstanding achievements.

**Speaking with Confidence**

In 2012, Yulia Cai changed our school history when she became the first International student at our school to participate in the year 12 finals of the Carson Trophy competition. Yulia spoke passionately and persuasively to position us to agree that international students should be supported and not discriminated against, since they can offer so much to both the economy of Australia and enrich the multiculturalism of Australia. We hope that this will encourage other international students to speak about other issues that are close to their hearts.

**Voxpop with Yulia**

Q. How old were you when you arrived at ELTHAM?
A. I was 16.
Q. What is your first memory of a class at ELTHAM?
A. My first class at ELTHAM was Studio Arts. Because I was the only new student and there were only 2 Chinese students, I felt that I was a fish in a different pond. I was nervous about joining a bunch of art elite local students. They were making sculpture and I was invited to be a sculpture model. Though I did not know colloquial English and my English speaking was broken fragments, I learnt a lot. I was ready to adapt to my new school at that time and I learnt how to make sculpture which was the art form I had never tried.
Q. Favourite subject?
A. My favourite subject is Studio Arts.
Q. Favourite food (Aussie)
A. All kinds of pancakes!
Q. Favourite food (Chinese)
A. Cantonese food.
Q. What is your favourite song?
A. My favourite songs are the songs of the band named Tamas Wells. They are from Melbourne!
Q. Dream career?
A. Environmental Scientist.
Q. Best thing about studying in Melbourne?
A. I can expand my horizon by knowing different cultures.
Q. Hobbies out of school?
A. Exchanging postcards with people from different places and doing some research about arts.
Q. Final comment.
A. Studying overseas gives me a chance to be independent. With every laugh and every blink of an eye, I grow closer to my parents’ and teachers’ perspectives. I am facing the life in Australia for what it's worth.
Since 1974, ELTHAM College has been preparing students to embrace the world beyond school and achieve their individual dreams. So where are our graduates now? Here are just a few of the many success stories our alumni have to tell.

**Wencheng Michael Wang, Class of 2006, from Beijing**
Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Commerce
The University of Melbourne
Now living in Melbourne and working at Travelex Australia

**Kevin Chan, School Captain, Class of 2006, from Hong Kong**
Master of Business (Information Technology)
Living and working in Hong Kong

**Simson Tsang, Class of 2009, from Hong Kong**
Bachelor of Commerce (Finance and Marketing) Deakin University
Currently living and working in Hong Kong
Joy Zheng, Class of 2010, from Dalian
Currently completing Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) – Actuarial Studies
President of the Chinese Music Group
University of Melbourne

Keith Ren, Class of 2003, from Dalian
Bachelor of Accounting and Finance
The University of Melbourne
Now living and working in Melbourne as a strategy consultant with KPMG

Candice Chang, School Captain, Class of 2012, from Shenyang
Bachelor of Arts
The University of Melbourne
ELTHAM College Alumni - World Ready continued.....

Fergus Green, Class of 2001, from Melbourne
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws (Hons)
The University of Melbourne
Currently studying Master of Philosophy/Public Policy — London School of Economics and Political Science
2012 General Sir John Monash Scholarship

Fergus speaks fluent Mandarin and studied in Beijing in 2002. He is currently a researcher and freelance writer specialising in climate change policy.

Betty Zhou, Class of 2005, from Beijing
Master of Business Law and Master of Business (Banking and Finance)
Monash University
Worked as a paralegal for Herbert Smith Freehills in Collins Street, and now as an Analyst for National Australia Bank in Melbourne.

Alex Phelan, Class of 2003, from Melbourne
Bachelor of Biomedical Science/Diploma of Language (Chinese)/Bachelor of Laws
Monash University
LLM, International Law
Australian National University
2013 General Sir John Monash Scholarship

In 2012, Alex worked as a consultant legal counsel at the GAVI Alliance, and in the human rights division at the World Health Organization, both in Geneva, Switzerland. She will be moving to Washington to undertake a Doctorate of Law at Georgetown University later this year, specialising in global health law. In the meantime, she is continuing her role as a lawyer in the Climate Change and China practice at King & Wood Mallesons in Melbourne.

Betty with fellow student Roxanne and Director of International Students, Judy Rothacker

Alex meeting the Governor General to receive her award