

SAIL Program Newsletter 5

Footscray & Braybrook Campuses – September 2006

The 'let us know' list

- 1 If any of your contact details have changed, please let us know.
- 2 If you are planning to have contact with your student outside of SAIL hours you must let us know first and complete the contact request form.
- 3 If you intend to bring a friend to SAIL please direct them to the website first and direct them to apply online or just let us know beforehand.
- 4 Let us know if you are going to miss a Saturday via the online "Can't Come Sheet" for Footscray or here for Braybrook.
- 5 Please check and read your emails each week – if possible, Friday is best!
- 6 Please let us know before you speak publicly or publish an article about SAIL.

Ongoing offers

- 1 Photocopying- for any SAIL related photocopying, simply mark the pages from the books you want copied and give the book to the co-ordinators on Saturday – it will be ready for you the following week!
- 2 The Tutor Resources section of the website is available at all times to provide tutors with ideas, games, work-sheets and support. We strongly suggest that if you are experiencing difficulties of any kind when working with your student, you post a request for advice on the SAIL Panel of Experts Bulletin Board.

Diary dates

- 1 The week 5 tutor talks for 2006 occur on 30 September, 4 November, 9 December (concert)
- 2 If you are interested in attending any upcoming African Australian events click here for the details.

Please read this newsletter in the following week it gives updates on SAIL past, present and future!



Week 5 Talks

Tutor Talks This Cycle

We invite you to what is, for most, the highlight of Week 5 talks. On Saturday 30 September, Gatwech, a member of the Sudanese community, will be coming to give us a background to the conflict in Sudan. He will also share his stories, and speak about what it means to survive the refugee resettlement experience. This talk will start right after lunch at 12:30pm in the main hall of the Braybrook Campus. All tutors are very welcome!

Community Talks:

SAIL has had the pleasure of having the Springvale Monash Legal Service (SMLS) present to the SAIL community throughout this year. They are back again, this time inviting the community to participate in an informal focus group session.

The session is aimed at gathering a better understanding of South Sudanese customary law and how the Sudanese community perceive Victorian law. The session will contribute to a discussion paper that will inform the legal sector and also assist the wider community to better understand how laws are interpreted by the South Sudanese community.

Please inform Senior SAILors of this discussion. It would be great to see as many adult, as well as young adult SAILors there as possible!

The focus group will commence at 12:00pm and take place at the Maidstone Community Centre. Light refreshments will be provided by SMLS.

Welcome Aboard Sam!

The Footscray campus would like to extend a very warm SAIL welcome to Sam – our new Saturday Co-ordinator! We chose Sam to do the job primarily because her name rhymes with Cam's and we're huge fans of all things related to Dr Seuss. But as luck would have it, it turns out Sam's also incredibly good at answering all SAIL questions! What were the odds of that? So go up and introduce yourself in the next few weeks; she's very friendly and almost never bites!

We also wish Lisa the best of luck with the grand opening of the St Albans campus in the coming weeks!

Studying at Sunny SAIL Footscray Saturday School

We can all rejoice as the worst of the winter weather is behind us – and SAIL's love affair with the sun, grass and books can be rekindled. You are welcome to work outside on the grass but please refrain from kicking a soccer ball and running in the park until lunchtime. Please keep students working until lunchtime when the games can begin!

Adding a touch of polish to SAIL Footscray

On Saturday the 30th of September, the Maidstone Community Centre will be closed as they polish the floor. To avoid slipping and sliding our way through tutoring time, we're going to move locations for one week. We will be at the Church Hall on the Corner of Hyde St and Napier St (where we were for a few weeks at the start of the year). Tutors at the Footscray campus will be receiving an email detailing these arrangements in the coming week.

Cleaning machines

A big THANK YOU to all those tutors who stay back for an extra five minutes to help with the cleaning each week. It makes the job a lot more enjoyable for the closet neat-freaks among us! If you ever have a spare few minutes after lunch you are very welcome to join the glamour!

A Red Hot Visit

SAILors at Braybrook received a visit from the Fire Brigade this cycle. After a fire safety talk complete with booklets, demonstrations and a video, an actual fire truck rolled in complete with real-life firemen!

Debates raged over what the best part was: the hose, the siren or sitting in the truck. We think it was the hose but may need to take it to a vote. Thank you to all for your enthusiastic participation on the day! SAIL Footscray can look forward to a similar experience in October.





SAIL Extend Wrap-Up

As preparations for the next World Cup continue around the country, SAIL did its bit in this X-tend cycle by holding soccer workshops run by professional soccer players. The course was so successful that we're considering of declaring SAIL a country and entering in our own right. World Cup officials are 'considering the matter.' Go the SAILoroo!

A small group of SAILors also learnt to SAIL-without-a-boat in St Kilda, participating in swimming workshops with the support of a trained lifeguard. Due to the success of this course, we will be running it again next cycle. If you think that your student would benefit, please let us know!

WholeSAIL News

The Tomorrow Foundation – Two Fundraising Events

The Bootylicious Benefit Bash

Saturday 7th October

8pm – Late

Public Office

Top floor, 100 Adderley St, West Melbourne

Following the success of the Tomorrow Foundation's 'A Touch of Africa' Ball, the Foundation is back with their after-party. With gigs by the Nubian Knights, Burn City, the Pop Dance Crew and South Sudan Musica (back by popular demand) as well as the funky tunes of DJ Tim Nixon, it will be one hot party! Also there on the night will be Sudanese supermodels strutting their stuff in the latest designs from Helsinki Bear. So if the music isn't your thing, at least drop by for the fashion!

Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for concession) and are available at the door from 8pm.

Last but not least – SAIL's Great Big 5th Birthday!

On the 26th of August, SAIL celebrated its 5th birthday in Footscray's airplane hangar-like Drill Hall. With a rousing performance from Akon and his band, the presentation of awards to some very deserving SAILors and a great big SAIL cake, it was

all-in-all a very successful party. The first ever SAIL formal was also an immense success. 70 SAILors from all four campuses gathered at the YMCA Hall and boogied the night away.

Thank you to all the volunteers that made the celebrations possible (especially the cake-makers and drivers). Please keep an eye out for the group photos that should be posted on the website very soon!

TOTAL TRIVIA

It has come to our attention that early September is a period of an unusually high number of SAILor and tutors' birthdays. This gives rise to an interesting thought: either a large number of people are conceived around New Years Eve, or there is a correlation between conception at New Year's and the propensity to become a SAILor.

If the latter theory is true, this also gives rise the interesting possibility that SAILor tutors were, in fact, conceived not on New Years Eve but on 1 January, Sudanese National Day.

The predisposition to be Sudanese-sensitive as a result seems only natural. Now there's something to ponder until the next newsletter and beyond...



With our sincere thanks for seeing us into our sixth year of SAILing,

Matthew, Cait & Cam

