

FLO CONNECT

Engage | Educate | Aspire

Co-ordinators Corner



Welcome to another edition of our FLO Connect Newsletter! It is pleasing to see the continual growth and achievements of all of our young people especially over the past term. We have had many highlights so far including our first big fundraising effort at the Mildura Field Days, a fantastic display of volunteering by our young people - making slices, cooking soup and working on our stall serving coffees. Fundraising profits from this event will go towards FLO Connect hoodies for our young people. Well done! The *FLO Connect Coffee* small business has kicked off with some very enthusiastic young people making deliveries within our local community - please feel free to call in to buy a coffee or hot chocolate for \$2 that will also go towards our fundraising.

Volunteering this term has also included Wheels on Wheels through SunAssist and Aged Care at Princes Court Homes. Well done to all that have participated and brightened the day of a visit to our elderly.

I have been on leave for the remaining 4 weeks of this term and will return to FLO Connect on the first day of Term 3, 13th July. During this time Kym Woolley has been acting FLO Connect Campus Co-ordinator.

I look forward to catching up with everyone then! Bern.



Stacey Currie - Visit

Stacey Currie came to visit us this term giving us a very motivational speech and Inspired some of us to change our lives around. I know her speech and story inspired me aswell. Her story had us captivated and when she showed up at our school the students were speechless with shock. She then went on to give a very good speech. It made me personally evaluate my life. Students then started asking her questions, she answered every single one, and hugged a few students too. It was the best thing to happen at FLO Connect so far this year - Lydia Sherwell.

According to the usual script, Stacey should be living on the streets, in jail, on drugs or dead. She ticks all the boxes when it comes to risk factors, having experienced no mum throughout her life, brought up in housing commission, child sexual abuse, aged 13 and living in a shed, 15 and pregnant, 19 with 2 babies and homeless, 21 with 3 kids and living in a domestic violent relationship.

But remarkably Stacey managed to defy the odds in a spectacular way by getting up when everyone had counted her out. She has gone on to become a successful business owner and international speaker of acclaim.

Fast forward 10 years... Often referred to as the “rough diamond” by colleagues, clients and friends and recently featured as a guest reporter on the Channel Nine Morning Show, featured on The Circle, The Kerri-Anne Show, A Current Affairs, ABC's 7:30 Report, The Herald Sun, The Age, BRW magazine, and many more; this lady is living proof that you CAN overcome the odds and lives by her motto that “if you are powered by passion all things are possible”.





Minister Visits FLO Connect

Natalie Hutchins visited FLO Connect of the 5th of June, to see what we as a group offer. Specifically her visit was aimed at our indigenous students. We showed Natalie some of the pictures of what at FLO Connect are doing on our excursions and stuff.

Laser Force



Chris and myself were so keen to get into the game we ran into the arena before it was activated and wondered why we weren't winning. Kym and Rachel won the day. We are all looking forward to



a rematch. ~Jessie Robertson~ Having fun at Perry Sandhills thanks to the Scouts for loaning us the boogie boards.

Collective Impact

Collective Impact is a framework to tackle deeply entrenched and complex social problems. It is an innovative and structured approach to making collaboration work across government, business, philanthropy, non-profit organisations and citizens to achieve significant and lasting social change.



Four FLO Connect young people, Asha, Chevy, Thiesha & Cheniah and Mentor Kym Woolley went to a Collective Impact forum to show the FLO Connect video and talked about life before FLO Connect and Life now.

Recreation

Leah, Thiesha and Dayna were enjoying taking photo's during a recreation session down at the number 1 Oval. Testing out the new camera for photography our session in the afternoons. Next Term we will see more opportunities to be creative with photography.



A winner with youth



More Awards for FLO Connect. A MILDURA centre tackling youth unemployment and disengagement has been named winner of the Youth Employment category at the National Awards for Local Government.