Our School open morning
9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. on Monday May 19
(no assembly)

Greetings from the Assistant Principal...

Student Achievement
Well done our Year 3’s and 5’s
I would like to acknowledge all the year 3 and 5 children, who today, are finishing their last NAPLAN test. Tests have been going on for three days since Tuesday and all students have applied themselves 100% in their application and concentration. Thank you to parents and guardians who have ensured a high level of attendance during the week. I remind parents that these tests provide a snapshot of our school during a particular week. Throughout the year staff conduct a range of assessments which provide a rich picture of each student’s achievement. NAPLAN forms part of this picture but, like every other assessment, has the potential to be misleading when taken in isolation. Teachers are gathering data from the tests to support the other assessments that are regularly undertaken in order to build an accurate picture of each student’s learning progress and to identify their learning readiness, or ‘where to next’. I look forward to seeing the NAPLAN results in September.

Student Action Teams
The Grade 6 Student Leadership Team have been working hard with the rest of the grade 6s to form Action Teams that will be developing community projects to benefit all students at Northcote Primary. This integrated learning project links strongly to the AusVELS domains of Civics and Citizenship, Communication, Design, Creativity and
Technology, Personal Learning and Thinking Processes. Students have been working hard on their business plans to get their projects up and running in the next few weeks.

GRAD MOVIE: Our action team is making a video for all grade 6s at the end of the year to go with the Year Book. We will be interviewing people about their life at school and their futures. It will be a great video that people will keep for the rest of their lives.

Project Leaders: Nabilah & Ruby S

NORTHCOTE UNITED: This sporting action team will be working with students from grade 3 to 6 during lunchtimes. Our goal is to keep kids fit and help them practice their sport skills. We will be playing games like soccer, basketball and newcombe.

Project Leaders: Hayden & Rinchen

EDITS.CO: Edits.co is about educating children on computer skills. We will be learning how to creatively morph photos together, encouraging children to use their imagination.

Project Leaders: Leea & Isabella

GRADE 6 YEAR BOOK: the year book is a fun, creative magazine devoted to the Grade 6’s last year at Northcote Primary School. It will include memories from 2014, photos, stories and articles. A great keepsake for the rest of our lives.

Project Leaders: Alec, Hamish & Matthew

PROJECT PLANET: Project Planet is a project that allows students to creatively express themselves. In Project Planet we teach physics, science, biology, architecture and writing by working with students to create planets using plasticine. Students will create their own cities and re-write history. We will be working with students from years 2 to 4.

Project Leader: Logan

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT: This action team will be working with preps, grade1s and 2s. Our aim is to have fun, keep fit and develop good team-work qualities. Sport activities will be held during lunch times. Each week will focus on different, fun games.

Project Leaders: Bel & Rory

School Review

Our school is undertaking a peer review this year following the process outlined in the School Performance Framework. We are at the self-evaluation stage, the essential first step in a broader cycle of performance monitoring and review. The education sub-committee were provided with details of the review process on Monday evening and further information will be shared with school council. There will be opportunities for all the community to provide feedback and input, particularly in developing our next school strategic plan.

Allergy Awareness Week

AWARENESS, AVOIDANCE AND ACTION C

Our approach to allergies and in particular food allergies, is to ensure that we know who are the students in our school who are at risk of an allergic reaction. This awareness is developed through parents informing the school that their child has an allergy, and providing an action plan on how to manage a reaction. The school has a management plan in place for each child at risk of an anaphylactic reaction.

Students and staff also develop their understanding of specific children with allergies through classroom conversations which usually includes the child’s parent/s. Teachers support this with activities to consolidate the learning, and classroom practices to minimise exposure to allergens. This may be seating children with known food allergens apart at eating times from children who are allergic to particular foods being consumed.

All teachers are involved in regular briefings on anaphylaxis and undertake an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course every three years.

You can develop your awareness further through these websites:
Thank You Janine and Phoebe
Janine (Phoebe’s mum) visited 1-2DNT this week and together with Phoebe, presented information about allergies to help raise our awareness. The students gained a lot of information and then wrote reports about some of the facts they learned.

Prep Enrolments for 2015
Every Tuesday until the last two weeks of this term, we will be taking tours of the school for prospective prep parents. Our tours have so far been booked out, and we are receiving calls on an almost daily basis from parents interested in our wonderful school.

If you have children currently attending NPS, have a pre-schooler AND you haven’t yet enrolled for next year, please call in to the office and pick up an enrolment form, or download one from the website. We have set a deadline for all 2015 Prep enrolments to be in by the end of this term so planning is underway for 2015.

Reporting of Student Progress to Parents
After student reports are distributed to parents, students are required to come to school at a pre-arranged time for their Three Way Conference (3WC).

This year the conferences will take place on Monday 23rd June. Each home group teacher meets with parents and the student for ten minutes to discuss the student report, achievement and improvement areas. Students show samples of their work to parents ten minutes prior to the meeting to demonstrate their progress and celebrate their success.

Students are not expected to attend school all day, they need only be at school for their conference. Class teachers will be involved in their student-led conferences and will therefore not be running the normal classroom program.

An alternative school program runs on the day for students whose parent commitments require them to attend the regular hours of school.

Every year we ask for community feedback about the process and look for ways to improve. One request that often comes up is to meet with the teacher for a longer time. We are unable to provide more time on the conference day as teachers need to meet with all parents on that day. I want to emphasise that you can make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher at any time that is mutually agreeable prior to the conferences.

Kerrie will return from leave on Wednesday next week.

Warm regards,
Karen

Late Pick Up
If you are running late to pick up your child, especially if it will be after 3.45 p.m., please call the school on 9481 0009. We will then make sure your child comes to the office until you arrive to collect them.
Introducing our School Councillors
For the next few weeks we will be posting a photo and biography of our current School Councillors.

I’m Ian Taylor and I’m very honoured to be school council president this year. My younger daughter Stella is in grade 2 and loves having Jennifer as her teacher. Our 16 year old, Grace, was also at NPS and is now in year 11 at Melbourne Girls College.

My professional background is in social work, organisational development and university administration. At the moment I am a part-time house husband and running my own business. I’ve had about 4 different careers to date and I’m still not sure what I want to do when I grow up.

I am deeply appreciative of the commitment at NPS to educational excellence and strategic improvement. The plan to build on our excellent teaching, our learning facilities and the commitment to individual learning and planning is vital to the success of the school.

On school council I look forward establishing our next strategic plan as a blueprint for continued success. We can significantly improve the look and welcoming feel of the school buildings and grounds. We also have the opportunity to build a unique partnership between our highly skilled and professional staff, our wonderful and supportive families and our students. This partnership has enormous potential to make our school even better.

In addition to school council I am also a leader with the Northcote Scout Group. It is a great place for girls and boys to learn new skills, test their independence, make friends and have lots of fun. Please contact me if you’d like to find out more.

My name is Chris Thompson and my son, Gully is in Grade 3. His teachers are Andrea and Dane and he also loves learning the piano and being part of the band with Martin. I’ve been a member of the school council since half way through 2012.

I work freelance in a whole range of different areas related to the arts and education. Primarily I’m a writer working in theatre for young people and sometimes in film and television as well. I trained in Drama and Media Studies at Deakin Uni Rusden and then did my Masters in Screenwriting at the VCA. I’ve been an Artistic Director of a number of companies including St Martins Youth Arts Centre in South Yarra, HotHouse Theatre in Albury and Jigsaw Theatre in Canberra. Many years ago I was a secondary school teacher. These days, in between writing projects and a whole lot of other eclectic gigs, I teach theatre subjects at ACU and Screenwriting at Open Channel.

I’ve also been on a lot of Boards and Committees of Management and I hope the strategic planning and governance skills those experiences have given me are useful to the school council.

I feel like this is a good year to be involved with the school council as we undertake the process of developing a new strategic plan. Obviously this will mean a re-examination of the current goals and actions and outcomes of the plan, but I hope that the idea of the ‘shared approach’ to many areas of the school’s activities as articulated in the current plan remains a central philosophy.

Last year I was involved with the Education Sub-Committee and whilst I hope to keep in touch with their progress, I’ve opted to join the Community Sub-Committee this year. I hope my background in youth and community theatre events will prove useful in the activities of this committee.
Environment Committee News

Have you noticed how healthy and vibrant the front garden at the entrance to our school is looking? We were fortunate not to lose many plants over the hot summer and have added a few to replace these and to fill a couple of gaps. Thank you again to the parents who were on the watering roster. At our next working bee in term 3 we will add the last of the plants and small trees and reapply a new layer of granitic sand to complete this project.

The funding for this project was provided by Darebin Council and our school, through community grants. When the project is completed we will have an official opening to which we will invite representatives from Darebin Council to acknowledge their generous support.

There are a number of gardening and school improvement projects that the Environment Committee is working on and developing. If you are interested in joining this committee and becoming involved in these exciting projects to improve our school and its environment please contact me or come along to our next meeting on June 10th. We meet in the staff room from 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Some of these projects could be completed outside of working bees as they are quite small or could be done in stages. The committee is hoping to set up smaller working parties to complete these. Examples are the refurbishment of the sick bay, painting of some external doors and re-establishing garden beds. It is anticipated that these working parties could meet and work on projects after school.

Ross Bennie
Environment Committee convenor
bennie.ross.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Italian Update

Competitions are here! These are optional for students.
The Italian year will provide our students with more state-wide competition opportunities. The Dante Alighieri Society has announced their poster for all year levels.

DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY MELBOURNE Inc.

Italian Junior Competition 2014 for Years Prep – 6

Years Prep to Grade 2 are required to create a poster in the form of a drawing, painting or collage on the following topic:

**Una capsula del tempo – i giocattoli di oggi**

Students **design a time capsule and draw 5 toys** that they would include in the time capsule to show future generations the types of toys with which children played in 2014. Each toy is to be labelled. The following title is to be included on the poster:

*Una capsula del tempo – i giocattoli del 2014*

*a time capsule must be drawn
*toys must be labelled*
**Years 3 & 4** are required to create a poster in the form of a drawing, painting or collage on following topic:

**ieri e oggi**

Students create a *ieri e oggi* poster. They choose 2 topics eg: weddings, families, homes, transport, sports, occupations, fashion, shops, school etc., both of which students illustrate and find pictures that demonstrate the past and the present. *They are to write two sentences for each topic. See the examples below.

The heading *ieri e oggi* is to be included on the poster.

*NB If students choose to paste pictures on their poster they must also include at least two hand drawn illustrations.

**Years 5 and 6 students** are required to create a poster in the form of a drawing, painting or collage on the following topic:

**In una capsula del tempo io metterei...**

Students are to design a time capsule and label 4 items* that they would include to show future generations what life was like today. Each item must have 2 sentences written about it.

Here are some ideas for the items:
- photos of family members, leisure time, celebrations
- mobile phone
- favourite books
- games

Examples of sentences:  

- Questo è il mio casco per la bicicletta. Mi piace perché è azzurro.
- Questa è una foto della mia famiglia. Ci sono, mia sorella Angela, mio papà Tony, mia mamma Stella ed io.

*NB If students choose to paste pictures on their poster they must also include at least two hand drawn illustrations.

**By the closing date** of **Tuesday, June 17th 2014**

Each entry must be:

- Clearly labelled with entrant's name, year level, school and school address
• No larger than one A3 sheet (It is not possible to accept anything other than A3 posters, models or 3D presentations will NOT be accepted.)

• Completed by the individual student and not more than one student completed in correct Italian

The above criteria are part of the Judges’ criteria for selection of the winning posters as well as:

• Neat & colourful presentation (laminating is not part of the criteria)
• Original & creative interpretation – encourage students to think about how their poster will stand out from the others.

The selected judges are not affiliated with any Primary School. The Judges’ decision will final be and no communication will be entered into.

Students are asked to think about the topic and start jotting down ideas. Please do not commence final copies as we will be working on this theme in class during the term.

There will be a $5 entry fee for those students who decide to enter this competition.

Competition closes Tuesday 17th June and any winners will be required to attend the Presentation night on Friday, September 12th at the University of Melbourne.

Italian Competition Entry Form
The Dante Alighieri Competition Entry Fee is $5.
If you wish your child to enter this competition, please enclose $5 together with the slip below in an envelope and send this to the office before Tuesday the 17TH June 2014 - NO LATER.

THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY JUNIOR POSTER COMPETITION 2014.
Last day to enter is Tuesday, 17th June 2014 at the latest - earlier would be preferred! All posters received by this date will be sent on this day.
Entry Fee = $5
Yes, I wish my child to enter The Dante Alighieri Poster Competition.

Student’s name: _____________________________________________

Grade: _________ Please find enclosed: $5.00

Thank you.

I give permission for ____________________________ (child’s name) to have his/her photo, full name, grade and school name to be published in The Italian Newspaper ‘Il Globo’.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________

Grazie for your continuing support and Year 5/6’s, stay tuned next week for the IT competition information. 😊
Saluti (cheers),
Signorina Rosa.
Italian Teacher and Co-ordinator (Mon/Tues)
A friendly reminder to all of our bike riders – if you are riding on the footpath, please remember to use your bell when coming up behind people.

The Biggest Morning Tea

Where: In every classroom at Northcote Primary School

When: Thursday 22\textsuperscript{nd} May

At: 10:40 am

Bring: Some morning tea to share and a gold coin donation

Why? To help raise money for cancer research.
Dear Parents & Students ....  **PHOTO DAY IS TUESDAY 27TH MAY 2014**

School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

**Important Information**
- Every student ordering photos must return an order envelope **before** photo day.
- Every student ordering photos must return their **own** order envelope – even if their payment is in their sibling’s envelope.
- Sibling photo order envelopes can be collected from the school office and must be returned to the school office **before** photo day.
- Orders placed after photo day will be charged a **late order fee**.

**Order Instructions**
1. **Select a photo package option** - each option is explained on the flyer attached to the order envelope.
2. **Complete your order envelope** - use a black or blue ball point pen and fill in your order and contact details.
3. **Complete payment** - using one of the following options.

**CASH**
- Put exact money in order envelope.
- **No change will be given.**
- You can pay for all siblings in one order envelope - you must write on each order envelope the name and class of the sibling that has payment.

**CHEQUE**
- Write your name, address and telephone number on the back of the cheque.
- Dishonour fees will be charged if payment is declined.
- Make cheques payable to: **ADVANCEDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY**
- Allow up to 60 days for payment to be completed.

**CREDIT CARD**
- Payment can only be made online.
  2. Click on **online payments and re-orders**, then click on **proceed**
  3. Enter the three (3) letter online payment code found on your order envelope (example: SCH), then click on **OK**
  4. **Click NO**, (9 digit code is not required for your school)
  5. Follow the payment instructions
  6. Write your receipt number on your order envelope under payment method – online payment.
- You can pay for all siblings in one transaction – you must total the amount of all order envelopes and write the receipt number on each order envelope.

From the team at AdvancedLife Photography.
Advertisements

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City of Darebin – School Holiday Program brochures available outside the office.

Preston City Hall
WED 28 MAY 4PM-5.30PM
ONLINE BOOKINGS AT www.darebinlibraries.vic.gov.au
OR CALL 1300655355

You don’t have to be a superhero to become a Foster carer

Information Night Monday 2nd June 2014

Register your interest
Ph 8470 9999
anglicarevic.org.au
Parentzone Northern Invites you to a FREE event

CYBER SAFETY AND YOUR FAMILY
presented by Susan McLean (cybersafetysolutions.com.au)

An evening seminar for parents, caregivers, and professionals working with children and families.

"Parents must learn about the internet with their child. Kids today have access to and are accessible by many millions of people worldwide via the vast array of websites, applications and online games. Don't be afraid of technology. Learn about it and embrace it as your children do."

Susan McLean
Director - cybersafetysolutions

WHERE: Northcote Town Hall - The Rooftop
WHEN: Tuesday 3rd June, 2014
TIME: 7.30pm - 9.30pm (Room open from 7pm)
ALL BOOKINGS: parentzone.preston@anglicarevlc.org.au
Closing date for bookings: May 23rd
ENQUIRIES: 9465 0322

Susan McLean is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of cyber safety and young people and was a member of Victoria Police for 23 years. Widely known as the “cyber cop” she was the first Victoria Police Officer appointed to a position involving cyber safety and young people. She is regularly sought to provide advice and assistance to a wide range of diverse organisations including, State Education Departments, different education sectors, elite sporting bodies, government psychologists, child protection agencies and medical practitioners (GPs).

Parentzone Northern is the regional parenting service in the North providing support to parents, caregivers and the professionals who work with families, and is funded by Dept of Education and Early Childhood Development, and the Government Dept of Social Services.

Australian Apprenticeships ACCESS Program

Prepare for work in Aged and Home Care

Selected units from CHC30312:
Certificate III in Home and Community Care
- Supported training for 5 weeks
- Offering 4 accredited units
- First Aid Level 2
- Employer Visits/Interviews

Commencing: 26th May 2014 in Heidelberg

Are you wanting a job that is flexible where you can work around the kids? Do you have a passion for helping others?

Interested? Contact Louise!
PHONE: (03) 9450 5700
EMAIL: louiseb@e-focus.org.au

Course Code: N16434

Active kids are healthy kids

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday 23 May 2014

Download the FREE APP

walk.com.au