



FAREWELL TOAN

At the end of the first 10 weeks of the semester Nguyen Bao Toan finished his studies and returned to Vietnam. He was an ELSPM student since July 2022, starting his studies online and continuing in the classroom once he was able to come to Australia on a student visa. He was a candidate with the Passionists.

Two weeks after his return to his family he suffered a fatal stroke. His teachers and classmates and friends mourn his loss. He was almost 27 years of age, bright and cheerful, generous and kind.

Rest in peace Toan.



MEET THE INTERMEDIATE CLASS

In the last edition of the E-News we met the online Intermediate class. This time we meet the onsite Intermediate class and their teachers, who are sharing their recent excursion to Melbourne Zoo. Jackie has been teaching at ELSPM for a number of years and Ombeline joined the Staff in January this year.

This is one of the best memories.



OUR VISIT TO THE ZOO





ZOO PHOTO COMPETITION

The students were invited to submit a photo with an animal. These are the winning entries.



EXPLORING THE ZOO

Visiting the zoo in Melbourne is a golden opportunity that can't be missed. People say, if you haven't seen kangaroos and koalas, it means you haven't arrived in Australia. After several months in Australia, my friends Noeline and Thang and I haven't had the chance to see kangaroos in person. Luckily, today we were able to get the time to visit the Melbourne Zoo.

When we first set foot in that location, it felt like there was such deep peace in our hearts. "Refreshing and feel-free," says Noeline. The cold weather fuelled our enthusiasm to look at the zoo. With a map, we started exploring the enclosures, one by one, to see the animals inside. Our main targets were giraffes, kangaroos and koalas. We couldn't just leave those moments and wanted to spare more time looking at them. We took some photos as a memory and as a sign that we were already in Australia.

At that time, I saw Noeline and Thang were very fascinated by the funny behaviour of the little penguins who were playing in the sand and running around their little houses. Two lovebirds were having fun and playing in a small hut. Harmonious and very beautiful! At first glance, I imagined some children playing in a small park. It was fascinating and cute. After that, we had lunch and took a photo together.

The lesson that we were able to get today was being able to know a lot of animal names in English because you know we are taking an English course. That is one of the best memories which we will never forget in our life.

Hans (Noeline and Thang)



ELSPM WENT TO THE ZOO

REFLECTIONS ON THE ZOO

It was a beautiful moment for us as ELSPM students went together to visit the Melbourne zoo. We walked together around the zoo in a group, consisting of Long, Siven and Yasintha. There were a lot of animals. Visiting the zoo for us was like we explored a mini world for animals. We could see so many animals from another part of the world, such as Giraffes, Elephants, penguins, many kind of Monkeys, Tortoises, many kind of butterflies and Hippopotamus. All of the animals that we showed three of us have different favorite animals. Siven's favorite animal were the butterflies because they were so colorful and many kind of them. Yasintha's favorite animal was the corroboree frog. Because frog is small animals, very cute and beautiful color.

Melbourne zoo was good environment for animals to live. They have created a wild environment so that the animals can be comfortable live in. Moreover, the animals were provided with the best food and health care. If they lived outside, they will face many difficulties from climate changes. One thing that we think is very important for the animals is that they are protected from extinction. Where all animals are best protected, and they are helped to maintain the breed. We felt very happy that the Australian government has spent a lot of money to protect the animals in there.

Long, Siven, Yasintha.



OUR 'TINY' GROUP AT THE ZOO

When we hear the word "tiny" we think of something very small, and that is exactly why my group chose the name "Tiny". Our group consists of three students, Faris, Bernadeta, and myself (Thai). We chose the name 'Tiny' because it represents our belief that we are small but significant in the hands of God. The zoo excursion taught me a lot about animals and the natural environment. The beautiful and resilient lives of all creatures make me stronger and add vitality to my life. Through observing various animals, I see the hand of God in the world. Moreover, the day we walked and talked together, I felt the love of God and others.

One of the most beautiful members of our group (Bernadeta) expressed her appreciation for the environment's cleanliness and tidiness. She is proud of the Melbourne Government and everyone who works to save animals. While we walked together, Faris reflected on his experience "I was impressed when I went around and looked at many kinds of animals, insects, birds, and sea animals." We were also given a task to take the best photo that we could. It was interesting. Overall, the zoo excursion was an eye-opening experience for our group. We learned about the importance of protecting the environment and preserving the lives of all living creatures. We were particularly happy to see giraffes up close. Their tall bodies, long necks, and legs made them seem very friendly with everyone.

Tiny: Faris, Bernadeta & Thai



Editor's note: As long as the students' writing is understandable the editor does not correct their mistakes. Their learning is a work in progress.

MEET THE TEACHERS

Jackie

It is good to finally be back in the classroom teaching face-face and interacting with students in person. After a long time of teaching on Zoom due to Melbourne lockdowns, it is wonderful to finally see students from many different cultural backgrounds finally arriving in Australia. Students from Madagascar, Laos, Vietnam Indonesia, China and South Korea help to create a rich learning environment in our classes. This semester we are focusing on writing well-structured essays and giving effective oral presentations on topics like global stories and climate change.

Besides teaching, I have been developing my pottery skills, learning how to throw on the wheel and hand build ceramic items. It has been fun!



Ombeline

What brought me to ELSPM:

My friend (and ex-colleague) Mel Dempsey told me about ELSPM and said it was a very different and special place to work and suggested that I come and have a chat with Margaret and so I did!

What's it like being here:

It's been great! The staff are warm and lovely and I really enjoy teaching my class too. ELSPM feels like a community and not just a school which I think is what makes the place special.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Khoa - May 5th

Margaret H - May 9th

Hieu - May 17th

Mal - May 19th

Fr Michael - May 31st



We look forward to hearing from the students of the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) in the next edition of our E-News