

# Condorcet Infos

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Newsletter **June**  
**2011**

The newsletter from the educational team at Lycée Condorcet – June 2011

## Editorial

"We do not mark our time by writing a few books but by acting, living and getting other people to act and to live." Goethe.

This quote is particularly suited to us as educators: get the students to act, live and to grow and learn.

Several changes have marked the last few years at the school: several building works and renovations, and pedagogical and educational projects. Lycée Condorcet is moving towards its destiny, an international French school firmly implanted in Sydney. There is still much to be done and the new team, Loic Bernard, the Principal; Philippe Plataiu, the Primary School Director and Stephane Krecina, the Student Welfare Counsellor will continue the school projects from August 2011. Please give them a warm welcome. They will work for the service of the students their parents and at the service of this school in full development, like our team did, .

My team and I would like to thank you for the years spent together and we would like to wish you safe travels.

My sincerest thank you.

**Mahdi Tamene**

[principal@condorcet.com.au](mailto:principal@condorcet.com.au)

## Dates to remember:

- Beginning of the school year: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2011
- School Entry Test in English: for the new students from 6eme to 2nde Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 11am



## Preschool

Last October the school participated in the Coles Sports for Schools Program. Parents were asked to collect vouchers after shopping at Coles and to return them to the school. Vouchers were collected for a month and returned to Coles to be redeemed for sports equipment.

With your support we managed to collect 10 700 vouchers and were able to purchase the following equipment, A Nyda upright pump, a deluxe playball kit, egg and spoon set, two pop up goals, portable passing target and a bucket of coloured tennis balls.

Thank you to all the parents that participated. We are very grateful for your support and for the opportunity you gave us to increase the schools sports resources.

*Kathy Margiankakos*  
Preschool Director



### The IB Program

Another academic year has drawn to a close for our Year 12 IB students with their examinations finishing at the end of May. We wish Alex, Elisa, Maïré, Sébastien, Zoé and Kareem well as they enjoy a well deserved break before they get their results in July.



A view of Zoé's exhibition held in the hall



*What is this I'm feeling?: Acrylic on canvas. This piece is based on work by artist Frantisek Kupka, which inspired Zoé in her attempt to represent emotion and inner turmoil.*



*The Winda Woppa: Watercolour, ink on watercolour paper. In this triptych, she wished to portray the landscape around her family holiday house.*



*Wylies: Acrylic on canvas. This painting depicts the rocks at Wylies Baths in Coogee.*

Zoé took Visual Arts as one of her subjects and concluded her course with an exhibition which was assessed by an external examiner on 31<sup>st</sup> March. On the left is some of her work. Well done, Zoé!

We welcomed Steven Sadokierski, who was Zoé's examiner, to take the place of Suzanne Berkon, currently on extended sick leave. He has extensive teaching and examining experience in IB international schools. Maxine Acosta has joined the English staff, replacing Cybele Gonzalez who is on maternity leave. She has previously taught IB students in South America.

After the IB exams the Graduation Ceremony for Year 12 and Terminale took place on Saturday 28th May and was followed by a Graduation Dinner for graduating students, their parents and teachers. Our thanks go to the parents who organised the dinner - Camilla Creugnet, Barbara Richardson and France Veuillet.

Normal classes for Year 11 IB will continue to the last day of term on 24th June. Year 11 students are also expected to work for 3 weeks in the school holiday, mainly on their Extended Essay. The holiday is also a good time to continue with CAS (Creativity, Action and Community Service), an important part of the IB program. The program is a major commitment for the whole of Years 11 and 12, including part of each holiday.

Colin Brown, IB Coordinator

## Travel



### Visit to Canberra Year 8 students



Again this year, our year 8 students undertook an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programmes focussed on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. 35 students participated in the adventure at the beginning of May.

Numerous interesting activities took place:

- Visit of Federal Parliament House
- Cycling around the lake
- Visit of the Museum of Australian Democracy
- Visit of the Australian War Memorial
- Visit of Government House

Please note that the Australian government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. The Australian government contributed funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme toward the travel expenses incurred. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this programme.

*The accompanying teachers: Mr. Dupont, Ms. Bouynat-Fries, Mr. Bouynat et Ms. Masson.*

## Theatre

Theatre at the school started discreetly, almost confidentially to become an important part of the school's educational program. It overjoys me to meet children in the courtyard who patiently look forward to their next class, and to meet their parents, with big satisfied smiles. Drama is an outlet or a new playground, a way to fight shyness, the possibility to become someone else for a moment, but it is also a great way for students to express themselves with others.

Last February, the Year 7 English class acted in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by Shakespeare.

In May, 44 children of the drama clubs in primary school participated in a play of improvisations, and the students in Year 8, encouraged by the Life Sciences teacher participated in a play on the subject of adolescence. In June, another theatre production "Les Fourberies de Scapin" by Moliere will take place in which the two Year 7 classes and their French teacher will participate, "Aboriginal tales", theatre and puppets by the three Year 3 classes, and the "Theatre Tales" by the two Year 6 classes and their French History-Geography teachers.

Finally, the 22 young actors from the secondary school theatre company will present the theatre production "Fairy tales diverted" in June.

I hope this adventure has a long life.  
Vive le théâtre.

*Jean-Yves Brignon*  
Drama teacher

## Literature

### **Two of our students won an award for their participation in the Sydney Writers' Festival Writing contest.**

This year our year 7 and year 9 English Mainstream students participated in the Sydney Writers' Festival's WriteNow! creative writing competition.

The Sydney Writers Festival is a prestigious week long event now in its fourteenth year that attracts renowned Australian and international writers (two of their guests this year were Ingrid Betancourt who gave interviews and talked about her experience as a hostage and British author Harold Jacobson who won the Booker prize for fiction last year in London).

The WriteNow competition is a wonderful opportunity for NSW and ACT students in year 7 to 9 to compete and to demonstrate their creative talent in a writing contest of a very high standard. This year there were more than 2000 entries.

The judging panel shortlisted and awarded a highly commended certificate to two of our students, **Lola Valet in year 7 mainstream**, and **Amaya Massis in year 9 mainstream** for their outstanding stories. Congratulations to Lola and Amaya for putting the Lycée Condorcet on the Sydney Writers' Festival's map!

Mrs Gonzales and I also wish to congratulate all the students who participated.

I was personally impressed by the standard of all the entries and the creativity that our students demonstrated.

Congratulations to all!

*Mrs. Perroton*

## Art

### **The artist Melissa Becker**

On the 19th May, Year 11 and Year 12 students Intermediate met the South African artist Melissa Becker. She spoke to them about her involvement in a group exhibition in Canberra and her own exhibition at the Charles Hewitt Gallery in Paddington. Many students answered her invitation and attended her exhibition.

2/5/2011

Dear Mrs. Becker,

The whole class of Year 11 intermediate would like to thank you for coming and sharing your experience with us. When we were studying the theme of obedience and disobedience in our English class, we learnt a lot about the process of creation. Moreover, some of us had never met an artist before.

We have been really touched by your artworks, especially by your collages and impressed by the determination and perseverance expressed in your work and vision of art itself, after having gone through numerous hardships in your life as a white South African artist.

Yours sincerely,  
The class of Year 11 intermediate





### Reunion Island sports and cultural stay

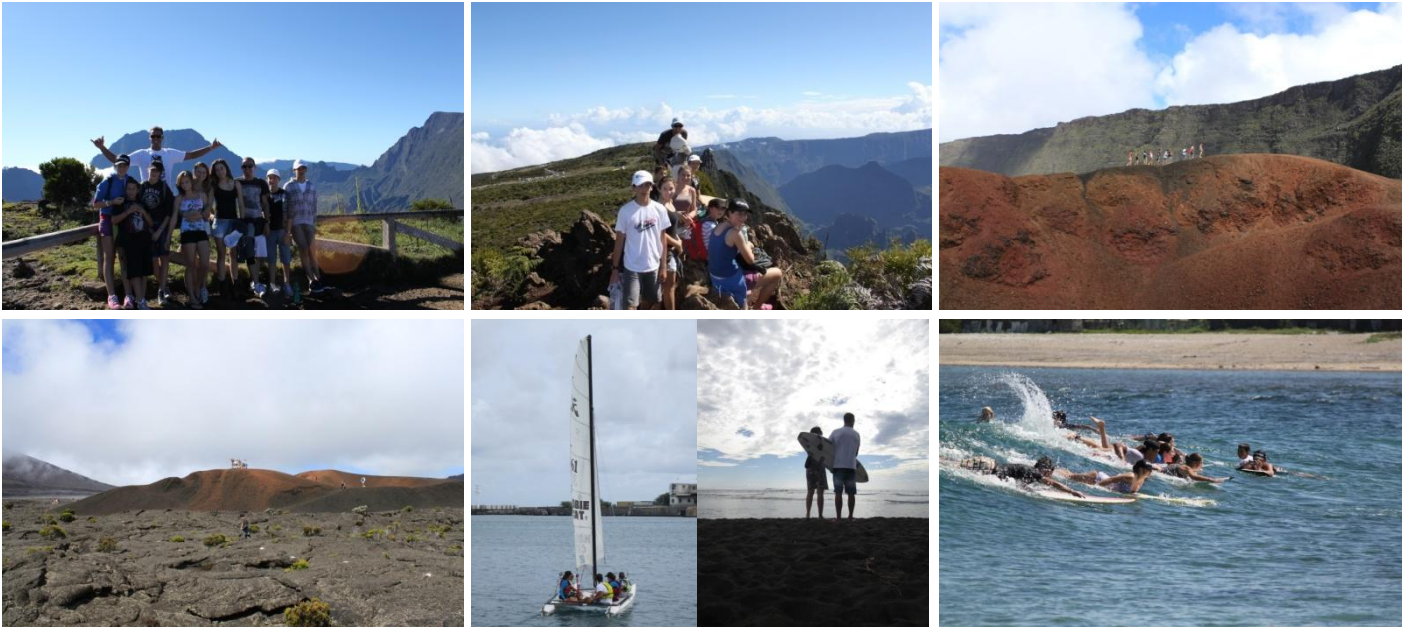
The school Evariste de Saint Paul invited the students from our sport section to the Reunion island. This visit took place as the Evariste de Saint Paul students visited our school in September 2010.

Our surfers stayed with host families and were able to discover the Reunion culture.

The families were glad to welcome them.

Our surfers trained every day and also competed at UNSS competitions on Wednesday afternoon, went diving, rafting, sailing, visited the museum to familiarise themselves with the Reunion Island culture, and also visited the craters of the volcano.

*Pascal Giraud – Sports teacher*



### Noumea sports and cultural stay

Our swimming sports section was invited by the swimming club *Cercle des Nageurs Calédoniens (CNC)* to the International Qantas-CNC meeting in April.

Our swimmers stayed in host families and discovered the New Caledonian culture. The CNC was very satisfied with our swimmers swimming level, their speaking level (French and English), their kindness and their politeness. The New Caledonian families were glad to welcome them.

Our swimmers trained twice a day for one hour and a half, and once swam in the sea with the wildlife. They were also able to rest and go for walks on the beach, visited the Tjibaoub museum and participated in other water activities.

The CNC and the families have announced that they would like to renew the experience next year. We therefore hope to have several exchanges between our two schools in the years to come.

*Pascal Giraud – Sports teacher*



## Latham Park Tennis offer

“Latham Park Tennis is the partner of the school sports section option Tennis. The training period this year is over for Lycee Condorcet students, but as the school’s partner we would like to offer the following to the French community : school holidays tennis camps, after school programs, juniors tennis competitions.

Tennis camps during school holidays:

dates: 4.07-8.07, 11.07-15.07. Also every year, at the end of July and at the beginning of August, we organize tennis camps for French School school children.

time: 9 am - 3 pm

After school program:

Group lessons after school, 8 weeks program every school term for kids of all ages and skill level.

Sunday Junior Tennis Competitions will start on the 24th of July until the 11th of September. There are 3 divisions, 2 and 3 will be playing from 12 pm until 2 pm, division 1 from 2 pm -4 pm.

For more information please visit our website: [www.lathamparktennis.com](http://www.lathamparktennis.com), or contact us on 93443350, or [email:tennis@lathamparktennis.com](mailto:tennis@lathamparktennis.com)

*Latham Park tennis centre*

## Goodbye from Dina Dehauteur, school psychologist

*Dear parents,*

*It is with much regret that I would like to inform you that at the end of this school year, I will no longer work at the school. The long hours at the hospital and at the school working and other hours as a psychologist have led me to take a decision in order to limit my workload.*

*I would like to especially thank the School Management team for this opportunity, which was a new experience for me 8 years ago. I would like to thank the educational team for their trust and accepting this close cooperation in order to improve the well being of the students at Lycee Condorcet during these years.*

*Dina Dehauteur*