News from AFFLIP

Welcome to this edition of the AFFLIP newsletter. 2015 is proving to be a busy, vibrant and productive period with all 15 elementary schools in the Talomo District of the Philippines benefiting in some way from our initiatives. As always, we welcome your comments.

AFFLIP announces its Inaugural Lecture

AFFLIP is proud to announce that the inaugural AFFLIP Lecture will be presented by former Prime Minister the Hon. Julia Gillard on Tuesday August 25, 2015, from 5.30 to 7.00pm, in the Alan Scott Auditorium, Hawke Building, North Terrace, University of South Australia.

There will be more details closer to the date. AFFLIP members will be given first opportunity to register before registrations are opened to the public.

AFFLIP Scholarship coordinator John Erskine met his sponsored student on his recent trip to Davao

Scholarships to reach 90 at-risk students

As the beginning of the new school year approaches in the Philippines, we look forward to the nomination of a new batch of 30 Grade 4 students to add to the existing group of 30 Grade 5 and 30 Grade 5 students, all of whom successfully graduated from their previous grade level.

This means we are looking for more sponsors to help ensure the on-going support of these at-risk students. Existing sponsors have been asked to continue the sponsorship of their individual students, and while we have a reserve list of willing sponsors ready to help with the new Grade 4 batch, we do need more to complete the complement.

Should you be interested, find out more about what the program involves on the AFFLIP website.

Cocktail Party raises much-needed funds

The 2015 Cocktail Party was held in March and attended by nearly 200 generous AFFLIP supporters. The money raised from ticket sales, auctions and donations will make a significant contribution to sustaining our flagship programs.

Check out other photos from the night on our website.

Schools Network gaining momentum

The AFFLIP Schools Network portfolio involves establishing and supporting the twinning of South Australian primary schools with each of the Talomo District schools in the Philippines. The number of South Australian schools becoming involved in the program is steadily increasing. Currently there are 10 pairings as shown below, and we are hoping to achieve the goal of networking the 15 Talomo elementary schools in the near future.

Basket Range Primary School Cultural Day

Basket Range Primary School - Talomo Central Elementary School
Parkside Primary School - A. Bonifacio Elementary School
Hillcrest Primary School - Bago Elementary School
Maitland Area School - Catalunan Grande Elementary School
Athelstone Primary School - A. Mabini Elementary School
Westlakes Shores Primary School - Jose Bastida Elementary School
Prospect Primary School - Catalunan Pequeno Elementary School
Bordertown Primary School - Generoso Elementary School
Wynne Vale Primary School - Leon A. Garcia Elementary School
Warooka Primary School - Baliok Elementary School

Some of the initiatives include Cultural Days, exchange of letters and postcards, sharing of curriculum materials, pen-pal programs and fund raising.

The following article is reprinted from the A. Mabini Elementary School Newsletter. For a wonderful insight into a Talomo elementary school's programs, activities and accomplishments, check out the complete newsletter on our website.

AFFLIP blossoms friendship through Twin's School

By: Mahalia Sol G. Laroscain

Davao City, Philippines –It was a heyday for the A. Mabini Elementary School as Sir Alastair Douglas AFFLIP representative, visited in October 27, 2014.

The AFFLIP Schools' Network program developed a friendship through pen pal writing. This twin's school program paved way to make stronger ties from other schools outside the country. This tie can be fruitful for the Filipino school children to develop their writing skills through the sharing of the schools' best practices and at the same time learning from each own cultural backgrounds.

A partnership of twin's school bridges cultural differences and cultural diversity that brings the children of different races to develop friendship and learning ways that can help them perform best in school.

The Talomo district supervisor, Marilou A. Mendoza, Ed. D along with Alvin B. Jumuad, Talomo Central Elementary School principal and Ronald Mangmang the Schools' Network Chairman and the A. Bonifacio Elementary School principal accompanied Sir Alastair Douglas for the visit. The teachers of A. Mabini Elementary School prepared lunch for the team, where they are received warmly at the school's BIG (Bio- Intensive Gardening) garden to have their lunch. The visit did not take long, although it was a productive one. Sir Alastair Douglas is scheduled to visit 2 more schools since he had made prior commitments on his short visit in the Philippines.

Sir Douglas eagerly announced that the Athelstone School has raised 120 Australian dollars AUSD for the twin's school A. Mabini Elementary as support for the school children. The amount is intended to purchase sports equipment. Since, the school has limited sports facilities this is a good opportunity for the school children to acquire and make use of these sports equipment. This will also encourage school children not to miss going to school.

The Di Harris Memorial Fund pilots Outdoor Learning Environment initiative

A. Bonifacio Elementary School has been chosen as the pilot school for the Di Harris Memorial Fund's Outdoor Learning Environment initiative. The school has enthusiastically embraced the concept of using the outdoor environment to enhance student learning through the formal and informal curriculum. The program involves Australian and Filipino educators and students working together to explore and design outdoor spaces using natural materials, teaching materials and resources for mainstream subjects and approaches to enhancing the outdoor physical environment of the school and its capacity to foster learning.

Go to the AFFLIP website for more information.

MailChimp.