# Important School Diary Dates

## November
- **Fri 21 Nov**
  - Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 1 – Preps for 2015
- **Mon 24 Nov**
  - Education Sub-Committee Meeting – 7.00 p.m.
- **Tues 25 Nov**
  - NOOSHC Sub-Committee Meeting – 4.00 to 5.00pm
- **Wed 26 Nov**
  - Whole School, Grade 6 Graduation & JSC Photos
- **Wed 26 Nov**
  - Finance Sub-Committee Meeting – 4.15 p.m.
- **Fri 28 Nov**
  - Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 2 – Preps for 2015
  - Last day for Prep-2 Swimming Program

## December
- **Tues 2 Dec**
  - Ready, Set, Go! Program No. 3 – Preps for 2015
- **Mon 8 Dec**
  - Art Walk/Concert & Picnic Tea
- **Tues 9 Dec**
  - Grade 6 to Year 7 Transition Day to Secondary School
  - In-school Transition No. 1 – 12.30pm to 1.30pm
  - Grade 3/4 Incursion – Zoom Cooking
- **Wed 10 Dec**
  - Art Walk/Concert & Picnic Tea – Back Up Date
- **Tues 16 Dec**
  - In-school Transition No. 2 – 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm
  - Grade 6 Graduation Night
- **Thurs 18 Dec**
  - Grade 5/6 MSAC Excursion
- **Fri 19 Dec**
  - Last day of Term 4 – **1.30 pm finish**

## 2015
- **Thurs 29 Jan**
  - First day of school – All Grades

---

**Lost Property**

WHAT?? Another 3 huge, garbage bags full of lost property to take to the charity bin, just like Term 3?

It is warming up so you may not have realised that these items are still at school.

PLEASE make some time to pick up some pretty cool looking hoodies,

some beautiful cardigans and jackets,

and some sporting club jerseys.
Student Achievement
Our Triathletes - Congratulations
Last Friday, a group of our students from grades 4 to 6 participated in a Triathlon event at Northcote Swim Centre. They formed teams in age groups and each individual in the team performed a section of a run, swim or cycle. Congratulations to the students who participated in the event (see article on page 8).

Thank you to Steven Bruce, and Krissy King, teachers, for organising and coordinating the event and to the parents who attended and provided great support to our Triathletes. Well done all for representing our school out there in the wider community.

Ready, Set, Go!
Our 2015 Prep orientation commences this Friday. I know you will join me in welcoming our new families to the school as they wander in looking for where to go. If they look a little lost, please welcome and direct them to the Hall entrance. We will have official ‘Guides’ from year 5 & 6 to assist during the program as well. We are looking forward to the excitement of our future preppies and their families.

Parent Forum
Thank you to the parents who attended our Parent Forum last week, it was great to collect perspectives and feedback on our current school purpose statement, values and environmental statement as we plan forward for the development of the new School Strategic Plan 2015 - 2019. We have also gathered feedback from staff and a group of year 2/3 & 4 students.

The Education Sub-Committee will have a final look at the draft statements on Monday night at their meeting before going on to School Council for endorsement. Once endorsed, it will be posted on our school website. Thanks again to everyone involved, it has been a collaborative process.
2015 Class Structure
Thank you to the parents who sent in their feedback on 2015 class model in the newsletter a couple of weeks ago. Majority of responses supported the proposed model published in the newsletter 6th November. I have updated and included below.

| Class 1 | Prep | 22 |
| Class 2 | Prep | 22 |
| Class 3 | Prep | 23 | 68 |
| Class 4 | Year 1/2 | 23 |
| Class 5 | Year 1/2 | 24 |
| Class 6 | Year 1/2 | 24 |
| Class 7 | Year 1/2 | 24 | 95 |
| Class 8 | 3/4 | 26 |
| Class 9 | 3/4 | 25 |
| Class 10 | 3/4 | 25 |
| Class 11 | 3/4 | 26 | 102 |
| Class 12 | 5/6 | 23 |
| Class 13 | 5/6 | 23 |
| Class 14 | 5/6 | 23 |
| Class 15 | 5/6 | 24 | 93 |
| TOTAL: | | 358 |

The total number of students may vary slightly again by the end of the year or by February 2015.

Which class will my child be in?
Allocating students and teachers to home groups will occur shortly, along with location.

Classes are structured to have a balance of (not in any order here, pending on individual needs): boys/girls; ability levels; developmental needs; friends; new friends and influences; leaders and those requiring additional emotional support – confidence/not so confident; student welfare issues and concerns; parent requests.

Rest assured, there will be much discussion amongst the staff about the best possible combinations for all children and given the layers of complexity, this takes considerable time.

Hope this assures all parents that we are giving it much thought in the best interests of all the students and that you are welcome to contribute if you think we have overlooked something.

Regards,
Kerrie

Education Sub-Committee
Last Education sub-committee meeting for the year – Monday 24th November, 7.00 p.m., staffroom. All parents are invited. Please advise Miles Callaghan if you intend to join – miles.callaghan@bupacare.com.au
NAPLAN

NAPLAN results for our participating years 3 and 5 students were sent home at the end of last term. NAPLAN is the national testing of all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 that occurs each year in the areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy. Students are assessed against the National Minimum Standard.

This information is used at a school level to assess the strength of our school programs and to inform our future planning. Our current focus in improving the teaching and assessment of Spelling is an example of how the school uses this information. Data from previous years continues to tell us that our students could improve in the area of Spelling. School resources this year have been directed to improving student outcomes in Spelling and this will continue into 2015.

A summary of our results for 2014 are as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 NAPLAN</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>STATE</td>
<td>SCHOOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98% of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>results at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100% of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>results at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78% of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>results at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95% of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>results at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95% of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>achieved</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>results at</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the National</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Relative Growth

Each Year 5 student’s level of relative growth is determined by comparing their NAPLAN results to the results of the group of all ‘similar’ Victorian students. ‘Similar’ students are defined as those that had the same NAPLAN score two years ago.

Growth is described as high, medium or low. We want all our students to achieve high growth in learning, whatever their starting NAPLAN score in Year 3.

Here is a summary of our excellent relative growth results Year 3 2012-Year 5 2014.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>High and medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>89% of students achieved medium to high growth over 24 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>94% of students achieved medium to high growth over 24 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>79% of students achieved medium to high growth over 24 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>86% of students achieved medium to high growth over 24 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>83% of students achieved medium to high growth over 24 months.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Karen

Collingwood Children’s Farm 12/11/14

On Friday we went to the Collingwood Children’s Farm to discover more about our inquiry topic - Paddock to Plate.

As we walked down the road to the tent where we ate our play lunch we heard the sounds of different animals screeching, chirping and oinking for food, sleep and play.

When we walked into the sheep paddock we saw some of the smart sheep sticking to the fence under the cool shade of the trees. Others were sitting near the water eating and drinking. Our tour guide, Andy said that the sheep get shorn at the start of November this is why some of the sheep were shorn. Some of the boys were rather foolish and started jumping in stinging nettles in the sheep paddock. When we fed the sheep it felt like an aggressive monster trying to eat your hand off.

After the sheep we saw the goat territory we were surprised how many babies there were, as we got the food more and more goats came to crowd us. Some of the big greedy goats were fighting over the food and stealing the baby’s food. When we entered their territory some of them were drinking, scared and some of them were very playful and bright and some were taking a load off and sleeping. It was good because we got to take a lot of group photos with the goats.

In the milking shed Biddy the cow was more interested in her food than us. While we were waiting for the other group to finish our tour guide Andy talked about how Biddy didn’t like people pushing/pulling too hard on her teats. A lot of people were excited about milking the cow. People pushed and shoved to get a seat, even though everyone would get an opportunity to milk Biddy the cow. After they milked the cow we got to pat/brush her. Milking a cow feels like squeezing a rubber glove filled with water.

We know everyone enjoyed the farm and it was good to see what we were learning about in real life.

The memories of this excursion will hopefully be in people’s minds and cameras for a while to come.

By Ivy and Audrey
**Fabulous News!**

Food Trucks will be at this year’s Art Walk and School Picnic on December 8th. Watch the newsletters for more details but that's dinner sorted for the evening!

Fi Lang,  
Community Committee

---

**ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT**

In class the 3/4’s have been measuring our ecological footprints using a website called footprint calculator.

An ecological footprint calculator is where you answer all the questions on the website. The questions are about your home, the food, electricity you use and how much waste you have.

After you have answered, it will tell you how many Earths humans would need if everyone lived like you. It also calculates how many hectares of land each person would take up (there are about 7 billion people on earth so $4.4HA \times 7,000,000,000$) if they lived like you.

The class average was 2.4 earths and 4.4 hectares of land. So that is proof that we need to improve on keeping our planet healthy. We need to improve soon or eventually we will all come to a bad end...

---

**High School Sports**

A few weeks ago, some students from Northcote high school (and their teacher) came to our school to teach the 3/4s some types of sports. They came two times this term. They taught us basketball, soccer and football; they also taught us their own made up sports. We played some games such as octopus, keepers off and some others. They were really nice people!😊

Apart from the fact that we did P.E we learnt some new skills and they learnt how to be a good P.E instructor. We really enjoyed being taught by students that are closer to our age group.

They made the activities really fun and we had a great time!
**Sustainability Program Data Entry THANK YOU!!!**

Steven and I would like to acknowledge and thank Olivia Chant & Charlotte Roseby for making themselves available to enter resource and utility data for the NPS Sustainability Program.

On Tuesday 18th November we met to discuss the website navigation and bill data entry. Without hesitation Olivia and Charlotte jumped straight in and entered all available data. We are now UP TO DATE and can visually see, through graphs, our school’s consumption of water, electricity, gas and paper.

We’re now also able to track our waste production and recycling. Very exciting!
Again thank you for your assistance and support with the program, it is greatly appreciated – Andrea and Steven (on behalf of all school staff).

**Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014**

No wonder Northcote Primary School is getting a reputation! A reputation for being awesome at READING!

We are proud of our NPS students who successfully completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge by reading a wide variety of novels, picture story books, short stories, poems and non-fiction in their own time.

At our assembly on Monday last week the following students received their certificates. A big shout out to the following students:

- Alannah Savage
- Angus Corrie
- Tommy Vergers
- Charlie Wheatley
- Imogen Nunn
- Alicia Chant
- Rayner Ekholm
- Phoebe Savage
- Lucinda Corrie
- Sophie Vergers
- Riley Wheatley
- Lucas Gregory
- Gully Thompson
- Freya Rossouw
- Jorja Nunn
- Alicia Chant
- Isobel Unsworth
- Hayden Nunn
- Eva Verdon
- Max Maddison Mills
- Kaylan Thai

Thanks everyone,
Stephanie Griffiths
**District Triathlon 2014**

Last Friday, 14th November, 51 students (17 teams) from years 3 to 6 participated in the Darebin District Triathlon. Each event required one team member to swim 100m, the next had to run 1km and the third had to cycle 2km. NPS had students in 17 out of 25 events – a great representation. Well done to all participants on their efforts, behaviour and sporting attitude. A special acknowledgement to the parents who transported their children to and from the event, and to those who stayed to support our athletes. Thank you.

Below is a list of all our results:

1st place: Xara B, Lexi M, Holly L
1st place: Imogen N, Sophie V, Mica S
2nd place: Hayden N, Everett O, Luca T-M
2nd place: Thomas N, Aidan M, Heidi G
2nd place: Matteo R-H, Noah A, Kai S
2nd place: Audrey K, Ivy P, Holly L
3rd place: Max D, Lachlan G, Ethan M
4th place: Arky W-G, Geb C-H, Max F
5th place: Leea H-S, Bella S, Rory B
5th place: Adam C, Leo B, Luke C
5th place: Munro D, Riley H, Josh C
6th place: Katie M, Hamish T, Alec J
6th place: Lily K, Amy N, Emily S
7th place: Audrey D, Elena K, Kate J
8th place: Leah C, Alyssa M-V, Alicia C
9th place: Fred W, Ben H, Griffin S-T
9th place: Amy C, Flora B, Juliette H

---

**NPS End of Year Music Concert**

**Thursday 11th December 2014**

2:30pm - 3:20pm in the hall

With performances showcasing the music students have been learning over the term.

Please join us for an afternoon of delightful music!
Advertisements
The Dept. of Education (DEECD) does not endorse the products & services of any private advertiser or notice contained in this newsletter. No responsibility is accepted by the Dept. of Education (DEECD) or this school for the accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

Nanny/Babysitter
I am a twenty two year old artist with a keen interest in the education and wellbeing of children. I have had plenty of experience babysitting and caring for young ones, alongside undertaking a volunteer position as a Classroom Buddy for kids with learning disadvantages. I am an enthusiastic, warm, and flexible person with a diverse range of domestic and educational skills. My working hours are flexible, especially throughout the upcoming summer and am available to talk on 0404 203 845.
Hope to hear from you,
Gabriella Foreman

School holiday Songwriting Workshops
Enrolment forms are available at the school office.

Music is in the Soul of all!

Workshop Dates:
January 13th, 14th, 15th 2015

Times: 9:00am – 3:00pm daily

Address: Mary Immaculate Primary School Hall.
9 Rockbeare Grove, Ivanhoe, 3079

Please enter through the side gate.

Cost: 3 day Workshop $180 per student (10 % sibling discount)

Enrolments along with payments close December 20th.

School Holiday Fun
We are offering a 3 day songwriting workshops over the school holidays. Workshops will include;

• Lyric writing
• Composition
• Song and Band structure
• Rehearsals
• Recording
• Performance (including dance)
• A concert showcasing students work on the final day of the workshop from 3-4pm
• Design your own CD Cover
• Take home your own CD
• Maximum students 30 per workshop, places filling quickly
• Minimum 15 students per workshop
• Morning and afternoon tea provided (students to bring their own lunch)
• ENQUIRIES: Please call Melody on
0433797301 or email: giveusabell@creativemelody.com.au
Filmmaking Summer School
Trinity College, the University of Melbourne
Wednesday 7 January – Wednesday 28 January, 2015

Learn all aspects of practical film production in this intensive summer school. Areas covered are screenwriting, acting and directing, cinematography, production and sound design, editing, digital effects, film music, documentary filmmaking (two days) and the revolutionary two-day course in low-budget/no-budget filmmaking.

Fully structured courses are available, or you can choose your own sessions.

The summer school is open to people of all ages with little or no filmmaking experience, practising filmmakers wanting to upskill or change career direction, actors, media teachers and students, production companies wishing to train staff, photographers wanting to move to the moving image, and anyone wanting to understand and learn all the steps involved in great filmmaking.

For course information, prices, online enrolment and bookings, go to www.summerfilmschool.com.

For enquiries and information, call 03 9347 5035 or 0402 359 047, or email summerfilmschool@me.com.