

#### **Key Dates**

- 21 October—Partner School Visits
- 15 December-MITS Graduation
- 16 December —Travelling home

# MITS Family Newsletter

2016 Gala Dinner

Term 4 kicked off with a wonderful night of music, food and celebration for our students and Melbourne community at our 2016 Gala Dinner. Almost 400 people joined us at Carousel on Albert Park Lake to learn more about our school and to raise important funds for our future.

All our students were outstanding ambassadors for their school, greeting guests, helping them to their tables and talking confidently about their year at MITS. Comedian Sammy J hosted the night and provided lots of laughs. National Indigenous Music Award winner Gawurra performed a stirring musical set.

A highlight of the evening was the world premiere of our new MITS school song. Named "Gudwan Pleis" (a Kriol phrase meaning "a good place") and also including phrases from the students' seven different languages, the song was written over four special music afternoons with Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman, Aunty Lou Bennett. Aunty Lou led the students in a beautiful rendition, which received a standing ovation from all guests!

Our 2016 Gala Dinner demonstrated the huge support that MITS and our students have from so many people in Melbourne. We are grateful to all of those supporters and already looking forward to our 2017 Gala Dinner!







## Gala Dinner and MITS School Song

Aunty Lou Bennett is a famous Aboriginal singer who helped us write our school song. The song is all about MITS. We have all of our languages in the song. We performed it for the first time at the Gala dinner at Carousel on Albert Park Lake.

There were lots of people there, and a fire for them too. Before we sang, Corey played the didgeridoo. After we sang our song, everyone clapped and cheered and some people cried tears of joy.

Chelsea & Charmaine



Last week on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of October all the MITS kids went to the Gala Dinner. When we got there, Penny and I were introducing ourselves to the guests and telling them which tables they were on. When we started talking to people we were a bit nervous, but the more we talked to people, the easier it became. For dinner we ate nuggets, pizza and chips. After dinner we went back to the front of the building and went on the stage to sing our new school song called "Gudwan Pleis".

We were so nervous, but I knew we wouldn't stuff up. After the singing we were happy and relieved but we were still shaking from the adrenaline!



Penelope & Fiona

## School Update

It has been a fantastic start to Term 4 in the MITS classroom. The students arrived back energised after a couple of weeks at home and ready to get into their final term at MITS. Our focus in the classroom for the term, is "Welcome to Year 8" where students will continue to develop their skills and understandings of the curriculum, their transition schools and expectations for what it will be like for them in Year 8 next year. We have started the term with exciting excursions, new curriculum units and a strong focus on getting ready for next year. We are all looking forward to the students making the most of their final term as a MITS class.













### Fun in the Park

The MITS kids went for a walk to Fitzroy Gardens. We were playing footy and running around the park. John, Jayread and I were playing in the garden and it was fun. We were hiding

from Mr Brady and we saw a swing and a sand pit. Then the boys were doing backflips and front flips. We went and saw the little ducklings in the pond and Ms Kathryn was taking some photos. There are lots of parks close to our classroom at the Richmond Football Club.

John & Anthony



## **REAL Leadership Camp**

Four MITS students were very fortunate to be able to attend the REAL Leadership camp organised by the Korin Gamaji Institute at the end of Term 3. Layla, Jodie, Trevor and Anthony met over 40 other Aboriginal students from around Victoria. They enjoyed learning about what it means to be a good leader in the community.



## Hearing Tests at Melbourne University

In the last week of Term 3, all of the MITS students attended the Department of Audiology & Speech Pathology at Melbourne University for hearing tests. Dani Tomlin and her staff at the Centre were very thorough, and the students were very interested in their experience.

Here is Charmaine, being tested by the audiologist:



## **End of Term Awards**

MITS Stars for the end of Term 3 were Jordan and Layla. They each earned a movie voucher and a meal out with Rick and Liz at Rosco's Italian Restaurant.

Other MITS awards went to Tammy (Care award), Jayread (Kindness award), John (Respect Award) and Transtian (Courage Award). Alap Mrs KAR STUPKI

Students received their awards from Sally and Brad.





